

FFA new horizons

The magazine of the National FFA Organization

March/April 1996

**wild
thing!**

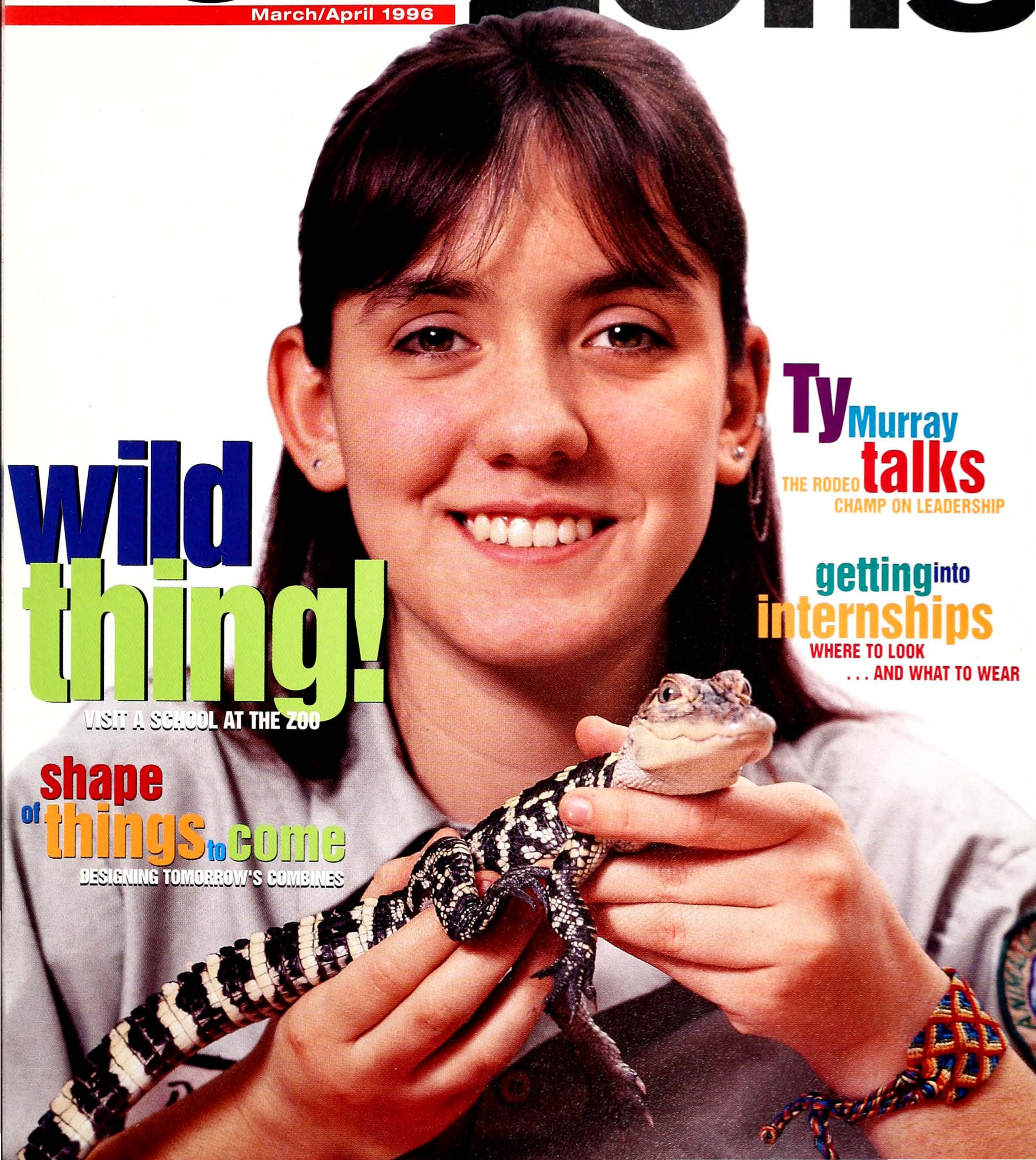
VISIT A SCHOOL AT THE ZOO

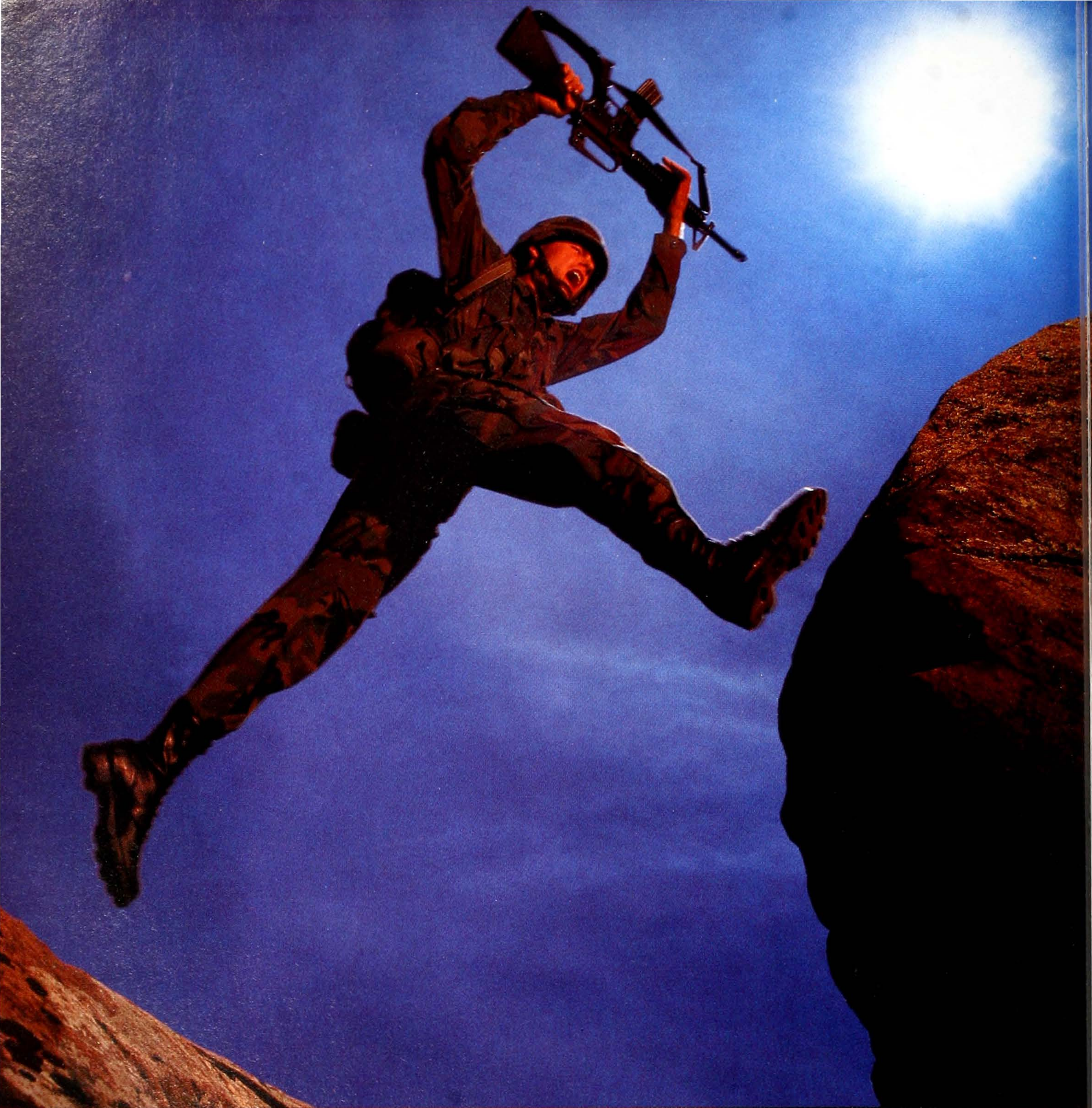
**shape
of things to come**

DESIGNING TOMORROW'S COMBINES

Ty Murray
talks
THE RODEO
CHAMP ON LEADERSHIP

getting into
internships
WHERE TO LOOK
... AND WHAT TO WEAR





In a recent survey, 9 out of 10 employers said that they prefer the qualities of determination, good judgment and self-discipline. Qualities that the Army

The best place to start a business career isn't always in business.

develops. Qualities that will help you in any career, and throughout life.

To find out more about how the Army can help give you an edge on a career, call 1-800-USA-ARMY. **ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.**

