

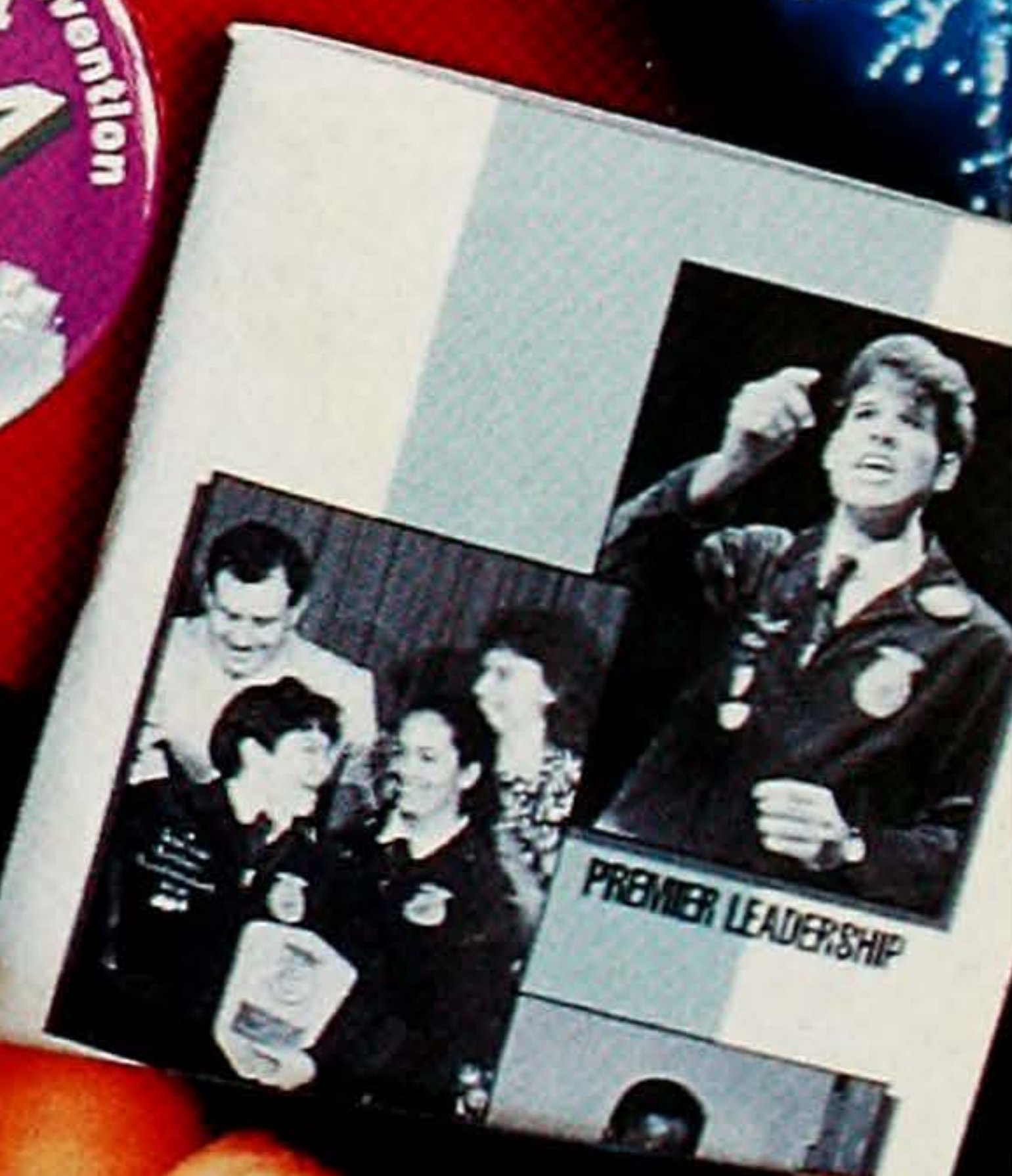
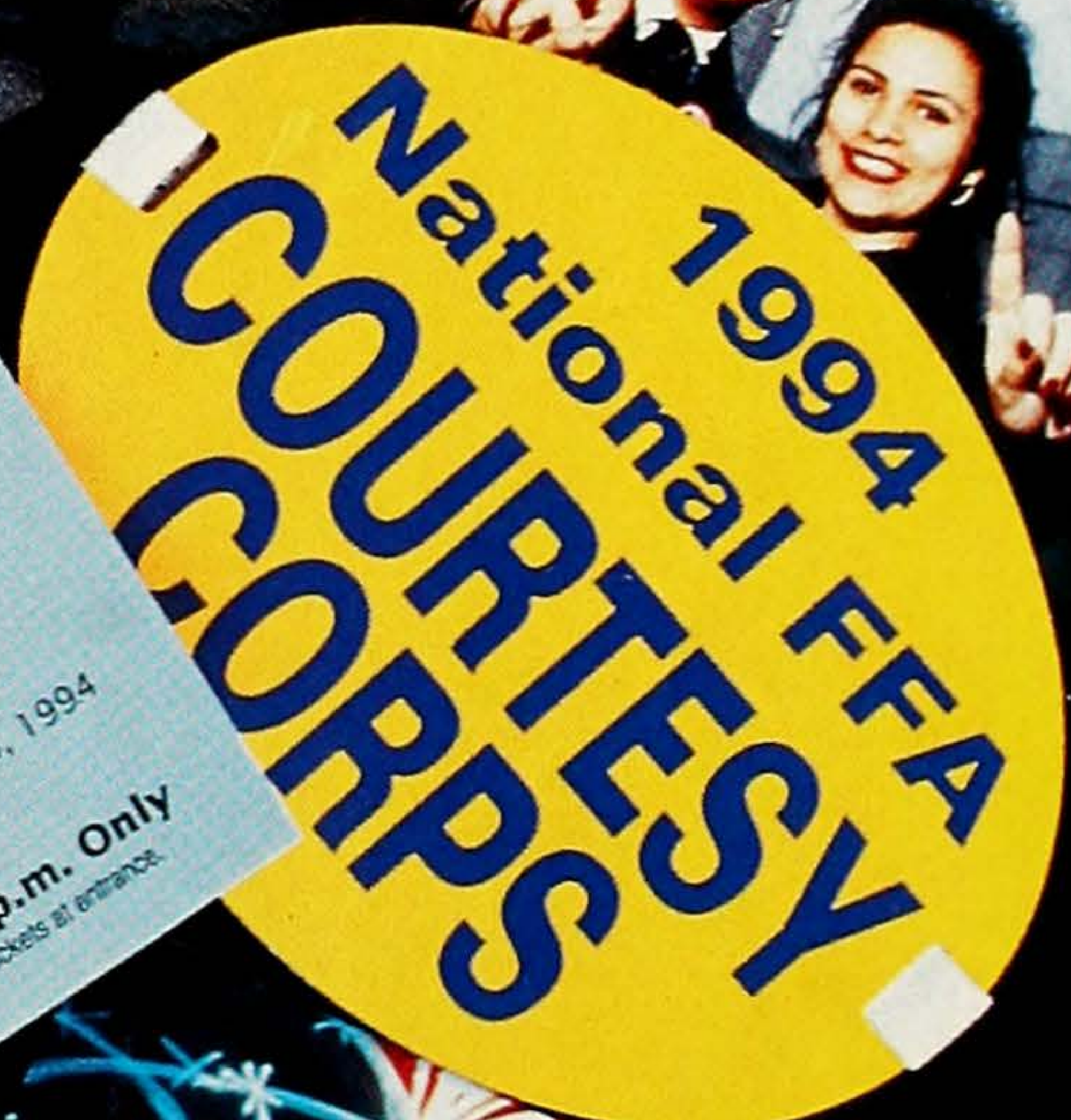
FFA

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1995

New Horizons

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

FFA
National Convention



WATCH FOR THE AG MECHANICS AND MACHINERY, INTERNATIONAL MARKETING AND TRAVEL AND AG CAREERS FEATURES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE.



Especially if you're a woman.

Because you'll find yourself doing the most amazing things. Like being a flight Crew Chief or a Topographic Surveyor, or any one of nearly 200 skills the Army offers.

There's something about a soldier.

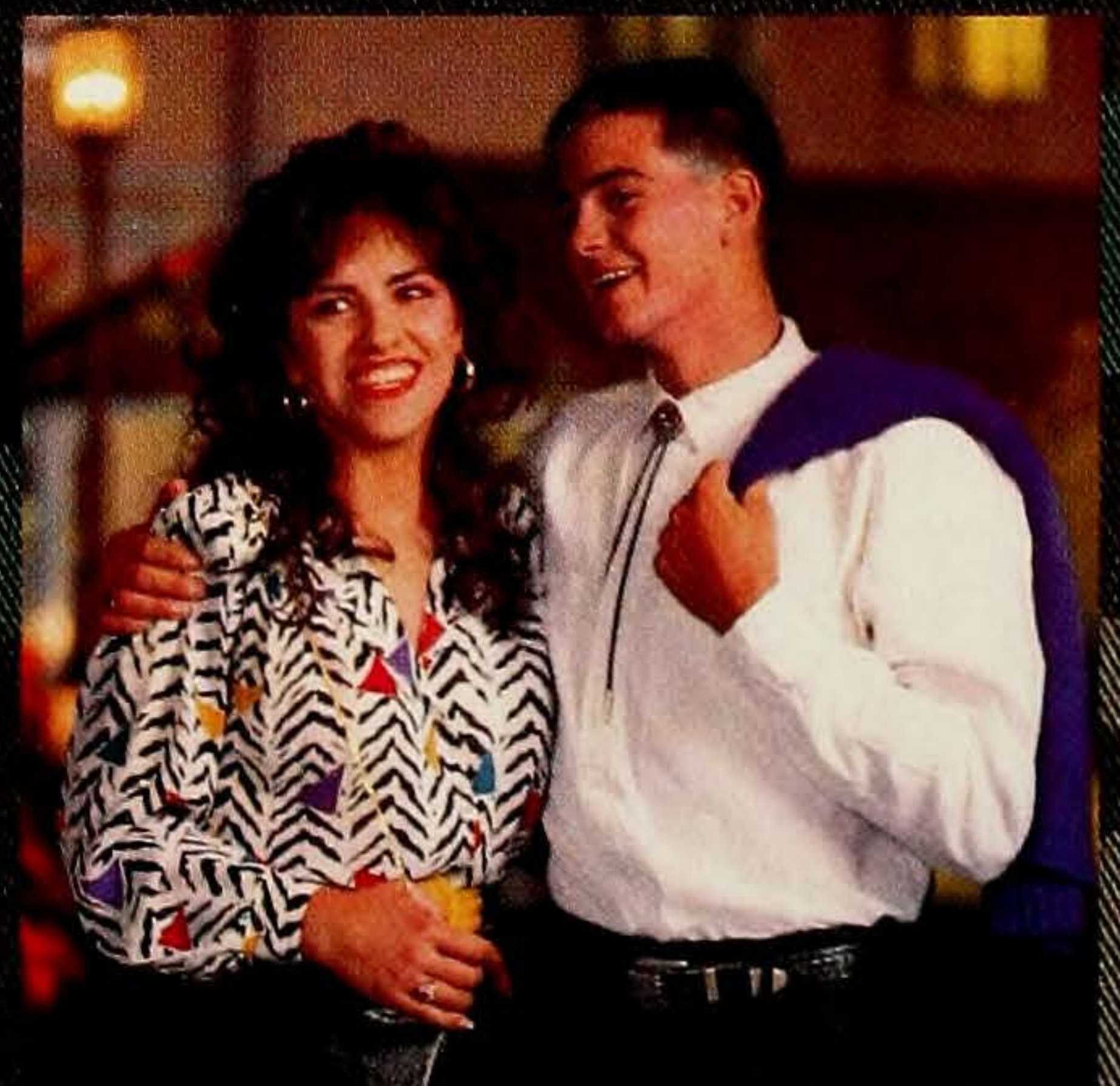
You'll also find yourself doing some very familiar things. Like getting into aerobics, going to the movies or just being with friends.

The point is, a woman in the Army is still a woman. You carry yourself with a little more confidence. And you may find yourself shouldering more responsibility than you ever dreamed, but that's because, in the Army, you'll gain experience you can't find anywhere else.

You could also find yourself earning as much as \$30,000 for college, if you qualify, through the Montgomery G.I. Bill and the Army College Fund.

If you're looking for experience that could help you get an edge on life and be a success at whatever you do, call

1-800-USA-ARMY. **ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.**



FFA New Horizons

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

January-February, 1995

Volume 43 Number 3



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Uncle Sam Lends A Hand

Need extra money? Now you can get start-up bucks for your new business from the government.

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Volunteering Pays Off

If you don't want a McJob, but don't have experience doing anything else, what do you do? Take a tip from Stacy Demerly and work for nothing.

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Where The Jobs Are

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Yard Money

No matter where you live, in a city, the country, small town or the suburbs, this project can give you big profit at a low cost.

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Livin' Large—The 67th National FFA Convention

A record-breaking 34,491 FFA members and supporters traveled to Kansas City, Missouri, for a massive dose of leadership training and other exciting events.

Photo by Lawinna McGary

FFA

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Those Awesome FFA Advisors

In the last issue we asked you to tell us about your FFA advisor. Here are just a few of the hundreds of entries we received from thankful FFA members.

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Glad To Meet You

Have no fear! Meeting people can be fun.

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The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education.



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Looking For Adventure? Attend the Washington Leadership Conference— for FREE!

Get out of town! This summer can be your (and your advisor's) chance to explore fun and excitement in Washington, D.C.

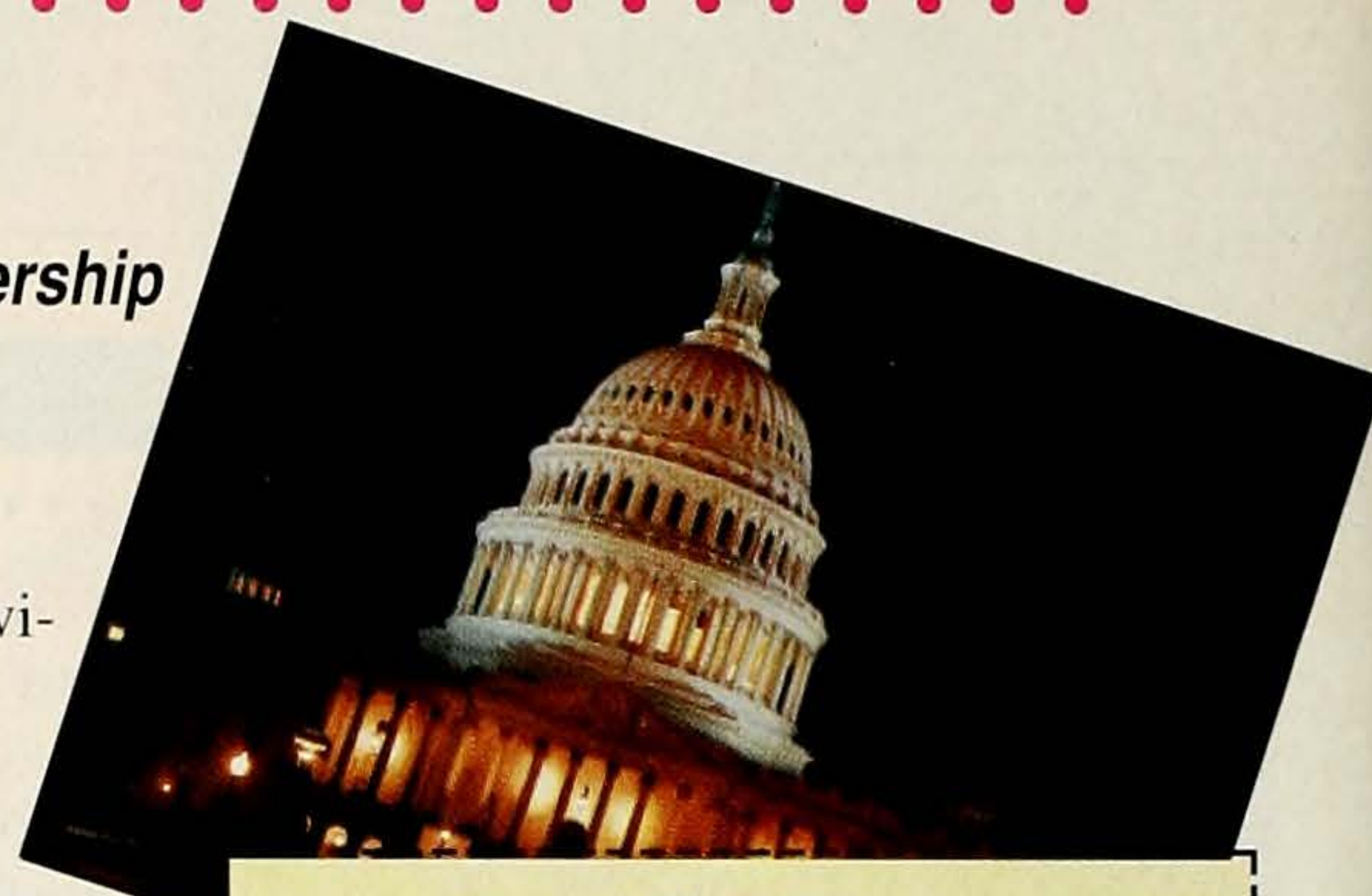
Tour the Hard Rock Cafe.

Meet FFA members from across the nation. Say hi to elected officials on Capitol Hill.

Triumph at intense personal development, leadership, teamwork, citizenship and goal setting seminars. Gain self confidence while you have the time of your life at the Washington Leadership Conference (WLC).

This leadership adventure would usually cost \$450 for students and \$505 for advisors, but here's your chance to attend for free. Just answer the questions below correctly (answers are in a WLC packet your teacher received in December), tear out the form and send it to "Free WLC," Marti Lindell, Student Services Specialist, P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309-0160. Your form must be postmarked by February 15, 1994. If your name is drawn, and you have answered all questions correctly, you will not have to pay the \$450 WLC registration fee. Travel expenses are not included within the prize.

If you would like more information about WLC, phone Marti Lindell at 703-360-3600, extension 238.



Free WLC Drawing

Your First and Last Name

Advisor Name

School Phone Number (include area code)

School Name

1. What day does the first 1995 Washington Leadership Conference session begin?
2. What date does the last 1995 Washington Leadership Conference session begin?
3. How many ways to raise money were listed on the WLC fund-raising poster?
4. What is the theme of this year's Washington Leadership Conference?

FFA Week Can Put Your Chapter In The Spotlight

"We can't expect the public to support FFA if they don't know anything about it," says National FFA Advisor Dr. Larry Case.

Spread the good news about your chapter during FFA Week, February 18-25. It's the perfect time to recruit new members, share FFA's rich heritage, raise the public's awareness and support of agricultural education and FFA and increase chapter spirit and pride. For

more information ask to see your advisor's FFA Week packet.

Raise Money Through WIX Filters

Between January 1, 1995 and April 15, 1995, WIX Filters will pay your chapter 25 cents for each box top you turn in to professional auto parts stores that sell WIX Filters

The company is also offering \$1,000 to four chapters that redeem the highest number of box tops as well as \$1,000 to the chapter with the largest increase from last year.

You Asked!

Signed,
Jamie Storer
Fuquay-Varina FFA Chapter,
North Carolina

Get everyone in your chapter involved with: pizza parties, watermelon seed-spitting contests, roller-skating, movie nights, pumpkin carving,

After all, who can resist a personal invitation to the coolest event in school?

● ● ●

A black and white line drawing of a fluffy dog, possibly a Pomeranian, shown in profile facing left. The dog has large, expressive eyes and a small, smiling mouth. It is wearing a wide-brimmed hat with a dark band and a bow tie with a polka-dot pattern. The dog's fur is depicted with many short, curved lines to suggest softness. The entire illustration is enclosed within a rectangular border.

Draw Me

Your entry will be judged in the month received. Prizes awarded for best drawings of various subjects received from qualified entrants age 14 and over. One \$25 cash award for the best drawing from entrants age 12 and 13. No drawings can be returned. Our students and professional artists not eligible. Contest winners will be notified. Send your entry today.

Telephone Number _____

© 1994 Art Instruction Schools

Uncle Sam Lends a Hand

Get Start-up Bucks For Your Business

By Laura Peterson

Need extra money? Instead of finding a part-time job, why not start your own business with money from the government's Youth Project Loan Program?

To qualify you must:

- be a citizen of the United States (or a legal resident or legal alien)
- be a rural youth less than 21 years old
- be a member of FFA, 4-H or a similar organization (school would also qualify as long as the business is part of an organized and supervised program of work)
- live in the country or in a town with less than 10,000 people
- be unable to get a loan anywhere else
- run a "modest size" agriculturally-related income-producing business.
- have your FFA advisor recommend that your business receive a loan as well as help you plan and supervise your business

- earn enough to repay the loan and to provide you with practical business and educational experience.

A Few Of The Businesses That Qualify:

- lawn and garden service
- livestock and crop production (raising four to five head of cattle is considered modest)
- repair shops
- catering service
- art and craft sales
- roadside stands

What You Get

You may borrow up to \$5,000 to buy animals, equipment and supplies; to buy, rent or repair needed tools and equipment and to pay operating

expenses for running the business. Interest rates vary, but once a loan is made, your rate will not change.

Pay Up Or Lose Out

You must be totally responsible for the loan. In some cases a co-signer may be required. If you do not repay your loan, government officials can take and hold or sell the products you've produced as well as property such as livestock, equipment and fixtures purchased with loan money.

How To Apply For and Repay the Loan

You can get loan application packets from a Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) county supervisor. FmHA has more than 1,900 offices throughout the United States. Look for U.S. Government in your telephone book to find the nearest office.

The application packet includes a business plan and budget forms, which your advisor must approve and sign. Submit your completed forms to your local FmHA office. It can take from 30 to 60 days for the loan to be approved.

Work out a schedule repaying the loan with the FmHA county supervisor. If you are raising livestock or crops, the loan can be paid when the produce is sold. If the business is a repair shop or service business, the loan can be paid from your weekly or monthly earnings.

The Farmers Home Administration is an equal opportunity lender. For more information contact your local FmHA office or write:

**Farmers Home Administration
Executive Secretariat
Youth Project Loan Program
Room 5406-S
Washington, D.C. 20250-0700**



“Here I am by the cow...”

Stamp out boring photo captions in your award applications

No matter how great your proficiency, state and American farmer and national chapter award applications are, you can always add extra appeal to them by supplying judges with great captions that help tell your story.

Besides being a short description of the activity in a photo, a caption should also:

- help demonstrate what you know about the project,
- illustrate how you're involved in the project,
- provide extra information not in the application, and
- demonstrate the quality and size of your program.

Me and My Cow

Judges can easily see that you and the cow (or whatever your proficiency project is about) are the stars of the photo. Use your captions to tell them what they can't see. Things like... How are you involved with the cow? Do you have other cows? If yes, how many? What makes your cow stand out from other FFA members' cows?

If the photo is more complex than a portrait of you working with your cow, your caption can explain what is important about the photo that may not be easy for the judge to see.

Read application guidelines carefully. Don't go over the word limit, but use every word you're allowed to give the judge crucial supporting evidence about your program.

In your quest to add extra facts, make sure the information still relates to the photo. For example, if you're demonstrating your new milking parlor, write about what the parlor does to your efficiency and production or labor

costs. This is not the place to inform him or her about your new grain truck.

Grammar counts. So does spelling. Make sure you check both! Judges will spot those errors and chalk them up to carelessness every time.

Now let's run through a few examples of common mistakes found in typical proficiency applications. Our critique offers some ways you can improve.

(Continued on Page 28)

EXAMPLE 1: SHOW STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

First photo:

Critique: This photo doesn't do a thing for the application other than help fill the photo quota. The caption is boring and doesn't add any new information or enhance the application.



Caption: “This is me. I am a member of the Clinton FFA Chapter. As a member, I served my chapter as Secretary and President. I have also participated in several different contests.”

Improved photo:

Critique: This photo and caption are much better because they show the applicant involved in his project. The caption also provides additional information that may not be included in the application.

Incidentally, this caption is 49 words—one less than the maximum allowed in proficiency applications.



Caption: “An important part of my program is providing a balanced ration for my angus steers. Here I'm adding supplement to the grinder I rent from my father. Since converting to a new feeding system in 1993 I have been able to improve weight gain by 10 pounds per steer.”

VOLUNTEERING PAYS OFF

This FFA member's ready for the real world

By Bob Bruce

If you don't want a McJob, but don't have experience doing anything else, what do you do? FFA member Stacy Demerly has an idea. Work for nothing. Say what? Did she say free labor? Yep, a little volunteer work now may bring you big rewards later on.

She came up with a project that related to her career goals, and offered flexible hours.

"I knew I wanted to go into something agriculturally related," she says, "but I didn't really care where. I figured whatever I learned I could apply to things in the future."

Stacy lives in Wolcott, Indiana, a rural town about 30 minutes outside of Lafayette. At first she didn't think there would be much going on locally to choose from. "We don't even have a stoplight in town," she says.