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Some schools have lions, tigers and bears as their mascots. But in an extraordinary educational program at the Cincinnati Zoo, they're your classmates!



Cover photo: FFA member Rebecca Holcombe, a student at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens Zoo Academy, and a baby American alligator.

FFA Mission Statement

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.

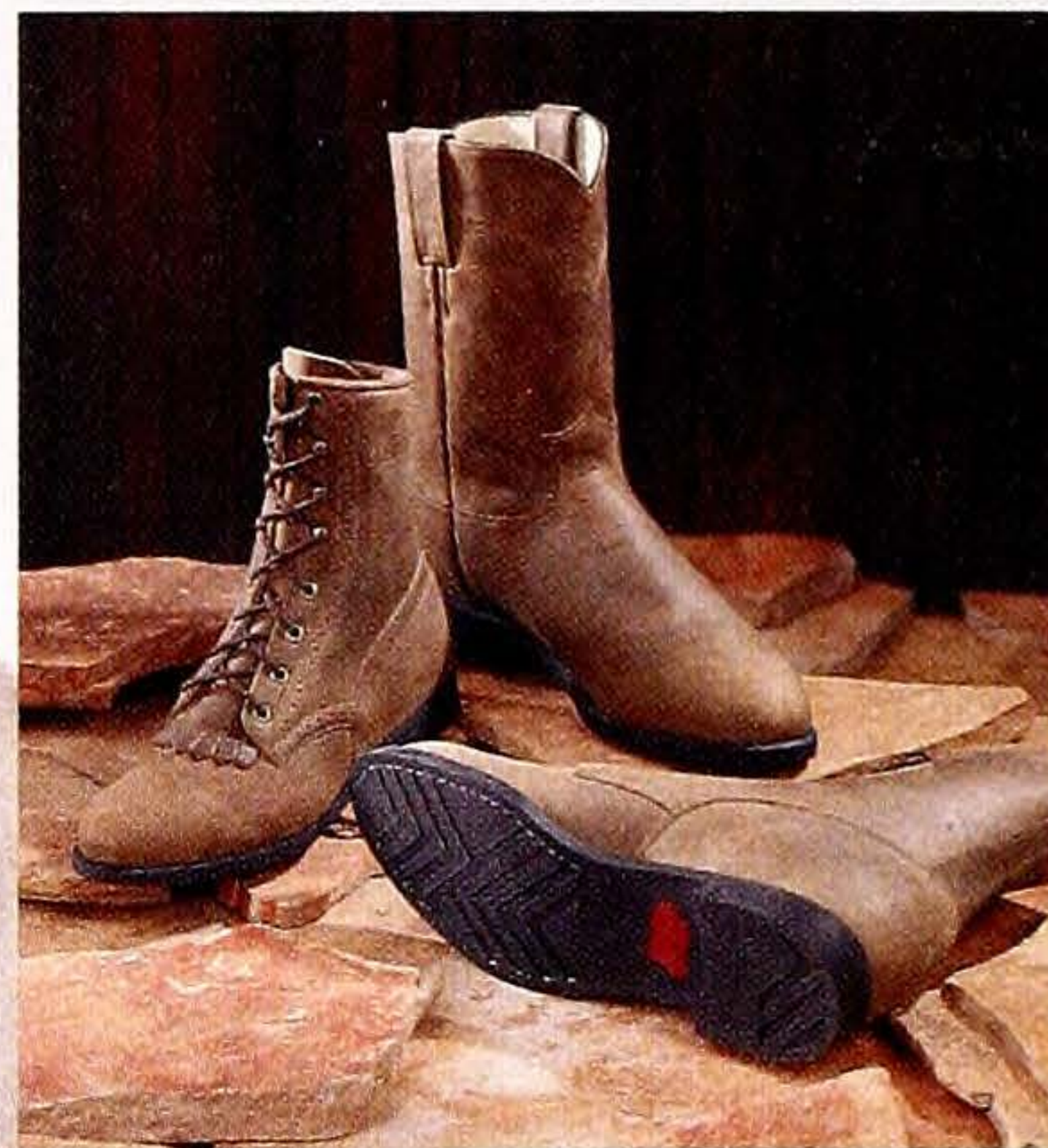
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NEW

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BUZZ

1995-96
Official
Manual

1995-96
Official
Manual

FFA MAILBAG

Ask your advisors...