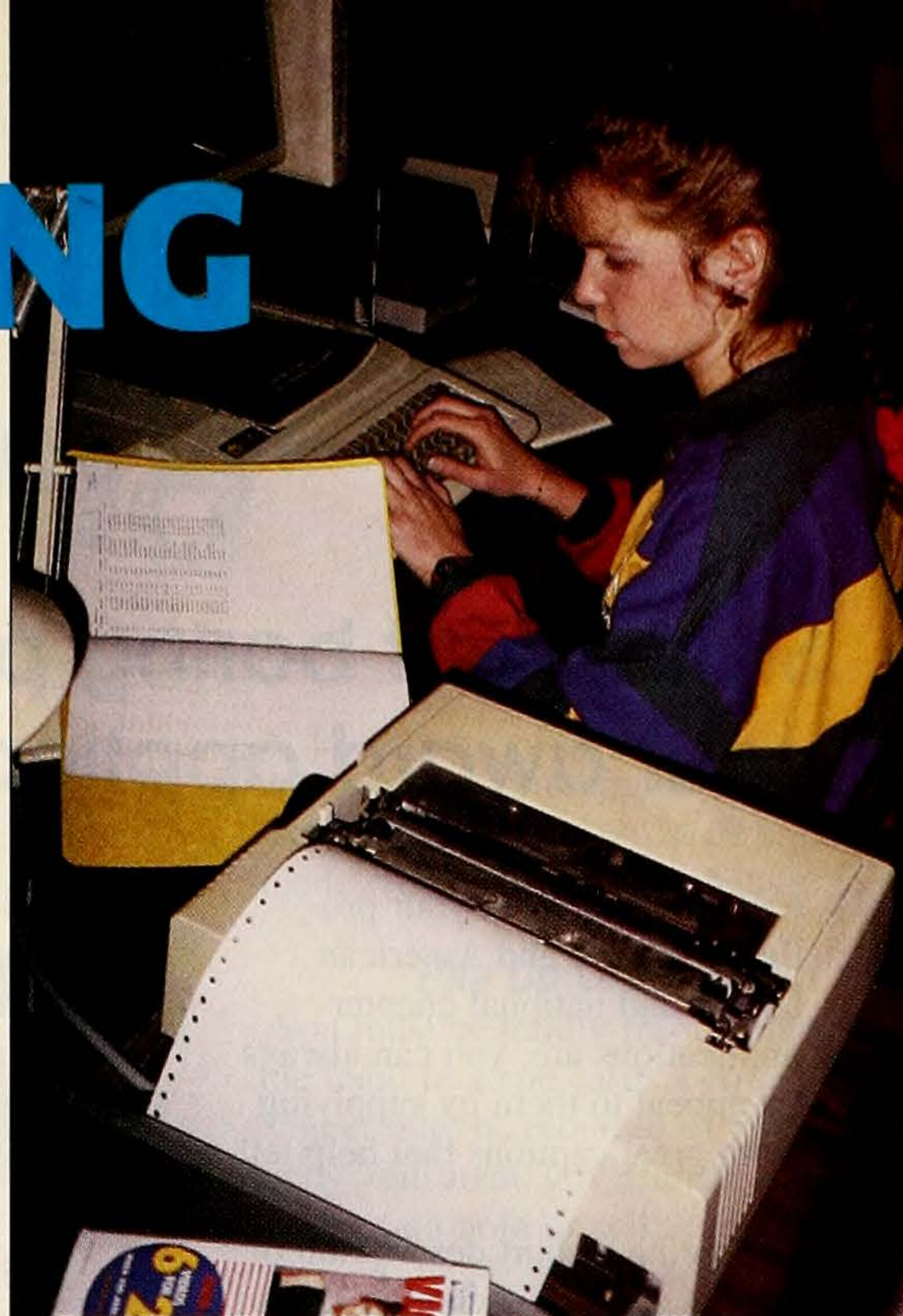
So she went to Purdue University to see if professors would let her work

with them. "They would have been glad to let me do it," she says. "But I was just a sophomore, without a car. ..."

"So I went back to square one, looking around the community." She started digging, talking to people who knew people. She was amazed at what she found.

People at the Wolcott veterinary clinic said she could work there after school for an hour or so. Chemical company workers wanted her to set up a soil drainage project.

Some people she talked to thought she was too young to work reliably. "I tried to come across as intelligent and motivated to do the job," she says. "I wanted to show that I was interested and that I had my goals to know where I wanted to go with a project."



"My favorite part of the project was working in the lab at Perry Seeds. It's just like an experiment in chemistry class. I get to use the microscope and all those tools," says Demerly.

So before going on interviews Stacy came up with questions that would give her a feel for the scope of the project. How many hours will the project take? How in-depth would she have to research the project before she could actually begin working on it? Would she be able to see results within the three years she had available? Would she be able to gain some experience that she could use for a career down the road? And, would people be interested in the results?

In the end, Stacy chose to work for for the local Perry Seed dealer. She gathered data on the soybean cyst nematode and helped develop a test to measure the amount of infestation in local farmers' crops.

While that might not sound very exciting, it was a great fit for Stacy. Her family grew soybeans, and the only equipment required by the project was a couple of Styrofoam cups and a grow light in the corner of her bedroom.

Stacy, now a senior, says she can't believe all the great stuff that's happened to her as a result of her volunteer science project. "I learned a lot about how to research a subject by talking to people, going to library. ... It's taught me responsibility and dedication and it's taught me to set out goals."

Stacy's Volunteering Tips

Be flexible. You want a project that will adapt to your schedule and your needs—be ready to compromise (within reason) in terms of subject matter, location, schedule.

Talk to people. Start with your FFA advisor. Talk to the school guidance counselor, the local seed dealer, anyone you know in business and education, even family members may have a connection that will help you. Call the nearest college. Talk to your chamber of commerce staff. Call your extension agent.

Write down your goals. Identify, as clearly as possible, what you want this project to do for you. What career do you think you are interested in? How else can you use this project—as a Supervised Agricultural Experience project (SAE), an FFA agriscience research

project, or a community service activity on college scholarship applications?

Ask a lot of questions. Ask everything you can think of so you're not surprised. What does your sponsor want? How much work is expected? Can you keep the results and use them for yourself?

Show that you are interested and motivated. If you go with the attitude that you're only doing this because you have to, chances are you won't get many offers. Show your enthusiasm and willingness to put in extra effort. Look for something that matches your interests. Know what you like best—working inside or outside, alone or with other people or learning about plants or animals.



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Justin
BOOTS

A Division of Justin Industries.

LIVIN' LARGE-

The National FFA Convention

By Lawinna McGary

Spotlights scurry around the auditorium. Here. There. Everywhere. You know something BIG is coming.

Music kicks in. Laser lights roll over the corduroy-clad crowd. They blanket the arena in an eerie green, blue and red glow.

FFA members at the first session of the 67th National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, show their approval by letting loose a deafening roar. "I've never been more excited about FFA as I was on Wednesday night when I heard thousands of FFA members screaming 'FFA.' It put a feeling of indescribable pride inside of me," says Aimee Lee, West Lyon FFA, Inwood, Iowa.

"The laser light shows were so moving," she adds. "It was the neatest thing I've ever seen at a convention."

Fortunately, lots of people had a chance to watch the show. A record-breaking 34,491 FFA members and supporters made sure the arena was always full. "The bigness of it... I'm in awe," says advisor Donnie Olds, Triton, North Carolina. "The tremendous number of jackets. It's amazing. You might describe it as a sea of blue. The only thing I regret is it took me so long to get here."

Massive amounts of people swarmed in and out of the newly enlarged Bartle Hall where they ate at the food court, shopped for hot FFA fashions at the mall and picked up free souvenirs while they learned about college and business opportunities at the career show.

Many even stepped aboard a model of space station Freedom, played with a control panel of a simulated space shuttle and touched a moon rock displayed by NASA.



Photos by Sam Harrel, Lightfoot Photography, Lawinna McGary, Kelly Rogers, Orlin Wagner and Michael Wilson



Each of the ten convention arena sessions closed with an awesome laser light show.



...six more pages of Convention coverage ➤

BIG MOTIVATION

FFA—Right Now! was just one of many workshops where members fine-tuned their leadership skills.

And when students weren't getting fired up at leadership workshops (led by Washington Leadership Conference and Made For Excellence counselors and former national officers), they listened to inspiring speakers like Olympic gold-medalist Florence Griffith Joyner (Flo Jo) and her husband Al Joyner.

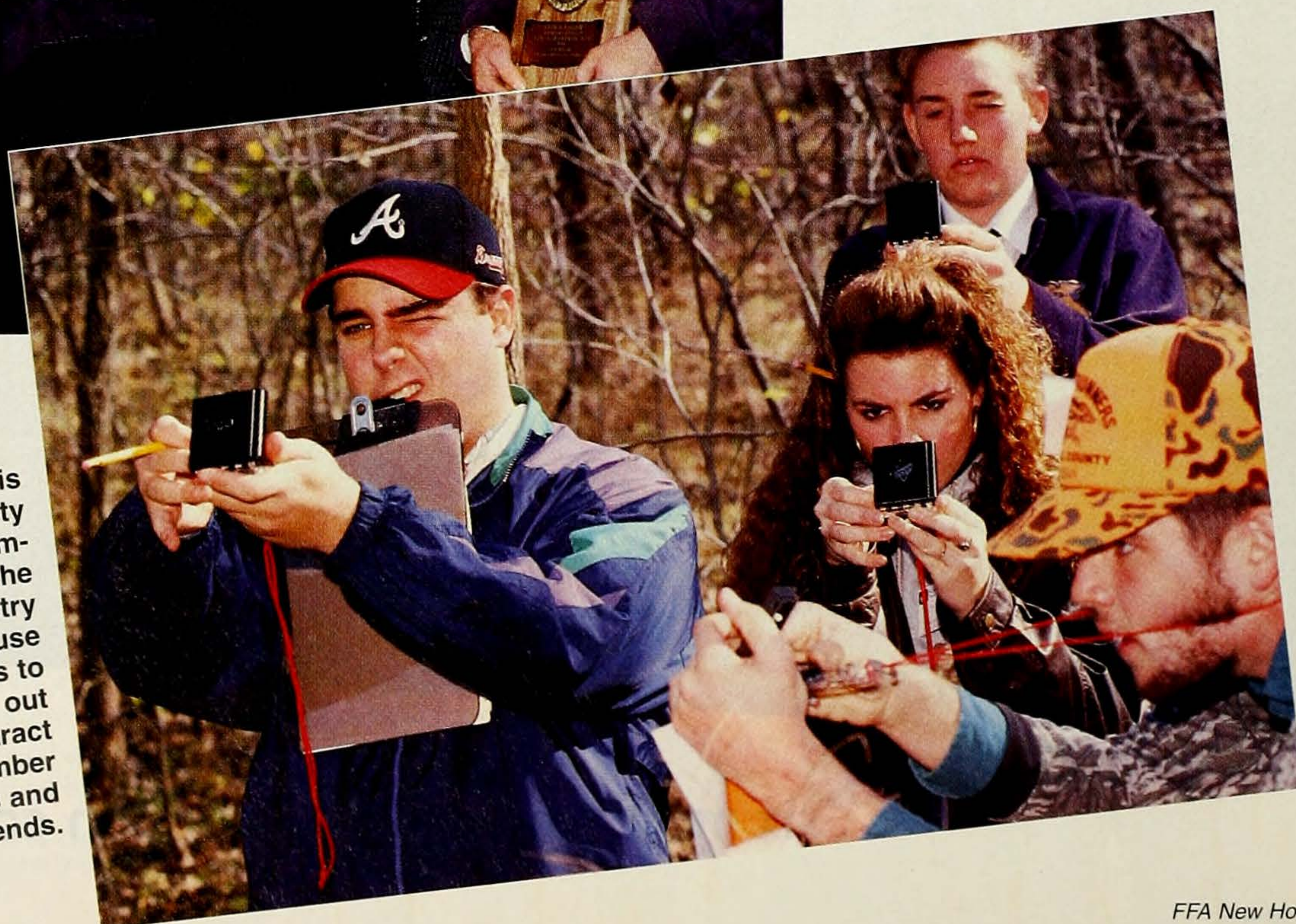
"It starts with a dream. Once you have that dream, you have to see yourself achieving it," says Flo Jo. "I think it's wonderful when people set goals because in life you have to know where you want to go in order to get there. If you have no map in life, you'll go wherever someone leads you."

Flo Jo and Al were Casey Azen's favorites. "They took time out to come here and talk to us. That's cool," says the FFA member from Broadlands, Illinois.

Stand back! William J. Bender, left, Pinckneyville, Illinois, won first place in the Cereal Grain Production Proficiency Award area.



Just where is that property line? FFA members in the Forestry Contest use compasses to figure out where the tract of timber begins and ends.



BIG DREAMS

Another famous speaker, Guy Kawasaki, formerly of Apple Computer, told the crowd to make their dreams come true by believing in them and by enlisting help from others who also believe.

Mary Fisher of the Family AIDS network shared her dream that young adults "learn from those of us who learned too late. Don't take chances with your life, or the lives of those you say you love. Be responsible."

"The orators and the laser lights show really made the convention a beautiful memory," says Keri Hathaway, Muscatine, Iowa. "I have been to the national convention twice, but this was the best by far."

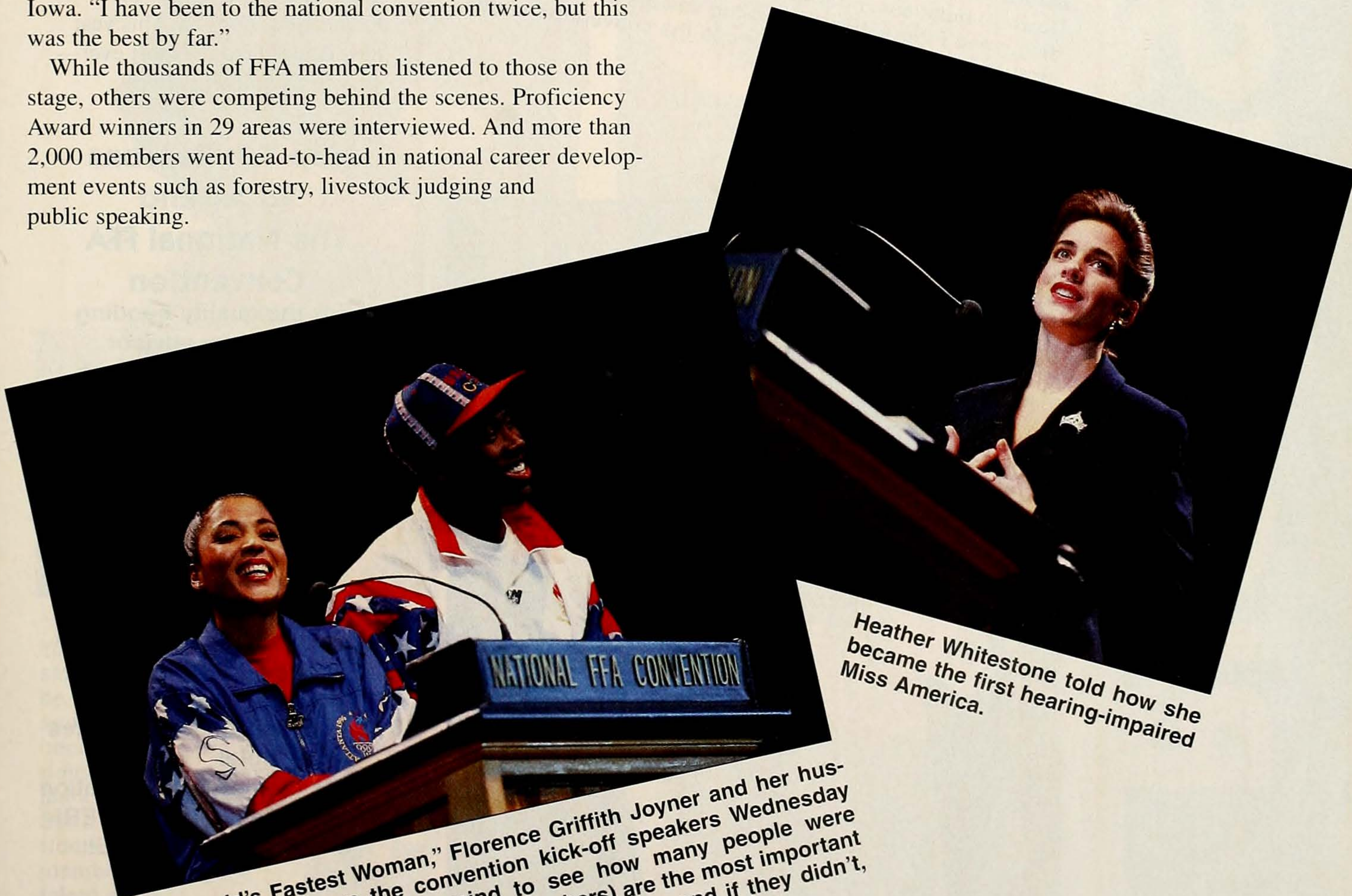
While thousands of FFA members listened to those on the stage, others were competing behind the scenes. Proficiency Award winners in 29 areas were interviewed. And more than 2,000 members went head-to-head in national career development events such as forestry, livestock judging and public speaking.



Just How Big Is Bartle?

No more cramped career shows, shopping malls, food courts or workshop sessions. The expanded Bartle (building at right) was big enough to accommodate our record-breaking crowd.

- 209 billion gumballs, nine football fields or 200 houses (with 1,500 square feet) could fit in Bartle
- 50 thousand people could listen to a concert there, that's more than could watch the Kansas City Royals at their stadium



Heather Whitestone told how she became the first hearing-impaired Miss America.

"The World's Fastest Woman," Florence Griffith Joyner and her husband Al Joyner were the convention kick-off speakers Wednesday night. "It really opened my mind to see how many people were involved (in FFA). Wow! These (FFA members) are the most important people in the world... They take care of our food...and if they didn't, what would the world be—what would America be?" says Al.

...four more pages of Convention coverage ➤



Down to business. Four hundred and sixty-five FFA delegates discussed FFA issues behind the scenes at committee meetings as well as during sessions in the convention arena.



For more details on convention activities check out "The 67th National FFA Convention Proceedings" that was mailed to your chapter.

At the same time an elite group of almost 500 members were serving as delegates. They debated issues such as career development events, diversity and how junior high members fit into FFA.

Members on the National Contest Committee proposed that FFA hold these new national events: creed, FFA promotional/recruitment video and journalism. The National FFA Board of Directors will review these items, as well as other delegate recommendations at their January meeting.

All of this FFA convention action—contests, awards, convention speakers and more are possible because of National FFA Foundation sponsors. This year they contributed the most ever—almost six million dollars.

Top Ten Reasons To Attend The National FFA Convention

10. For the quality bonding time with my advisor
9. To sample the gourmet food at the convention center
8. To conduct meaningful discussions at 2:00 a.m.
7. So I can say, "Been there, done that!"
6. "Shop 'till I drop" at the FFA mall
5. To perfect my power clap
4. To make a fashion statement in my blue jacket
3. To practice elevator races at the hotel
2. For the rest and relaxation
1. Because it's THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME!

BIG FUN!

FFA member Dawn Klitzke, Montello, Wisconsin, felt like she got her money's worth. "It was just really exciting—you felt so special and you feel proud to be here. It's so fun. I love it! I wish I could live here with all of these people still here."

More than 7,000 members attended the convention dances. They two-stepped, grooved and swung to all kinds of music—even the song "YMCA."



"We had someone in costume at a Young Farmer activity and people said 'You know, there ought to be a whole herd of them.' and before you know it we became a precision riding team," explains Mark Kokes, Colorado State University. The riders entertained members during the talent show.



...two more pages of Convention coverage ➤



Your New National

Teamwork In A Big Way

Corduroy is tough material. It's built to last. But the national officers will wear out five FFA jackets made of the stuff. They'll log more miles in the air (100,000) than many of us will in a lifetime. Each officer will make the rounds to about 40 states to speak at state conventions, regional workshops, camps and chapters and to meet agricultural business leaders.

Although they'll consume large amounts of chicken and peas in their United States travel, they'll also get to sample raw fish (sushi) in Japan.

Every once in a while they're allowed a pit stop at home, but for the most part, they're on the road—leaving family, friends and college behind.

They make all kinds of decisions soon after they are elected. Who gets to go to what states? What is the team's theme? To get their jobs done, they'll have to pull together and be a team.

Who are these people? Let's take a closer look at your new national officers.

President
Corey Flournoy
Chicago, Illinois

Vital Statistics:

- Age: 20
- Son of Barbara A. Flournoy
- Chicago Ag Sciences FFA chapter member
- FFA advisor: Donald Krug

Corey Has Big Time Fun When ...

"I'm around other young people. Being real with them, joking, laughing... That's the greatest fun."

Southern Region Vice President
Trisha Bailey
Dover, Florida

Vital Statistics

- Age: 20
- Parents: Melissa and Courtney Bailey
- Plant City Senior chapter member
- FFA advisors: Ray Clark, Jane Bender and John Davidson

Trisha Has Big Time Fun When ...

"I'm around the water or sun. I like to ski or swim in the summer and hunt with my Dad in the wintertime."

Secretary
Travis Hagen
Chico, California

Vital Statistics

- Age: 20
- Parents: Sue and Lyman Hagen
- Chico FFA chapter member
- FFA advisor: Claude Monlux

Travis Has Big Time Fun When...

"I'm showing sheep at the fair. It's the competition, the intensity...just the whole excitement of trying to get on top."

Central Region Vice President
Jennafer Neufeld
Inman, Kansas

Vital Statistics

- Age: 19
- Parents: Connie and Fred Neufeld
- Inman FFA chapter member
- FFA advisor: Lowell Ely

Jennafer Has Big Time Fun When...

"I guess the biggest time, the time I get the biggest laugh is when I country dance because I'm so awful, absolutely awful. It's got to be the most fun thing to do—to swing around..."



"Never forget that the best leadership will come only when you combine your efforts with those of your officer team in this year of service," Curtis Childers, 1994 national FFA president, just before this year's team lit a torch to symbolize how they will work together.

Friday, 4 p.m.
National officer nominating committee coordinator gives names of the new officers to Brice Nelson, owner of Lettering Manufacturing Co. Brice has the jackets lettered, jumps in his personal plane, and delivers the coveted corduroy to Kansas City.

Saturday, 2 p.m.
The top-secret box (on the table between officer teams) remains sealed until the '95 officers are announced.

Officer Team!

Eastern Region Vice President
Lee Schroeder
Leipsic, Ohio

Vital Statistics

- Age: 19
- Son of Nancy and Daniel Schroeder
- Leipsic FFA chapter member
- FFA advisor: Don Barnhart

Lee Has Big Time Fun When...

"I'm relaxing with friends. Just hanging out—that's my favorite thing to do."

Western Region Vice President
Greg Vetter
Carpenter, Wyoming

Vital Statistics

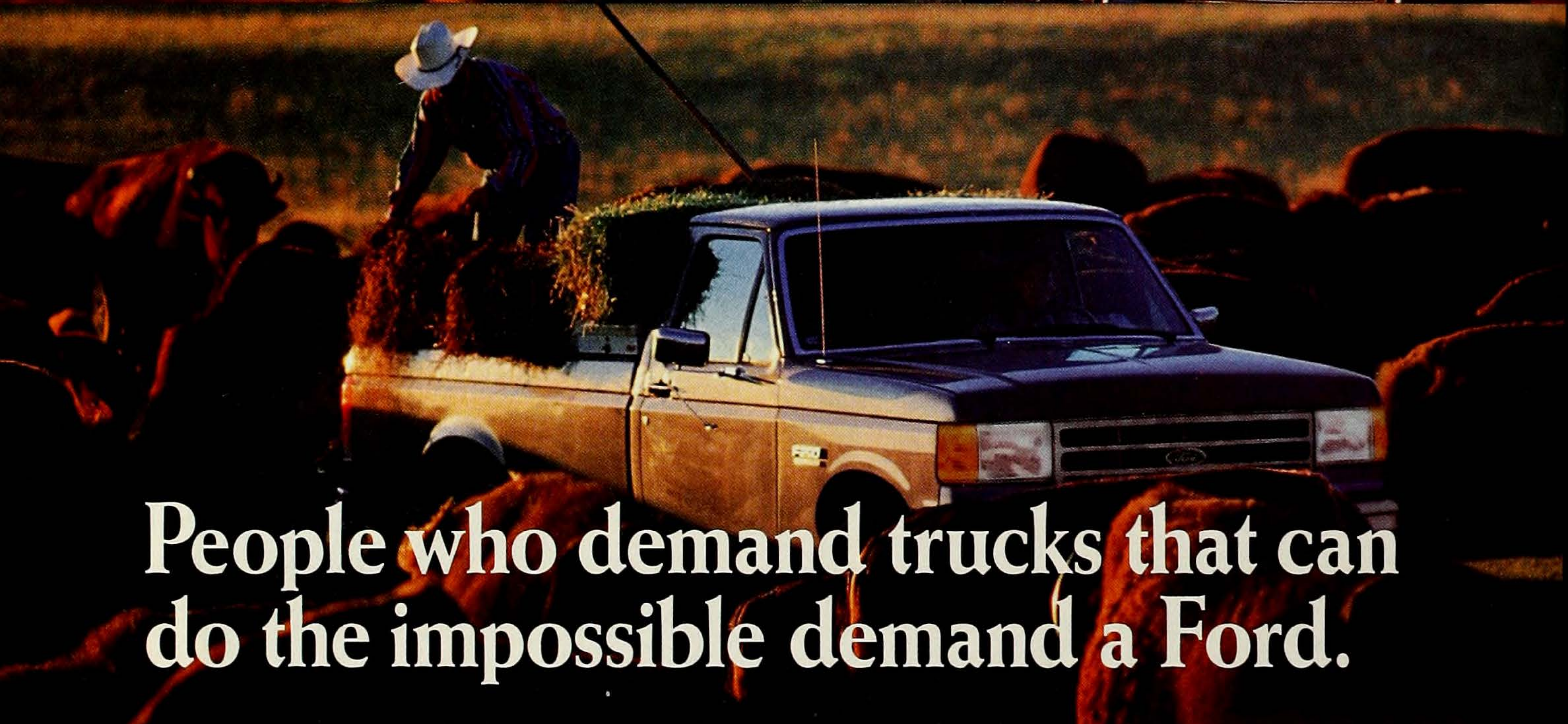
- Age: 19
- Parents: Sandra and Gary Vetter
- Burns FFA chapter member
- FFA advisor: Clint Bromely

Greg Has Big Time Fun When...