For your copy of the 11th edition of the FFA Student Handbook, featuring career highlights, FFA history and an extensive listing of FFA opportunities through awards and degrees.

The official 1995 National FFA Convention Highlights Video captures all the excitement the 68th annual convention, including Career Development Events, tours, alumni activities, national contest finals, national officer elections, career show action and guest speakers. If you weren't at the convention, or would like to relive your experience, this videotape brings the action to you.

Both items are available for purchase from the FFA Supply Service. Call 703/360-3600 for details.

What's in a name?

I have been reading articles from people who think the letters 'FFA' should stand for something, and I strongly agree with their thoughts.

I think FFA should stand for 'Future Farmers and Agriculturists.' I think this would be a good name because the first part, Future Farmers, tells about our history. However, times are changing, with fewer people involved in production agriculture. The second part, (Future) Agriculturists, will include those who will be involved in any of the hundreds of ag-related careers.

I hope we consider changing the name of this organization to one that will "stand for something"; remind us of our rich heritage; not limit ourselves to only future farmers, but keep pace

with this changing world with many ag-related careers; and unite us all with one common interest—agriculture.

Matthew Miller

President
Northern Butler
FFA Chapter
Bristow, Iowa

Wallet lost... faith restored

Bob Bosold, a well-known farm radio broadcaster from Eau Claire, Wisconsin, lost his billfold at the national FFA convention and the Farm Broadcasters Convention.

In checking at the desk, he was pleasantly surprised to find out that someone had turned it in intact. Newscaster Paul Harvey picked up the story and broadcast it

A Capitol experience

Mark your calendars to attend the 1996 Washington Leadership Conference. This educational program will be conducted at two conference sites the weeks of June 11-16; June 18-23; June 25-30; July 9-14; July 16-21; July 23-28; and July 30-Aug. 4. The 1996 registration fees will remain the same as the last four years: \$450 per student in advance and \$495 per student at the conference. Student scholarships are also available through the National FFA Alumni Association. For more information, you can call the National FFA Center at 703/360-3600, extension 347.

nationwide on his syndicated radio program. "Only at an FFA convention would this ever happen," he said.

Mr. Francis Steiner

President
Wisconsin FFA Alumni
Association

Editor's note: Thanks for the uplifting note, Mr. Steiner. Points 3 and 4 of the FFA Code of Ethics dictate members do credit to the National FFA Organization by "being honest and not taking unfair advantage of others" and "respecting the property of others." We are glad to see that this convention attendee—whoever he or she might be—truly lived up to this code.

"You don't have to be from a rural area or a farming community to be a part of FFA"

Cody Wagner hopes to communicate at least one message to FFA members during his year as a national officer.

"The opportunities this organization has to offer are really exciting," says Cody, the new national FFA secretary. "The opportunities to improve your leadership skills, develop teamwork and communications skills, make friends, and travel are endless."

Cody also plans to spread the word that the FFA membership is a lot more diverse than many people realize.

"As agriculture grows, FFA will grow with it, with more opportunities for members from any background," Cody says. "You don't have to be from a rural area or a farming community to be a part of FFA." Cody himself comes from a production agriculture background, hailing from Banner, Wyoming, a tiny ranching community perched at the edge of the Bighorn Mountains.

Cody built an impressive resume of FFA leadership positions before taking the plunge and running for national office last year. He rose from chapter treasurer to chapter president and then moved up the state association ladder to third vice president and ultimately became the 1994-95 Wyoming State FFA President.

A veteran of many national conventions, Cody says he was both intrigued and intimidated by the thought of all the stage time national officers put in at the convention.

"It's a real challenge to get up in front of a large group and speak, but I've done it so much that now I actually look forward to doing it," he says.

Since the national convention, the national officer team has packed in a

busy schedule of appearances, plus three weeks of training at the National FFA Center on everything from presentation skills to team building.

But Cody points out the training was all designed with one goal in mind: helping the team do the best job it can serving the membership.

"We have set some team goals for the year," Cody says. "And we all agree that serving the members to the best of our ability is why we are doing this." ■