"I'm traveling and meeting people."

Left to right, Travis Hagen, Corey Flournoy, Trisha Bailey, Greg Vetter, Jennafer Neufeld and Lee Schroeder.





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be there for you. Ford trucks.



FORD WORKFORCE



BUILT FORD TOUGH





Craig Douglass
Caston High School
Fulton, Indiana

When Mr. Douglass was hired as the agricultural teacher and FFA advisor, he had his work cut out for him. Our chapter was bankrupt and had a total of 15 members with no leadership. In less than four years, Mr. Douglass has transformed us into a chapter with more than 70 members. He has added a junior high chapter, and has initiated more annual community and FFA projects than most chapters can handle. He supports his membership and encourages us to strive for our goals and never give up.

In the classroom, we have a totally new curriculum. We are completing a greenhouse from which our chapter will market and sell bedding plants. Our FFA chapter members and agricultural class students have many exciting experiences—all made possible by Mr. Douglass.

Mr. Douglass truly cares about his students. He saved the Caston FFA chapter and built it into what it is today—something to be proud of.

Sincerely,
 Leesa Plummer

Those Awesome FFA Advisors

By Karen Lafferty Lunny

In the last issue we asked you to tell us about your FFA advisor (also known as your chauffeur, counselor and agricultural teacher) who is always there encouraging you to achieve your best. Here are just a few of the hundreds of entries we received from thankful FFA members.

Thank You



Pete Siler
Lowell High School
Lowell, Michigan

Since 1984, when my oldest brother joined FFA, I have observed a great advisor in action—Mr. Siler. After seeing my three brothers succeed in FFA, I knew I wanted to be involved in his chapter.

Mr. Siler is the most giving person I know, and he is always encouraging me to do my best. For example, last year I entered the greenhand public speaking contest. I wasn't very confident, but Mr. Siler kept reassuring me. With his help and encouragement, I competed at state.

As I was standing on stage with the other contestants, waiting for the results, I knew that Mr. Siler was just as nervous as I was. It turned out that I didn't place. At first I was devastated, but as I was leaving the stage, I saw Mr. Siler. He came up to me and gave me a big hug and said, "You did great!" Those were exactly the words I needed to hear.

The hug taught me a valuable lesson. It made me realize that even though I was not the winner, I had tried hard, and I was a winner. Thank you, Mr. Siler, for being so caring, patient, giving, loving, understanding, and devoted. Thanks for being our advisor.

Sincerely,
 Shari Grieser



Blane Marable (above)
Morgan County High School
Madison, Georgia

My advisor is more than just a teacher—he is a friend. Not only does he teach a great agricultural class, but also he works with our FFA chapter late nights and weekends to make it the best in Georgia.

Mr. Marable has changed my life. Before I joined FFA, I was a below-average student, and I disliked going to school. It all changed when I met him. I never believed I could handle a big job on my own because I had no self-esteem. Mr. Marable taught me how to be a better student and a better, more confident person. He showed me I could handle anything if I worked hard and did not give up.

Mr. Marable has taught me how to raise crops and cows and even how to drive a tractor. I have accomplished a lot in a year. I am FFA chaplain. I attended the National FFA Convention in Kansas City and I am planning for college.

Mr. Marable showed me that FFA is more than farm animals and crops. FFA grows a better world for us to live in. He showed me that I could work hard on my inside to be a better person on the outside.

Sincerely,
 Marty Jacobs

Terry Shartzter
Portland High School
Portland, Tennessee

When I entered my first agricultural class, Mr. Shartzter asked me, "What's the first thing that comes to your mind when I say 'farmer'?" My answer was "Hick." Since then, I have changed my outlook on farmers because of him. Every member of our chapter thinks the world of Mr. Shartzter, but there isn't anyone who thinks more of him than I do.

Before I met Mr. Shartzter, I never dreamed of standing in front of people to give speeches. Thanks to his encouragement, though, I took the first step and made a small speech at our banquet. Now I'm trying out for the parliamentary procedure team.

He definitely goes the extra mile for his students. For example, I had back surgery earlier in the year. Mr. Shartzter brought people from our chapter to the hospital, which is more than an hour away from Portland. He even made get well cards on the computer for me and passed them around his classes for everyone to sign. Since I've been home from the hospital, he has sent John Wayne movies to me to make me feel better. Mr. Shartzter is the best—the "John Wayne" of advisors.

Sincerely,
 Jennifer Zeman

Thomas Craig
Humphrey High School
Humphrey, Arkansas

Mr. Craig is everybody's dream advisor. He always has a big smile and a nice "Hello." At competitions, win or lose, he is satisfied just because we tried. He never forces his students to do things, but we can see the glow in his eyes when we want to be involved in an FFA activity.

Whether he is helping a student write a speech or supporting one of us for a state office, he encourages us to do our best. His pride in our chapter shows from his pep talks before a judging contest to his serious conversations with us before state convention.

He is constantly involved in activities outside of the classroom—proms, fund-raisers. We always know that he will volunteer wherever he is needed. Mr. Craig is completely dedicated to the FFA organization and our local chapter. Without him, we might not know about the greatest organization—FFA.

Sincerely,
 Tabitha Roberts and Ellen Bogy

Do these outstanding advisors remind you of your own? Take a few minutes to tell your advisor, "Thanks for all your hard work!" Your encouragement can make a difference in your advisor's life too.

Do You Have What It Takes to Be a Good Teacher?

"I really owe my FFA advisor [Neil Swonger] a lot for all the time he spent helping me sort out my goals," she Stephanie Gempf, a junior agricultural education major at The Ohio State University. His patience is one of many qualities Stephanie admires in her role model. Good teachers also need:

★ **Organization.** Teachers sometimes kept track of attendance and record grades of more than 100 students a day. Being an FFA officer and completing Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) programs have helped Stephanie learn organizational skills that are valuable in any profession, but are especially critical in teaching.

★ **Self-Confidence.** Do you know enough to teach? Can you keep students' eyes from glazing over when you speak? These are big fears new teachers face. But Stephanie believes if you are passionate about helping students and about your classroom topics you should do fine.

Before she became a state officer, Stephanie never dreamed that she could teach. After spending time with high school students through her FFA duties, though, she realized that she had something very special to offer—her love of agriculture and her enthusiasm for FFA.

★ **Time Management.** Teaching involves hard work and long hours. Even the best teachers sometimes find it difficult to balance school duties and home responsibilities. "It is amazing how much time my high school advisor dedicated to us," Stephanie recalls. Teachers have to budget their time and prioritize their duties—skills that Stephanie has acquired as a result of balancing FFA activities and her busy college life.

★ **Enthusiasm.** "My love of agriculture is another big reason I want to teach," says Stephanie. She's excited about recruiting students who don't necessarily come from farming backgrounds into agribusiness and agri-science classes. She also enjoys working with young people to help them realize their full potential in whatever field they choose. Enthusiasm is contagious—the best teachers spread it around!

If you think you would like to be a teacher someday, ask your school guidance counselor about colleges that offer teacher education programs. You could make a difference in the lives of students, too.

Where The Jobs Are

By Rich Dunn

Take a look at these exciting agricultural marketing and merchandising careers

on the specific company and industry. Many senior managers, vice presidents and divisional managers start in market analysis or merchandising. Earning potential and career path will be highly dependent on people skills and the needs of the particular company.

Employment History and Special Training

Yoder's first position was as a merchandising trainee at a small cooperative. He also worked at a private merchandising firm before his current job at The Andersons.

Background and Experience From FFA

Learning how to give speeches through FFA helps with his work in conducting farmer meetings, says Yoder. He adds that all of the leadership and personal development activities he participated in helps him be successful.

School/technical Training

Yoder has a B.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois with an emphasis in grain marketing. He says an internship at the Chicago Board of Trade could be very helpful.

My favorite part of job is...

"...working with customers. We are helping them market their grain to the best of our ability. We work up the whole marketing plan. The job's never boring."

Commodity Merchandiser

Doug Yoder
Senior Grain Merchandiser
The Andersons, Champaign, Illinois

Doug Yoder is a senior grain merchandiser with The Andersons, a Midwestern company. As a merchandiser, he works to increase the volume of commodities bought and sold through his company.

Every elevator, coop and many independent companies have grain merchandisers on staff. They all work

to convince farmers that they offer the best opportunity for farmers to capture maximum profit on their crops.

Merchandisers need all the same skills as commodities market analysts—thorough understanding of commodity markets, seasonal production

patterns, market cycles and the latest commodity marketing tools like forward contracts and options contracts. But grain merchandisers also need excellent people skills to build relationships with farmer-customers.

Demand for commodity merchandisers has historically been consistent. During the last 10 years, there has been a need for graduates with excellent people skills. In recent years the demand has considerably exceeded supply.

This job often is a training ground for a wide range of positions depending

Photo by Mark Cowan

Least favorite part of job is...

"...the hours during harvest: 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. plus Saturday for two months or more."

The reason I got into this job is...

"...I was looking for something related. I wanted to be close to the farm."

*Salary range

Starting: low \$20,000
Mid-range: \$30,000-45,000
High: \$60,000 and up

Market Analyst

Susan Sutherland

Senior Commodity Research Analyst
Quaker Oats, Chicago, Illinois

Buy Now or Buy Later?

When Susan Sutherland recommends her coworkers buy commodities for Quaker Oats food products, the price of your morning meal is at stake. Sutherland watches commodity markets and advises company buyers when to purchase key commodities like oats, corn, wheat and dairy products.

Commodities market analysts must have a thorough understanding of commodity crops, seasonal production patterns, market cycles, the latest commodity marketing tools like forward contracts and options contracts, political issues affecting trade and prices and world events that might influence the global market. Analysts combine all these factors to develop an understanding of why the market is moving, when it will change direction and how far it is likely to move.

It's the job of the commodities analyst to minimize risk for the company while purchasing the needed commodities at the lowest possible price. An analyst's success has a very real impact on company success, since commodity prices form the basis for the price of all finished products.

Demand for these professionals is strong. There are more jobs than qualified people to fill them.

Many senior managers, vice presidents and divisional managers start in

market analysis.

Employment History and Special Training

Sutherland's first summer job was delivering buy/sell orders at the Chicago Board of Trade during college. After graduate school she analyzed grain movement for Illinois Central railroad and helped develop freight rates.

School/technical Training

Although she grew up in a farm family, Sutherland lived in the suburbs. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics plus a masters degree in business (MBA) from the University of Illinois. She says you don't have to have an M.B.A. for a market analysis position, but that you do need a master's or even a Ph.D.

My favorite part of job is...

"...it's fun to watch all the things that go into making prices: weather, domestic events and international events that all have an impact on prices."

Least favorite part of job is...

"...locating data and maintaining large databases of market information."

The reason I got into this job is...

"...I wanted to be involved in agriculture. Market analysis is an interesting and ever-changing field."

*Salary range

Undergraduate Degree
Starting: \$25,000-32,000
Mid-range: \$40,000-50,000
High: \$70,000 and up

Graduate Degree (M.S. or Ph.D.)
Starting: \$35,000-45,000
Mid-range: \$75,000-95,000
High: \$150,000 and up

Many successful analysts move on to upper management positions in their companies. ...

*All salary estimates are approximate and can vary considerably between companies and regions of the country.

CONSIDER PEACE CORPS

In developing countries all over the world, people go hungry because they lack the farming knowledge you might take for granted. As a Peace Corps Volunteer, you can share your skills and make a lasting difference in these people's lives.



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Peace Corps Volunteers must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years old. There is no upper age limit. Married applicants are welcome, but your spouse must also qualify for an assignment.

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1990 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20526

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE # () _____

SSN # _____

U.S. CITIZEN: ☐ Yes ☐ No

AGE _____

TYPE OF FARMING EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE: _____

HOW LONG? _____

772

Yard Money



No matter where you live, in a city, the country, a small town or the suburbs, you can have a supervised agricultural education project (SAE) that gives you a big profit at a low cost.

"My lawn care business got off to a start when a neighbor asked me to mow his yard because he had a problem with his back," says Neal Floyd, Nicholasville, Kentucky. Now Floyd, an agricultural education major, is paying his way through college with profit from the 40 acres of residential and commercial lawns he takes care of.

"When I started I had one push lawn mower, one gas can and a snow shovel," says FFA member David Snyder, Hamilton, New York. These days he employs one full-time and four seasonal part-time workers and owns two trucks.

Both these FFA members live in town and started out with no money to invest. They say their operations are successful because they give special attention to each customer.

"What's special about my business is I keep everything personal," says Snyder. "I listen to customers and give them the services they want."

"Some guys are just in it for the money," says Floyd. "They hire unskilled workers and don't care about quality. I do a job the way I'd want it done on my property."

Both FFA members started small and almost grew by accident.

"I just started mowing a few yards and doing a good job," says Floyd. "People started making referrals and it snowballed."