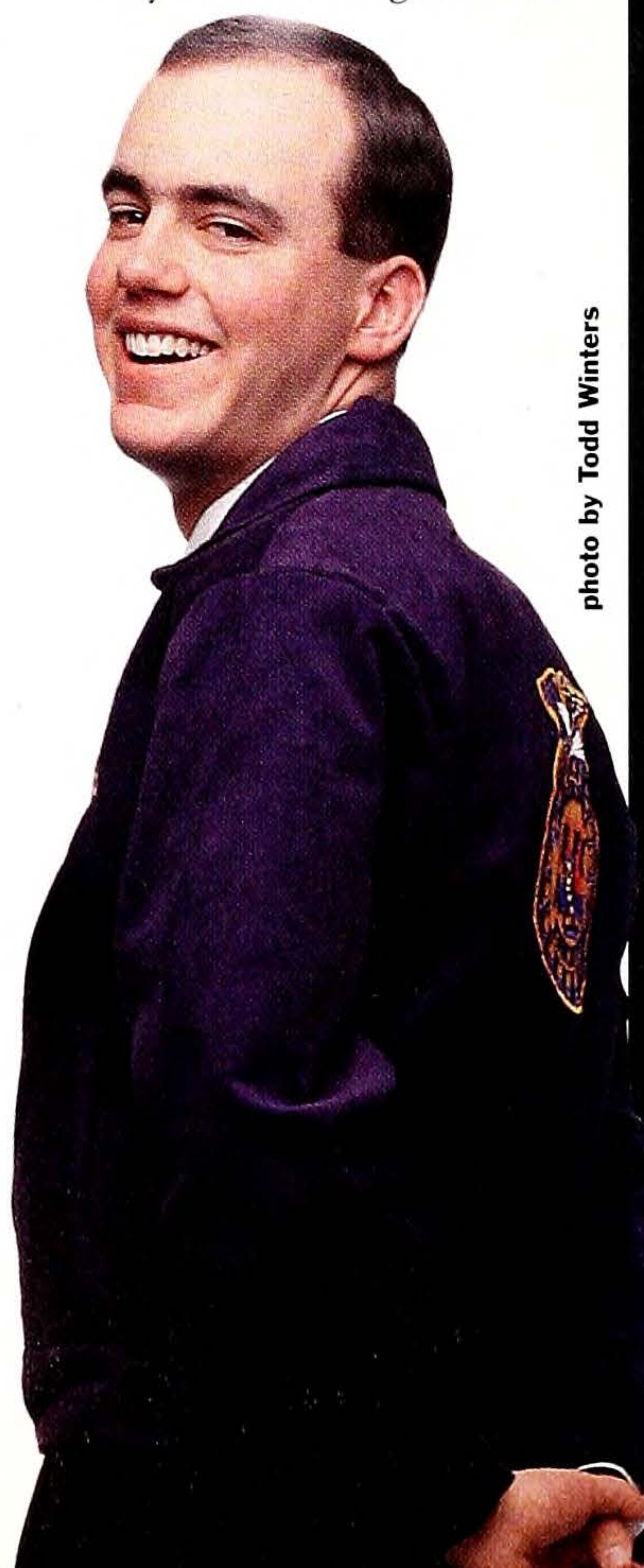


photo by Todd Winters

VITALS

Name: Cody Wagner
Age: 20
Position: 1995-96 national FFA secretary
Hometown: Banner, Wyo.
FFA Chapter: John B. Kendrick FFA Chapter
FFA Advisors: Jim Bohn and Nick Siddle
SAE: beef and sheep operation; agricultural sales and service
College/major: University of Wyoming, molecular biology
What he'll miss during his year as a national officer: "I love to play sports, and I love spending time in the outdoors. That is something that I will really miss while we're traveling around the country."

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The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.



Jolene's juggling act

Jolene Quaring must have an extra-large appointment calendar. How else could this busy 18-year-old freshman at Nebraska's Chadron State College juggle the hectic schedule that's made her an FFA Star? In addition to serving as vice president and president of her FFA chapter, the 1994 and 1995 BOAC representative at the national convention, and leader of her chapter's parliamentary procedure team, Jolene has managed to participate in: • band • drum majorettes • cheer-leading • Girl Scouts • the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute • her church youth group • 4-H. What's more, she's • a champion swine exhibitor • a National Honor Society member • a major league award winner (she's received the DeKalb award, the Girl Scout Gold award, the BOAC Achievement in Volunteerism award and the State FFA Degree, among others). Still, she manages to find time to help younger students make it through summer school. With her energy, enthusiasm and determination, Jolene is what an FFA Star is all about! ★

Nominated by Lynn Coulter

CALIFORNIA

A country commuter

When it comes to learning and experiencing America's rural traditions, Deanna Capps of the Thomas Downey FFA Chapter never lets the city limits stand in her way. So while Deanna may live in an apartment in the heart of Modesto—a thriving metropolis in central California—this city girl still finds a way to conduct nine (yes, nine!) SAE projects.

In her apartment, Deanna raises jersey wooley rabbits, ring-neck doves and homing pigeons. Then, it's off to the Thomas Downey school farm to care for four breeding ewes, turkeys, dairy heifers and market hogs. She also serves as manager of the Thomas Downey greenhouse and holds a part-time position at the Yosemite Veterinary Clinic.



Sure, all of this work means a long daily trek from the big city to the barnyard, but Deanna's commitment to her animals and the FFA keeps her going. And it's this drive that makes her an FFA Star! ★

Nominated by Gillian Means, TDHS FFA Reporter

OKLAHOMA

GEORGIA

OKLAHOMA



Misti Wells

A combination of athletics, activities and academics makes Misti a true FFA Star in her Medina FFA Chapter. In addition to serving as FFA chapter sweetheart and vice president, as well as student council representative, Misti's high G.P.A. and athletic prowess in basketball, volleyball, cross country and track (at last year's state meet, she placed first in the mile run and fourth in the 800-meter run) keep her on the road to success. ★

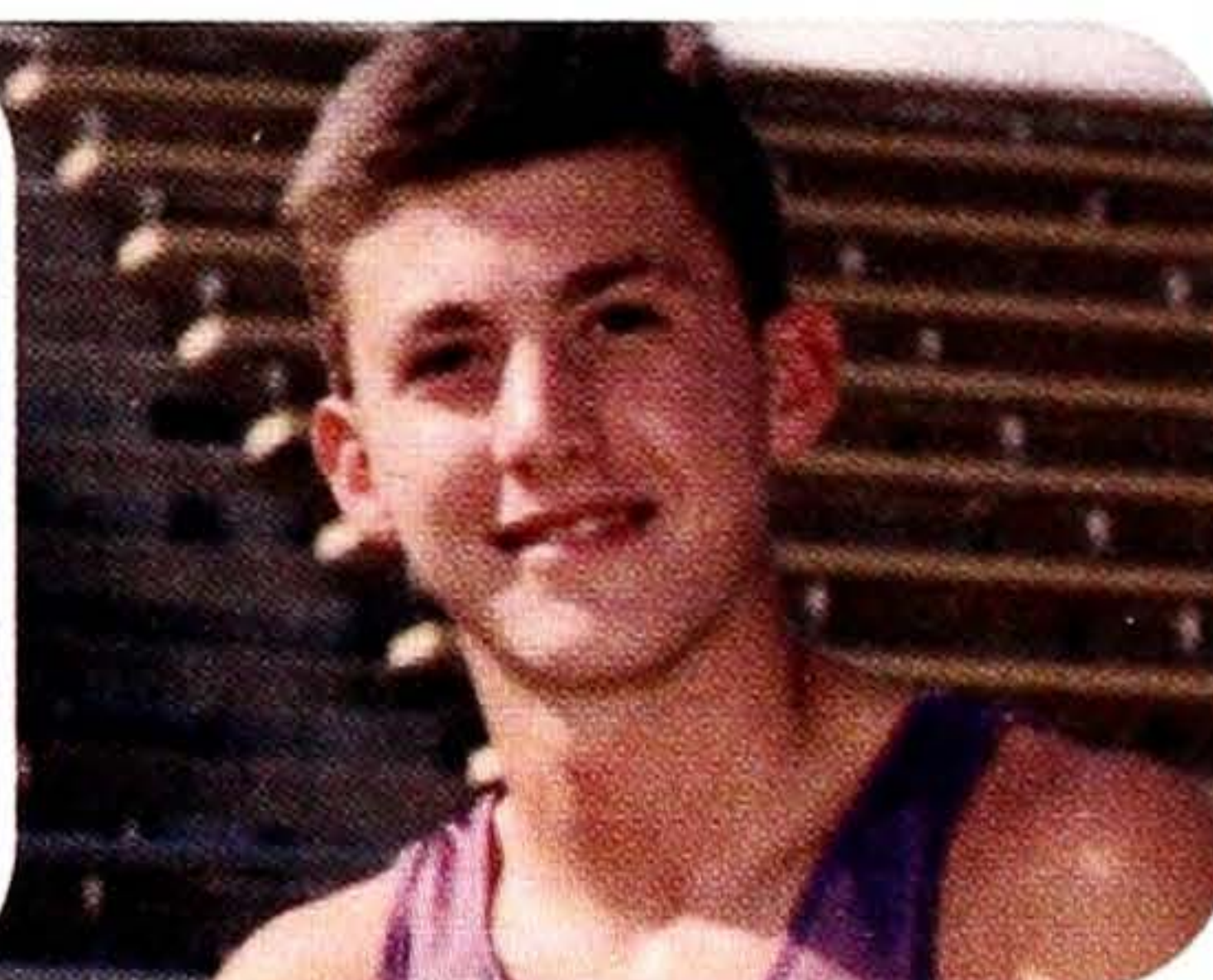
Nominated by Cully Doyle



Linda Luallen

Talk about political action! When Linda saw that Georgia lawmakers were discussing funding cuts to the state FFA, she wasn't about to sit still. Instead, she contacted her representative, Tim Perry, and urged him to vote against this legislation. In turn, Rep. Perry asked Linda (and a few other outspoken FFA members) to join his Atlanta staff as a congressional page—a job that will really put Linda's leadership skills to work. ★

Nominated by Casey Christal



Kaleb Hennigh

One FFA Star who's a leader in FFA and on the athletic field is Kaleb Hennigh. After a busy schedule of cattle shows and FFA activities as Laverne FFA Chapter president, Kaleb hits the trails as a member of his high school track team. Last spring, Kaleb placed first in the two-mile run at his regional meet and third in the same event at the state level. ★

Nominated by Ben Lastly

Your palms are sweaty. Your heart's pounding. Yet the whole time, you're hoping to appear cool as a cucumber. Job interviews are rarely easy, but there are a few ways you can turn the odds in your favor. For starters, make certain you have a resumé. Be sure to carefully research the position you're applying for well in advance. And, no matter what the position is, always dress the part!

What you wear to a job interview says a lot about you. Are you well-

dents for blue-collar plant jobs, but he expects to see suits on everyone interviewing for these positions.

"It reflects an attitude," Farney says. "Laboring in a plant isn't a professional job, but plant managers are impressed when a person comes in in a suit.

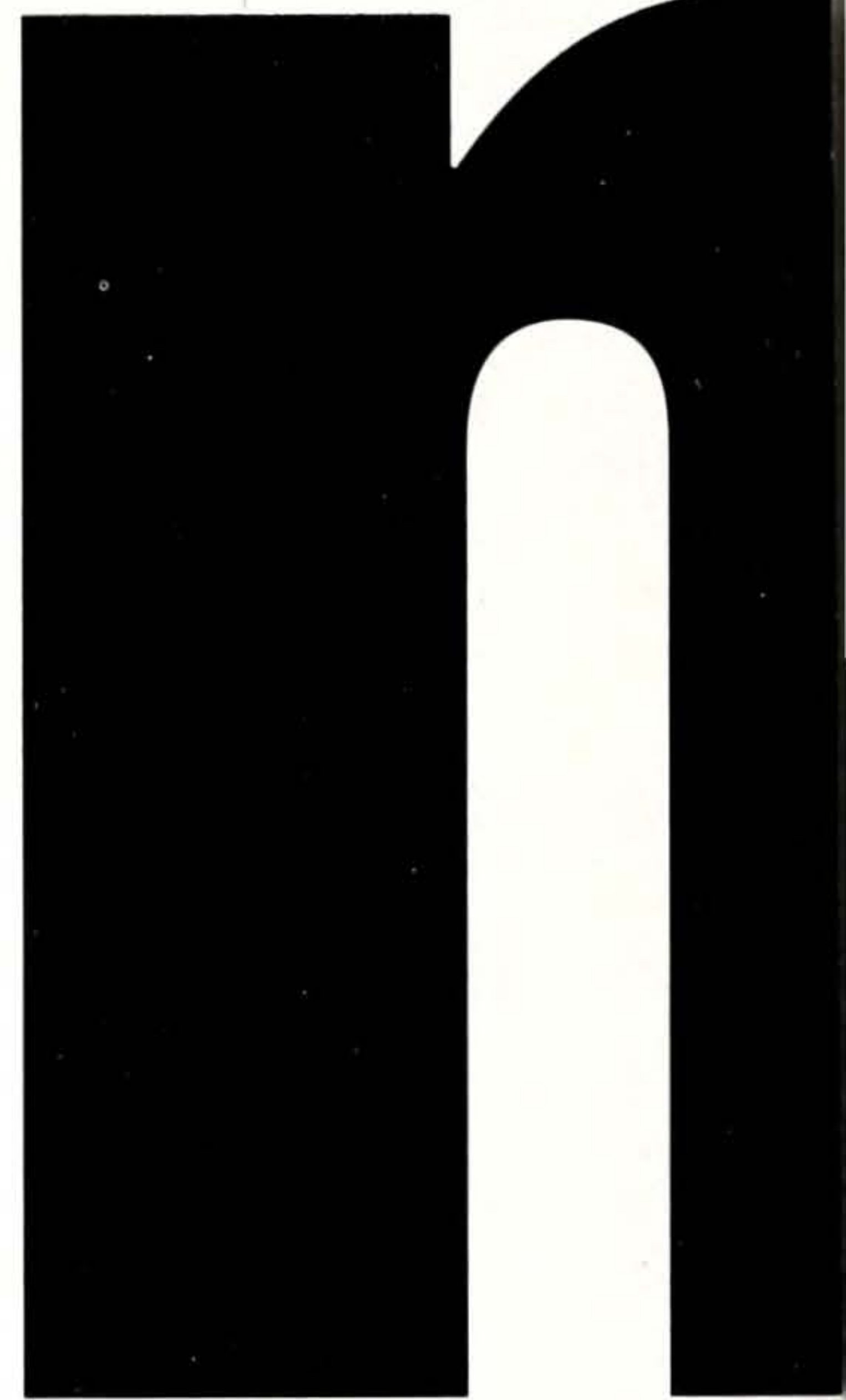
"And bring a resumé," he adds. "Students have minimal work experience, but so what. List your baby-sitting jobs, your lawn-mowing jobs—think about what will separate you from other people."



sometimes, jeans are fine,
but gum never is



the look of a



always be prompt...
or even a bit early

The key to a successful

groomed? Would you represent the company well? Are you properly dressed to carry out your particular duties? Here are a few pointers from recruiters across the country on how you can better sell yourself with the right look.