"When I bought my first lawn mower and started mowing four lawns on my street," says Snyder, "I never realized I was starting my own business. I just liked making money

"I set up daily work schedules for maintenance required and jobs to be completed," says Snyder. Here he reviews schedules with two of his four part-time employees.



Johnson Controls, one of Floyd's oldest and largest commercial clients, trusts him to service their facilities when it's needed. Floyd shows all of his customers that he appreciates their business by sending them thank you cards each year.





Snyder bought a second truck and trailer to complete twice as much work in a day.

over the summer and having fun. Any business you start has to be something that makes you happy."

And since lawn work fits easily into his high school schedule, Snyder merrily made money year-round.

"In high school I'd plow snow before school and make more in a day than teachers make in a week," he says. Floyd has arranged his college schedule around his business.

Both Floyd and Snyder have earned FFA awards.

Floyd was regional Star Agribusiness winner in 1991, National Turf Landscape Proficiency Award winner in 1992 and is a national finalist for the Star Agribusiness Award this year. Snyder was regional finalist in the Turf and Landscape Proficiency Award in 1992 and National Agricultural Sales and/or Services

Award winner in 1993 and is the Star Agribusiness Award winner this year.

"Kids in high school used to laugh at me because of my business. Now some of them have dropped out of college and are living off mom and dad," says Snyder, who adds, "I've got a future."

"Some folks will make fun of you for 'mowing yards' but if you take it serious and put in the effort, it will work out," agrees Floyd. ...

See \$Green\$ in the Lawn Care Business

Lawn Care Spending (\$ Bil.)

Lawn & Landscape Maintenance 6.455 billion dollars

lawn fertilization, mowing, renovation, insect/weed control, pruning and mulching

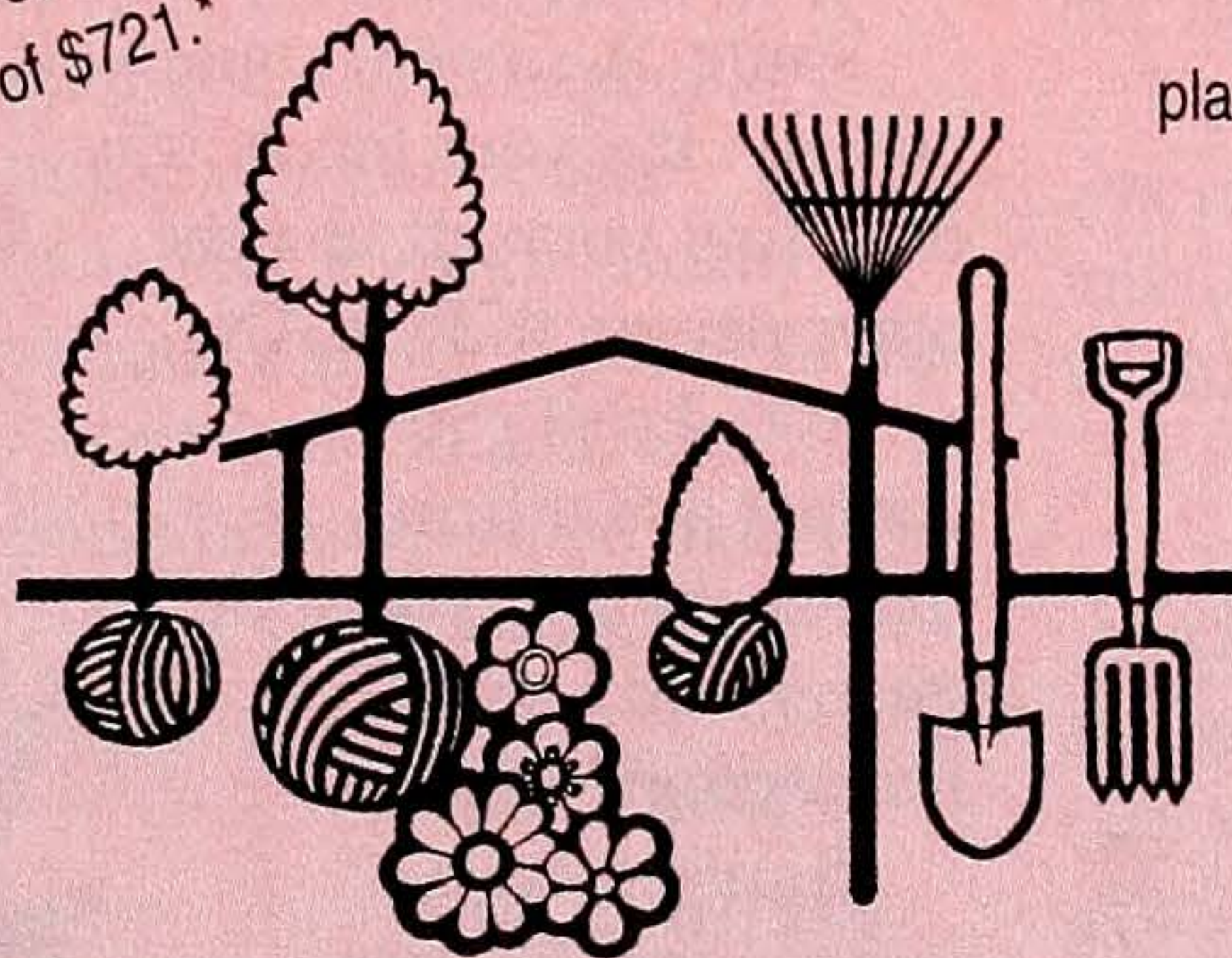
Landscape Installation/Construction 5.645 billion dollars

plants, walkways, fences, decks, pools and other water features

Landscape Design .381 billion dollars professional landscape design/ landscape architectural services

Total 1993 Spending \$12.48 billion

The demand for lawn care services is strong. People in more than 17 million U.S. households bought lawn care and landscaping services in 1993 spending an average of \$721.*



*According to a recent Gallup survey sponsored by the American Association of Nurserymen, the Associated Landscape Contractors of America and the Professional Lawn Care Association of America.

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Hi I'm

GLAD TO MEET YOU

Have No Fear! Meeting People Can Be Fun.

By Jennifer Conway

They're everywhere. At football and basketball games. FFA events. The movies...

Strangers. People you've never met. Chances are you will never meet many of these people unless you make the first move.

Uh oh. Here's where the **BIG** fear hits.

Sure, they look nice, but you never know. What if you're rejected, or worse yet, ignored? Could be bad news.

Or, what if, after you say your name, they actually want to talk. Horrors. Then you've got to think of something to say. Could be traumatic.

Lucky for you, first encounters usually aren't that painful. Most people want to meet you, it just takes your move to break the ice.

And good conversation is like an avalanche, one little ball of talk gets going and it's tough to stop. If you listen and ask questions you won't

even have to talk much to keep the conversation going.

Learn these tips and you'll enjoy first encounters. Who knows? You may even impress others with your style.

Way To Go When You Meet Someone New

Smile. A sincere smile will ease your anxiety. It's your face's way of telling yourself and the other person to RELAX.

Add direct eye contact and a firm handshake and you'll be guaranteed a great impression.

Smiling even works long distance. Try it when you're introducing yourself over the phone. Even though the person you're talking to

can't see your grin, they hear the happy tone in your voice and will be more likely to react more positively to you.

Look 'em In The EYES

Okay let's say you've got the smile thing down. Even on a bad hair day... even when you're scared stiff...your palms are sweaty...your heart is thumping and butterflies are ravaging your



Illustration by Bill P. Fricke

stomach...you're tough. Your smile never fades.

Next look the person you are meeting in the eyes. Say your name slowly and clearly and shake your new friend's hand.

Get A Grip

Be careful not to squeeze so hard they have imprints of your class ring for a week—or so softly that they wonder if that was really a live person shaking their hand. Shoot for something between bone crushing and spineless.

To be sure you're on the right track, test your handshake on a few brave souls.

What Did You Say?

If you don't understand or hear the name of the person you are meeting, ask them to repeat it. Then, once you're sure you know their name, use it. The more you say their name, the more likely you are to remember it.

Another good way to remember names is to associate the person with a television star, athlete or friend or family member. His eyes remind you of Robert Redford's bright blues or her curly red hair makes you think of your cousin Beth. You'll be surprised how well this technique works especially when meeting groups of people.

If you encounter a group already in conversation, wait for a pause in the conversation and say, "I don't believe we've met, I'm your name."

To Shake or Not to Shake

Miss Manners says the woman always gets to choose if she will

There are 7,000 possible facial expressions that the 80 nerves of the face can create: the smile is the most pleasing of them all. When someone sends you a heartfelt smile, you instinctively want to send one right back.

extend her hand...or not. So for all you guys out there, if a gal doesn't extend her hand, neither should you.

Otherwise, if you meet someone whose right arm or hand is injured or missing, offer a handshake with your left hand.

What To Say...After Hello

After you have introduced yourself and said, "It's a pleasure to meet you" (say this only if you mean it), what's next?

First of all, be yourself. Don't try to impress with stories about big achievements and the important people you know—unless you want people to get that glazed, bored look.

Be sincerely interested in others. Ask questions. Then don't forget to listen to their answers.

Avoid personal matters, such as family, money and politics. All of this personal information may be volunteered if a friendship develops, but it's definitely not conversation for first meetings.

Finally, look your best. Although you may not always agree with your parents on what to wear, it is very important that you and your clothes are clean. That includes your hair, teeth and breath (use mouthwash). Pay attention to the details—hands and feet in particular. Keep your shoes shined and in good condition and your fingernails neatly manicured.

If you pay attention to details, it shows the world that you care about yourself. You only have one chance to make a great first impression. Now go greet the universe! And don't forget your

Smile!



EXAMPLE 2: SHOW RELEVANCE



Caption: "Since purchasing this Woods riding lawn mower for \$3,000, I have been able to increase the number of lawn mowing jobs from 15 to 35 per week. The larger mower helped me expand my business and devote more time to other aspects of my program."

Critique: Looking at the photo before reading the caption should give the viewer some idea of what the caption will say. This photo does an excellent job of showing how Sherry is involved in her program. It will not add much to the application though if the inventory doesn't indicate that Sherry owns a Woods riding lawn mower.

EXAMPLE 3: GET CLOSE



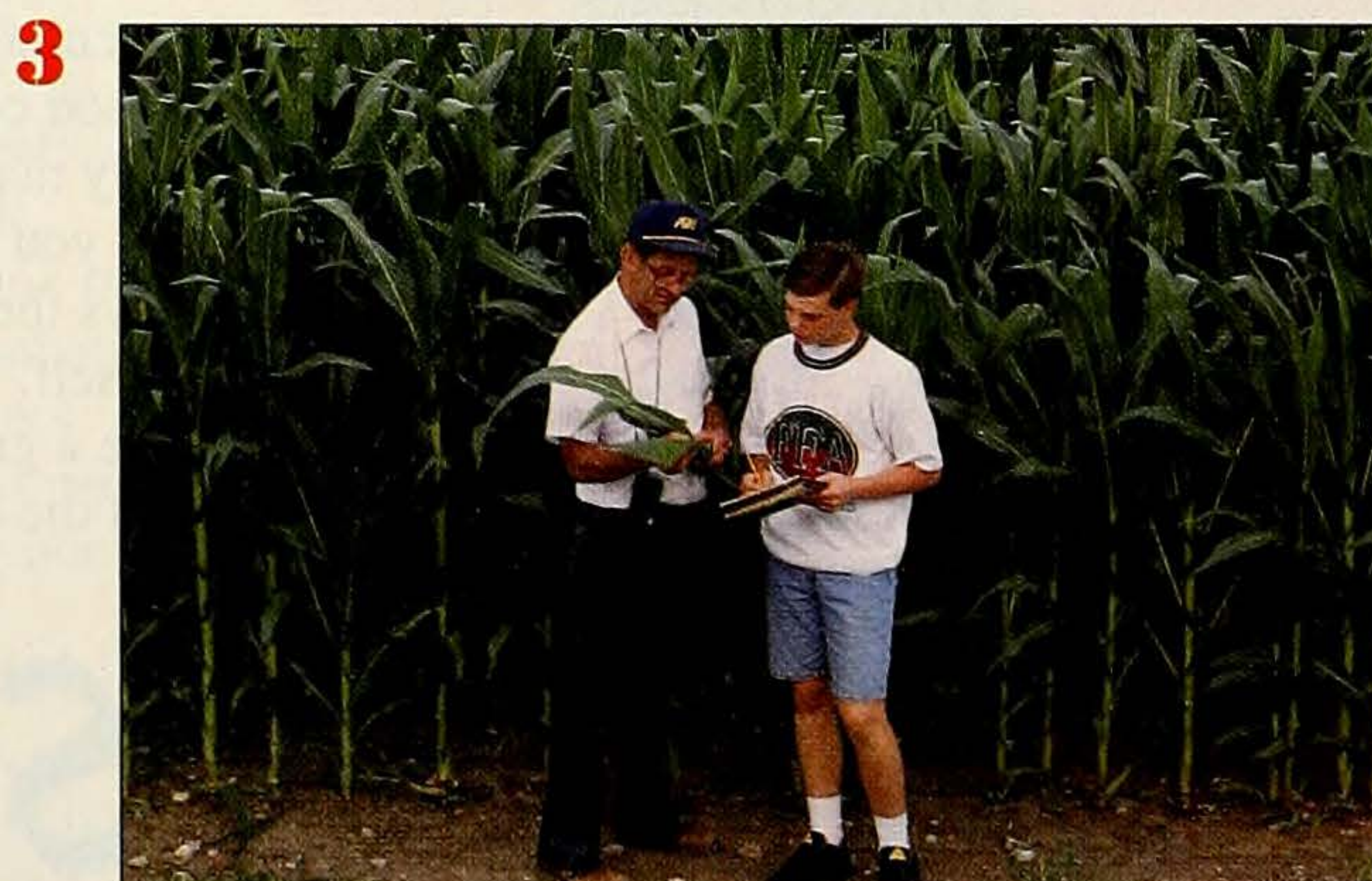
1
Caption: "I routinely scouted this field for insect problems throughout the growing season. My advisor helped me identify some of the insects we found. We determined that the insects did not merit any treatment."



2
Critique: This picture shows scope of the crop project, but it would have been better to include the applicant and the applicant's advisor, especially since he was mentioned in the caption. Note how the second photo shows the applicant and

advisor. Even better is the third photo, a close-up, revealing the process of taking field notes and examining plants.

...



We'd like to thank FFA members Ryan and Daryn Black, Sherry and Sam Arnold, and advisor Don Prather, Clinton, Illinois, for posing in these pictures.



FFA IN ACTION

Give It Up...To Laughter

Okay all of you comedians out there, we know you have tons of crazy, cool photos featuring yourself, your FFA friends and advisors and even your pets. Surrender them to *FFA New Horizons* magazine.

Give way to the giggles, guffaws and grins your photos will bring to more than 400,000 FFA members.

Be a leader in fun photography. Take your camera to the next FFA donkey basketball tournament or anytime your chapter is in action.

Better yet, get the whole chapter into the act. Create a silly photo gallery where everyone brings in their funniest photos. Send some of the photos to the magazine, display the rest in the agricultural classroom.

If taking photos is just too taxing for you, send us jokes. We'll send you five dollars for every one we publish.

Send Funny Photos and Jokes To:

FFA New Horizons, "Funny Farm"
P.O. Box 15160
Alexandria, VA 22309-0160

Please send your name, address, home phone number (including area code), chapter, high school and town name with your entry. Only photos with a self-addressed, stamped envelope can be returned. Only FFA members are eligible to submit entries.

(Action Continued on Page 30)

University of Wisconsin - Madison

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Farm & Industry Short Course

The Short Course is a sixteen week certificate program at UW-Madison that combines cutting-edge knowledge in agriculture with practical, hands-on experience. If you are graduating from high school and want to prepare for a future in production agriculture, check us out!

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Dr. Richard Daluge
105 Agriculture Hall
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Madison, WI 53706



YES!

I would like more information on the Farm and Industry Short Course. Included in this information will be a Short Course brochure and scholarship application form. Please send this information to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FFA IN ACTION

(Action Continued from Page 29)

Nebraska Pasture Golf, Anyone?

Bloomfield FFA “swings” into a new school year with a pasture golf tournament. Approximately 100 FFA members, parents and alumni tee off using standard golf clubs to loft tennis balls toward targets (instead of holes) in a field (instead of a course). Targets include toilet bowls, car trunks, bale feeders and feed bunks. Each hole ranges from 50 to 100 yards, which produces scores that would frighten Arnold Palmer. Following the golf tournament, the FFA alumni sponsor a barbecue, the perfect conclusion to a day filled with slices, hooks and traps—pasture-style. “Fore!” ...



Illustrations on Action pages by Bill P. Fricke

Illinois Say “Hi” To History



Abe Lincoln visits the Anna-Jonesboro/Dongola FFA fall-harvest display at the Jonesboro, Illinois, 1858 Lincoln-Douglas Debate re-enactment. (Justin Hill, Reporter)

Montana Officers Retreat to the Hills

Incoming and outgoing officers at the Carter County FFA chapter retreat to a cabin in the woods to discuss goals, outline the following years’ calendar of activities and brainstorm new fund-raising activities and contests. This annual overnight excursion includes hiking, rappelling and baseball. Reporter Chris Powell says the combination of work and fun helps break the ice and build trust among the officers. (Chris Powell, Reporter) ...

Everytown, U.S.A. Super Leader To The Rescue

You’re a leadership hero. You can write a speech about world hunger faster than a speeding bullet—juggle basketball, band and FFA dairy judging practice and still hang out with friends. Because you are the force behind your chapter activities, we need you tell us about your FFA events. Send your stories and photos to FFA In Action, P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309-0160. Your name and story idea may land in a future issue.

FFA IN ACTION

Presidential Seal of Approval

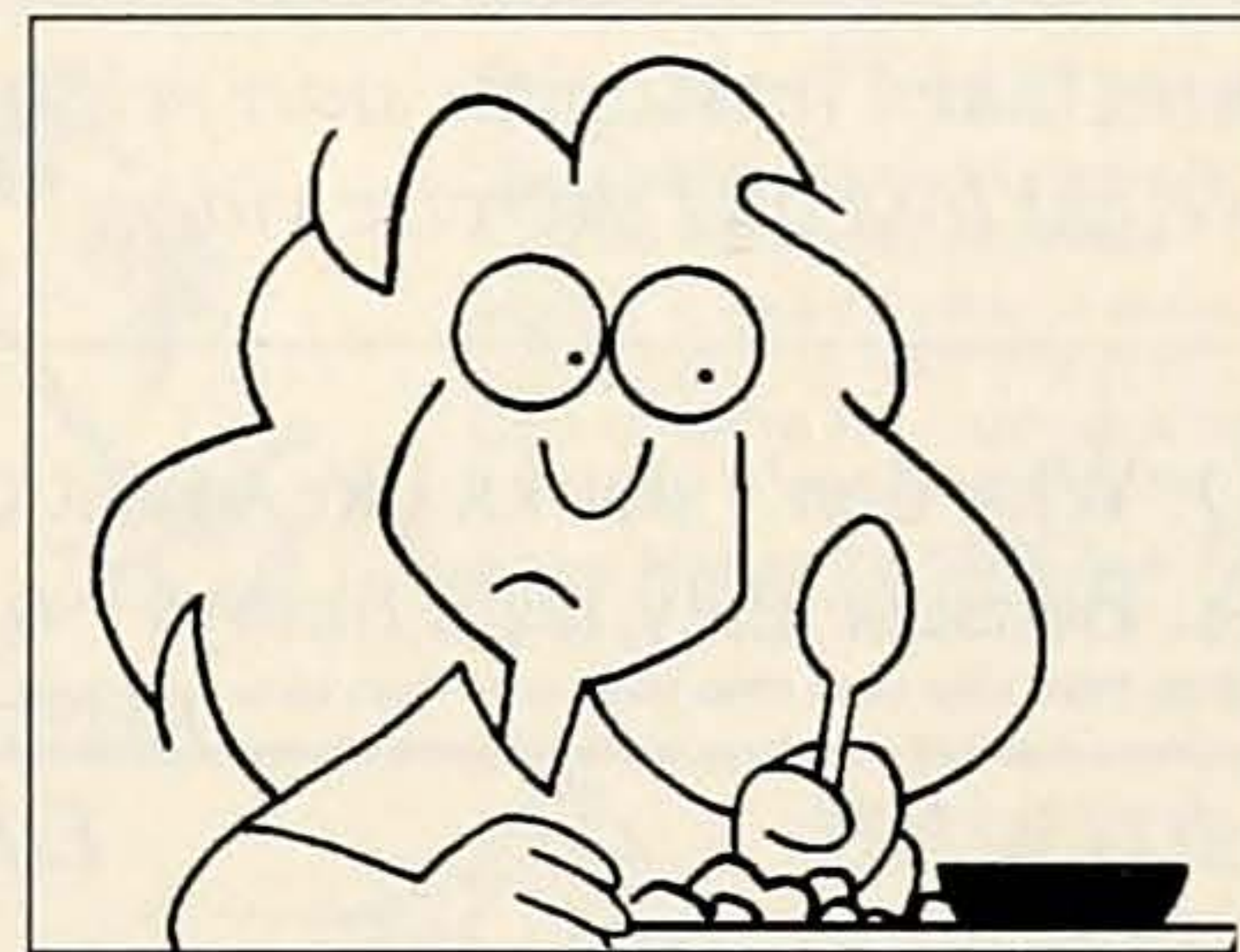


During the 1994 national FFA officer team's recent visit to the White House, President Clinton's parting words were "If every young person in America belonged to that group (the FFA), we wouldn't have half the problems we do today."

Kansas

Williamsburg FFA Helps Elementary Students Understand Agriculture

Williamsburg FFA hosts the annual "Day on the Farm" for Kansas City third-graders. Members organize the day and even make some of the presentations. ...



Lauri had no one to sit with at lunch. Suddenly, one of the raisins in her pudding began to crawl and she realized she had some company after all.

Cartoon by Randy Glasbergen

Colorado

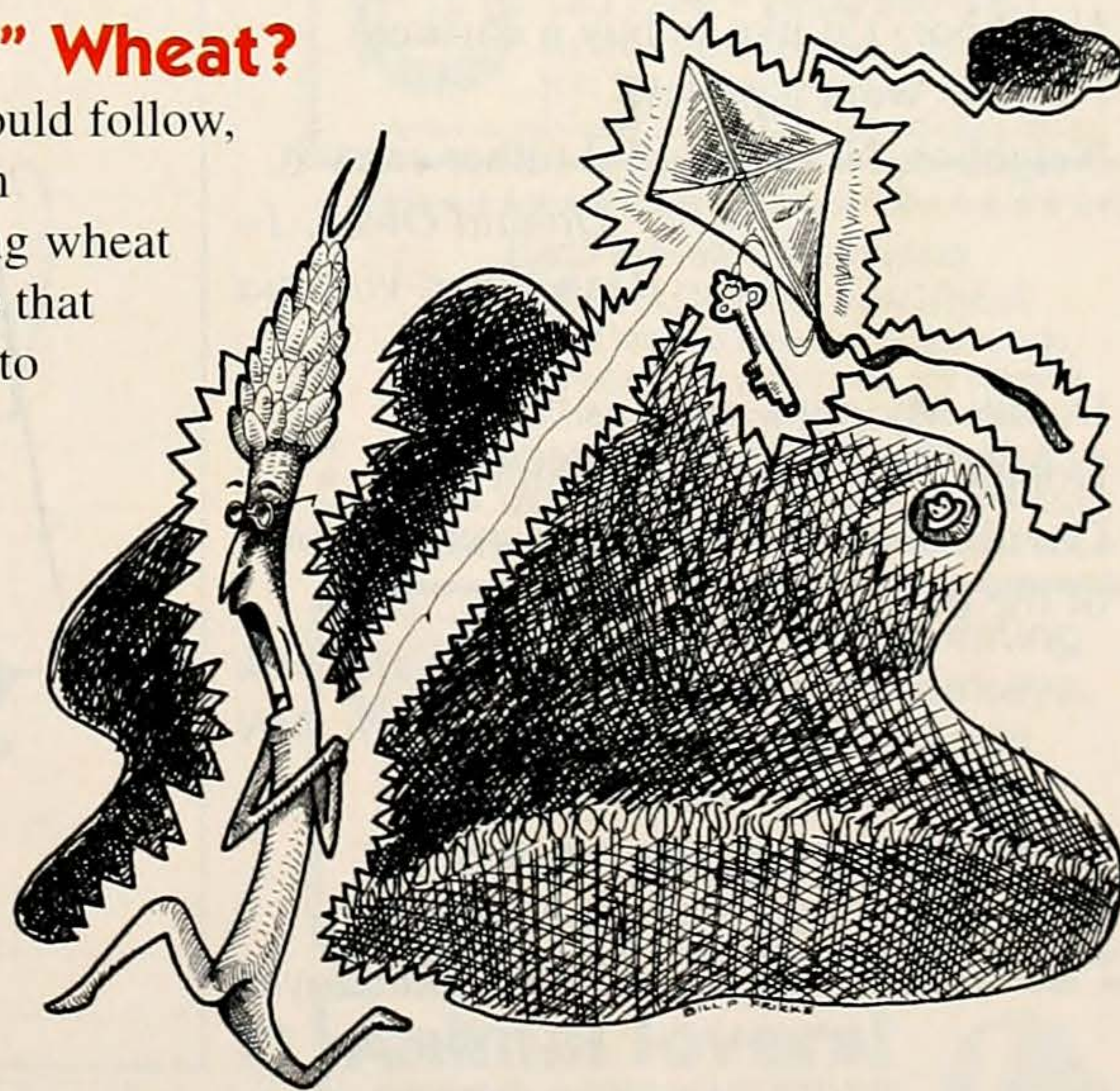
Project Food, Land and People

Custer County FFA member Wayne McCoy teaches elementary students about how daily personal choices affect natural resources. His material comes from Project Food, Land and People (FLP), an educational program that fosters the understanding of how the environment, agriculture and diverse cultures interact. "The students seemed to have fun while they learned the lesson my classmates and I taught them. We learned something from it as well," says McCoy. To find out more about Project FLP, call Roxanne Brickell at 303-698-1678. (Roxanne Brickell, FLP Education Consultant) ...