Better safe than sorry

Even if you're interviewing for a summer job or brief internship, most large corporations prefer prospective employees to wear suits. Archer Daniels Midland college recruiting coordinator Doug Farney hires stu-

Most corporate employers like to see people dressed professionally. The National Cattlemen's Association, for example, says suits are a must if you're bucking for a job in Washington, D.C. And Osborn & Barr, advertising agency for Monsanto and John Deere, wants to see you in "your Sunday best."

Focus comes first

There are times when dressing up

can drag you down. Rosey Guest, apprenticeship coordinator of the Maine Organic Farming & Gardening Association, says, "If someone shows up in a suit for an interview, they won't be considered."

Guest, who matches student apprentices with organic growers, says, "The people who participate in our programs are labeled alternative, so dressing up isn't a factor. The applicants who have the best chance are sincere and focused and have a



take off your gloves
when shaking hands

clue as to what they're interested in. They know if they want to pursue dairy, horses, vegetables, whatever.

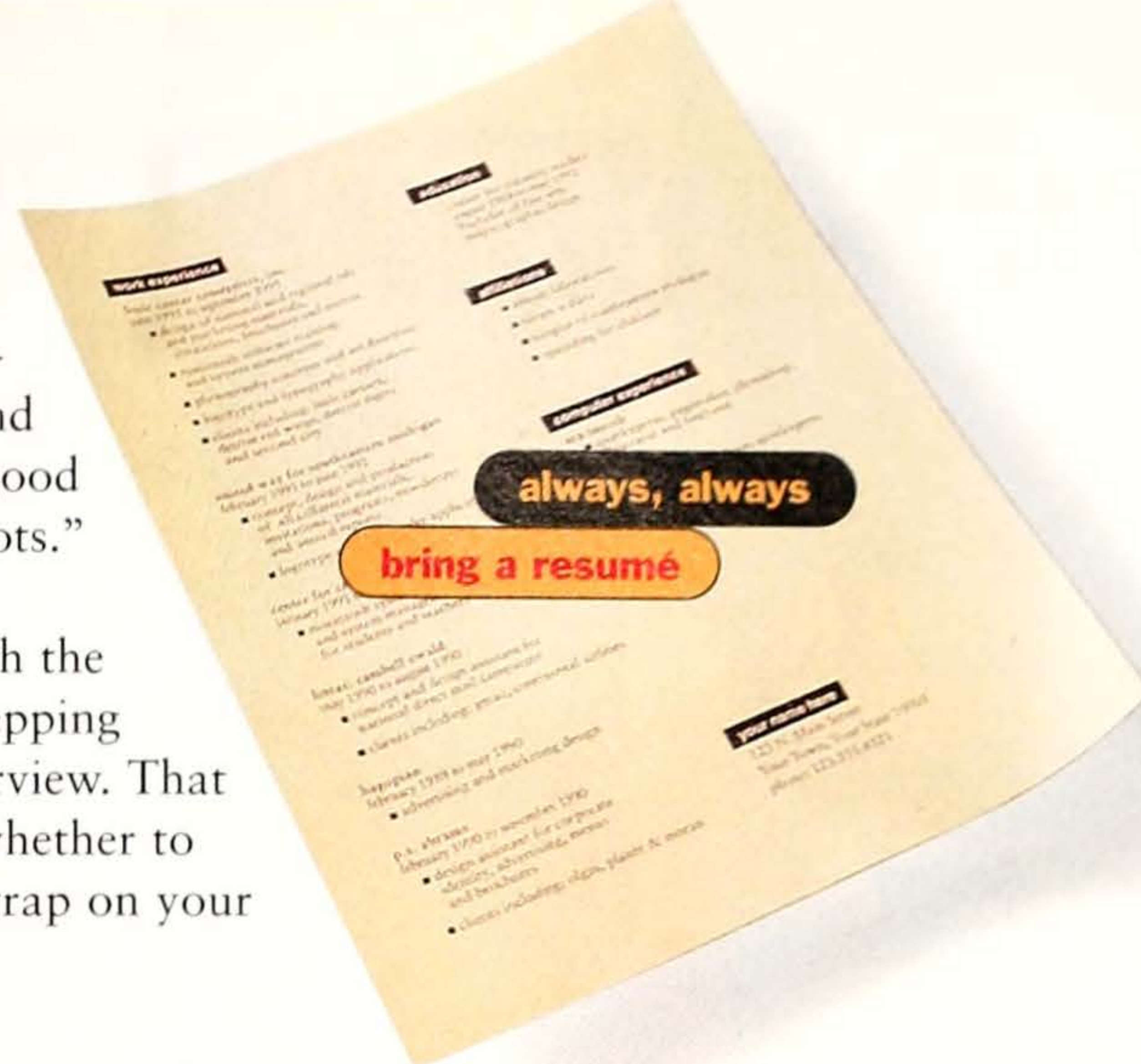
"I also look for flexibility," Guest adds. "Most of our farmers are set in their ways, and headstrong apprentices who think they know it all don't work out."

Dress for the job

Will Newman, who runs a similar program called the Tilth Apprenticeship Placement Program in Oregon, employs student apprentices on his 20-

show up in work boots, overalls, long-sleeved shirts, hats, work gloves—and in the spring and fall, rain gear and good high-top rubber boots."

The bottom line? Thoroughly research the employer before stepping foot in the job interview. That way, you'll know whether to slip into a suit or strap on your work boots. ■



loud ties and
interviews don't mix

by Brenda Wilhelmsen



for outdoor jobs,
work boots are in

Job interview may be found in your closet

acre Natural Harvest Farm.

"In our experience," Newman says, "we look for realistic expectations. Farming is hard work, so we look at why a person is interested in it and if they have any experience. Did the person grow up on a farm? Did they have any ag schooling? Did they belong to FFA?"

"And when I call them in for an interview," he continues, "I suggest they show up dressed for work. That tells me if they know what the work will be like, and if they know, they'll

for corporate jobs,
wear your Sunday best



ARIZONA

A monumental thank you

Sure, they could've written a card. But when it came time to pay tribute to advisors Mr. Mulcahy and Mr. Gillespie, Trevor Widenski and his fellow Peoria FFA Chapter members did something truly extraordinary—they spent two years carving an immaculate FFA emblem from six different kinds of wood.

Trevor, along with Matt Parks, Martin Carmichael, Justin Brereton, Brandon Figg, Andrea Sokol and Holiday Martel, got the sawdust flying way back in October 1993, under the supervision of Mr. Duane Widenski. In a school ceremony, the FFA emblem was proudly and officially dedicated to the chapter's two esteemed advisors.

Vanessa Sherrill, Reporter

Members of the Peoria FFA Chapter sawed, glued and sanded this remarkable wooden monument for over two years.

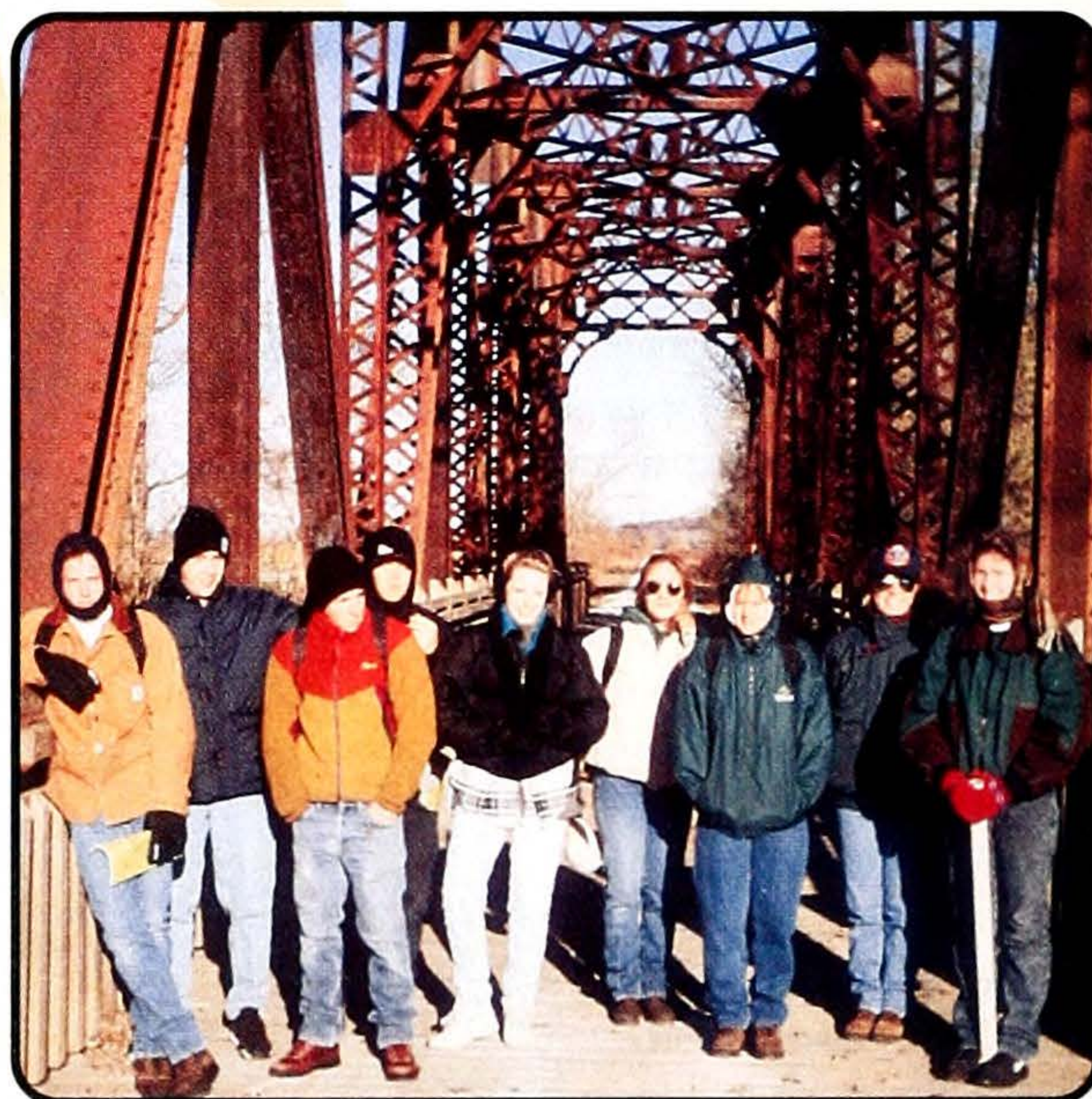
MISSOURI

Happy trails

Brutal November winds and icy temperatures were easily conquered by nine Columbia FFA members during an 8.9 mile nature hike from McBaine to Rocheport, Missouri. The tireless trekkers used the historic MKT (Missouri-Kansas-Texas) Trail, an old railroad line converted to a fitness and nature trail. The students collected samples of tree stems and

wild shrubs and berries, and they also did a little spelunking (cave exploring) along the way. The long journey ended at the Trail-side Cafe restaurant, which was opened exclusively that day for the FFA team. **Reported by Carrie Cowgill**

Columbia FFA members perch on the old Perche Creek Bridge. Pictured left to right: John Ambra, Jeremy Mullens, Alex Masters, Corey Pierce, Amber McCoig, Laura Wilson, Katie Romesburg, Carrie Cowgill and Jessica Anthony.



FFA's working holiday

How did you commemorate "National Make A Difference Day" Oct. 28? Members of the Calhoun County Area Vocational Center FFA Chapter spent the morning at a local apartment complex helping elderly and disabled residents with yard cleanup. The students, all classmates in agribusiness, cleaned garden areas, raked debris and planted pansies they had grown in the school greenhouse. For many, it was their first volunteer-



ALABAMA

FFA members (left to right) Daniel Murray, Eric Mangum, Jody Roper, Tabitha Tant, Melissa Jennings, Waylon Sullivan and Jonathan Austin take a breather during their garden cleanup.

ing experience. And, rest assured, the hard work of the FFA members really did "make a difference."

David Stonebreaker, Advisor

CALIFORNIA



Above: Salinas High School FFA member Matt Bingamen uses a goat model to teach a group of curious youngsters the proper milking technique.



Left: A special group of disabled children had their very first opportunity to see and touch farm animals at the FFA fund-raiser.