Ohio

How Do You "Shock" Wheat?

Sounds like a punch line should follow, right? The Darke County Steam Threshers know better. Shocking wheat is a time-honored tradition, one that Greenville FFA members hope to preserve. This chapter helped organize a steam threshers' reunion, a four-day event featuring a tractor show and, you guessed it, shocking nearly ten acres of wheat. So how do you shock wheat? Greenville FFA members know the punch line—by gathering the sheaves of grain into a group and securing them together—grain-side-up, please. (Brian K. Hathaway, Reporter) ...



(Action Continued on Page 33)

J O K E P A G E



"October, November, December, January, February, March and April we sell hundreds of those giant chocolate bars. Then in May we start selling weight loss and exercise videos!"

Q: Why don't sharks like to eat clowns?
A: Because they taste funny.

*Krista Brooks
Ellijay, GA*

Kevin: A crab just bit my toe!
Father: Which one?
Kevin: How should I know? All crabs look alike!

*Dodi Griffin
Waycross, GA*

Neighbor: I'd like to buy a chicken.
Farmer: Want a pullet?
Neighbor: Not really, I'd rather carry it.

*Donald Owen, Jr.
Dan River, Virginia*

David: My pig's name is "Ink."
Donna: Why do you call him that?
David: Because he's always running out of the pen!

*Brenda Jirik
Mahnomen, MN*

Q: Why does a giraffe eat so little?
A: Because a little goes a long way!

*Ryan Keith Tovar
Waelder, TX*

Q: Who was the fastest runner in history?
A: Adam. He was the first in the human race.

*Amy Cheek
Rayville, LA*

Q: What happened to the man who stole the calendar?

A: He got twelve months!

*Michael Batchelor
Arnalusia, AL*

Q: Why do mother kangaroos hate the rain?

A: Because the kids have to play inside all day.

*Heather Bledsoe
Bartlett, IN*

Q: Why did the orange stop in the middle of the road?

A: Because he was running out of juice.

*Anthony Powell
Camden, AL*

Q: Why did the whale eat two ships full of potatoes?

A: Because no one can eat one potato ship.

*Crystal Gregory
Rodmao, NY*

HA! Make Us Laugh

We want to see your most hilarious jokes. We'll even pay you for them—\$5 for each one that makes the joke page. Send your best stuff to FFA New Horizons, 5632 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway, PO Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309-0160.

Charlie and Friends



"We call this the oval office."

NOTICE:

FFA NEW HORIZONS will pay \$5.00 for each joke selected for this page. Jokes must be addressed to FFA NEW HORIZONS, 5632 Mt. Vernon Mem. Hwy., P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309-0160, or via Stargram on the Ag Ed Network to FF100A. In case of duplication, payment will be for the first one received. Contributions cannot be acknowledged or returned.



FFA IN ACTION

(Action Continued from Page 31)

Virginia

What's Hot...and What's Not at Chancellor FFA

Chancellor High School's FFA members know what's hot...and not. How do your chapter's interests compare? **Send us your chapter's favorite and not so favorite choices in the categories below, and we may publish them in a future issue.**

CATEGORY	WHAT'S HOT	WHAT'S NOT
Movie	"Tombstone"	"Free Willy"
Actor	Jean-Claude VanDamme	"Barney"
Actress	Bridget Fonda	Roseanne
Singer	Garth Brooks	New Kids on the Block
Album	Alabama's "Pass It on Down"	"Neil Diamond's Greatest Hits"
FFA activity	State convention	Soil judging contests
Place to go	Mall	Lake Anna Library
Thing to do	Hunt	Wake up early
Book	"The Stand" (Stephen King)	English textbook
Magazine	"Hot Rod"	Mom's "Redbook"
Sport	Basketball	Soccer
Social cause	Recycling	Save the Spotted Owl
FFA event	Awards banquet	Meetings
Clothes	Blue jeans (Guess brand)	High-water khakis (Dockers)
TV show	"Home Improvement"	"Roseanne"
Music video	"God Bless Texas" by Little Texas	"Mr. Jones" by Counting Crows
FFA fundraising	Fruit sales	Candy sales
Career choice	Mechanic	Working at McDonald's

Your Turn...

Get together with chapter members and fill in the blanks. Then clip out your answers and send them to *FFA New Horizons*, "What's Hot," P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309-0160. Include your name and phone number (including area code), your chapter, town, state, school and advisor's name.

CATEGORY	WHAT'S HOT	WHAT'S NOT
Movie		
Actor		
Actress		
Singer		
Album		
FFA activity		
Place to go		
Thing to do		
Book		
Magazine		
Sport		
Social cause		
FFA event		
Clothes		
TV show		
Music video		
FFA fundraising		
Career choice		

(Action Continued on Page 34)

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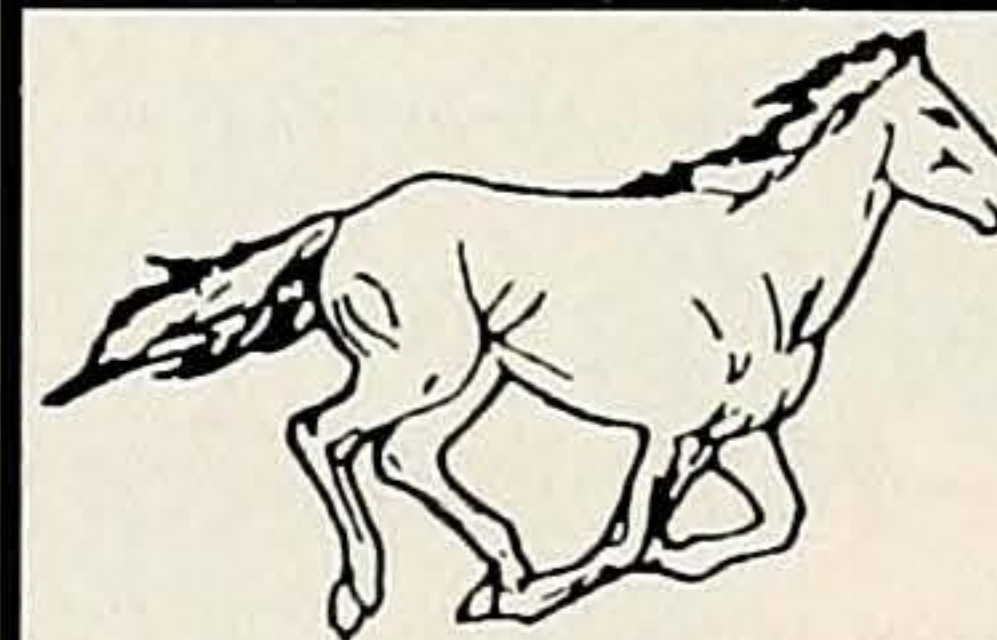
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FFA IN ACTION

(Action Continued from Page 33)

Texas

Baseball and Pizza (Forget Apple Pie!)

The Ysleta FFA chapter attracted new members and kicked off the school year combining two American favorites: baseball and pizza. FFA members attended a night at Cohen Stadium in El Paso to watch the Triple-A Diablos take on Wichita in a professional baseball game. The chapter also had a pizza party for new members and parents during the first week of school.

...

New members and parents fill up on pizza at a Ysleta FFA orientation for more than 90 guests.

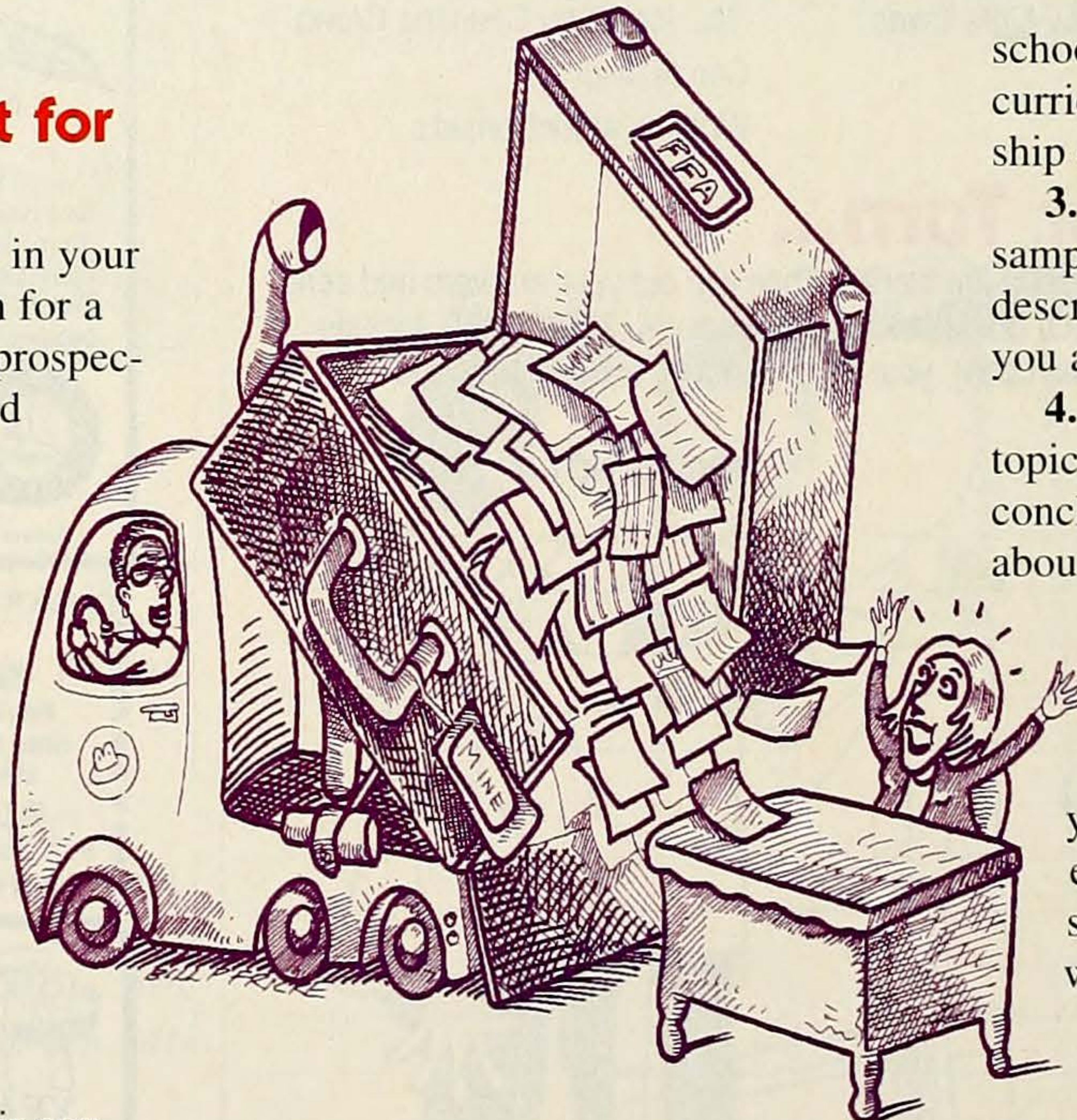


California

Portfolios—Not Just for Artists Anymore

Even though you may know in your heart you are the perfect person for a job, how can you prove it to a prospective employer? As part of a field test conducted by the Career-Technical Assessment Project (C-TAP) in California, Ceres High School students are developing portfolios of their accomplishments. A portfolio can be a large folder or binder containing a collection of finished work such as drawings, sketches, photographs, writing samples, or projects that demonstrate a student's experience and skills. Although portfolios vary in their contents, Ceres FFA members think these five sections work well for anyone, but particularly for agriscience types:

1. Introduction. Develop a table of contents and write a letter of introduction presenting you and your portfolio



to the reviewers. List some of your qualities that make you perfect for the job.

2. Career Development Package. Collect letters of recommendation from previous employers or teachers and prepare a resume listing your work and

school experience. Don't forget extra-curricular accomplishments or leadership opportunities you've had.

3. Work Samples. Showcase four samples of your work. Take photos and describe what you've done and how you accomplished each task.

4. Research. Investigate a current topic in your field and write up your conclusions. This shows that you know about and, more importantly, understand issues in your field of interest.

5. Supervised Practical Experience Evaluation. Have your FFA advisor or a supervisor evaluate your career-technical skills. Show you really understand what you've been taught.

So what do Ceres FFA members say when a prospective employer asks why he or she should hire you? "I brought a portfolio that I compiled in my agriscience class. Let me show you some of the experiences and skills that I feel qualify me for this job." Watch what a difference this makes in an interview! (Chris Essman, Reporter) ...

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