Free smiles at this fund-raiser

Take a few truckloads of pumpkins, add a flock of barnyard animals and 2,000 kids, and you've got the recipe for a worthwhile FFA fund-raiser. That's exactly what members of the Salinas High School FFA Chapter in Salinas discovered last autumn when they raised over \$1,900 hosting a week-long petting zoo and pumpkin sale. Seventy area schools participated in the event, including a visiting group of six disabled children who had never seen farm animals. According to Salinas FFA members, the special children actually smiled for the first time in months while petting the dairy calves, piglets and chicks.

Courtney Leonard, Reporter

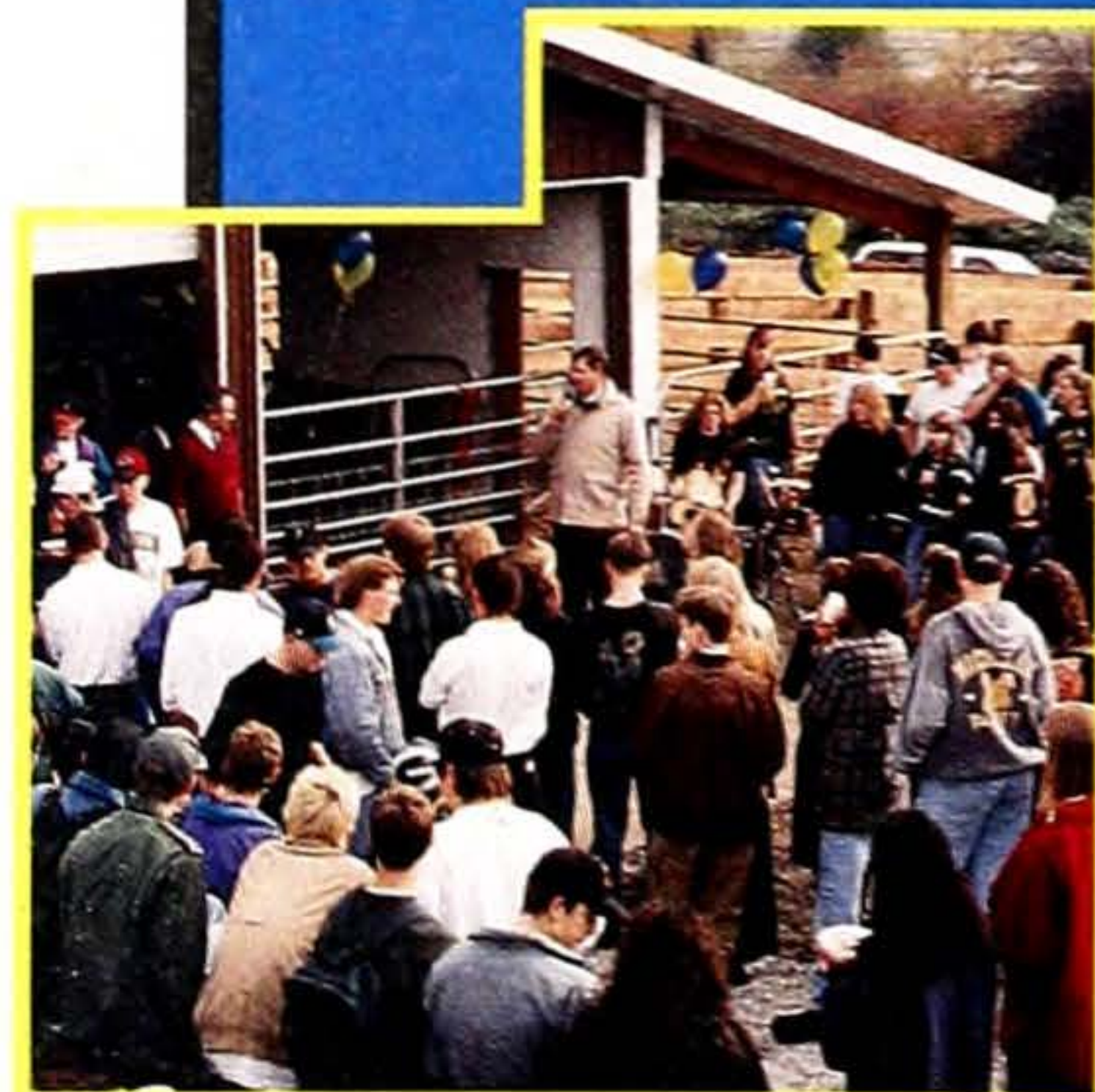
OHIO



A crash course in teamwork

When Liberty Center FFA vice president Chris Bostleman decided to participate in the Fulton County Fair's demolition derby, he turned to his fellow FFA members for help. In no time, the FFA crew had ol' number 58 in tip-top shape for the big event. Then it was Chris' turn to tear her apart at the expense of other derby contestants. When the exhaust fumes cleared, Chris had wrapped up a fourth-place finish for the Liberty Center FFA!

Reported by Shannon Graham



A barn winner

After over three years of planning and construction and an estimated 3,500 hours of hard work, members of the Lynden High School FFA Chapter recently unveiled their school's new agrieducation facility—a 48-by-60-foot barn, complete with adjoining commodity shed and livestock corral. The barn will house beef and dairy calves, pigs, sheep, goats, chickens, rabbits, and doves and will give the school's ag science classes a hands-on opportunity to raise the animals.

If you'd like to learn the secrets of the Lynden FFA Chapter's success, write to: Lynden FFA, c/o Lynden High School, 1201 Bradley Road, Lynden, WA 98264.

Kurt K. Stevens, Reporter



The

shape

of

things to

Former FFA member **Brad Watts** knows

what tomorrow's high-tech farm equipment will look like

After all, he's designing it.

by **Michael Speck**

It's a scene far removed from any amber waves of grain. Yet here, in a room lit by the soft glow of computer screens and littered with reams of scientific data and diagrams, some of today's most important advancements in agriculture are made on a daily basis.

This is the headquarters of the Current Combine Group of Case Corp. in East Moline, Illinois. It's in this Quad City facility that former FFA member Brad Watts and a small team of mechanical engineers use the industry's most sophisticated technology to design Case IH combines, one part at a time.

(continued on page 12)

come

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 difference in these people's lives.

Peace Corps offers two years of international experience, language training, paid living expenses, medical care, travel, and more. It's an unforgettable opportunity for personal and career growth!

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U.S. citizen: ☐ Yes ☐ No

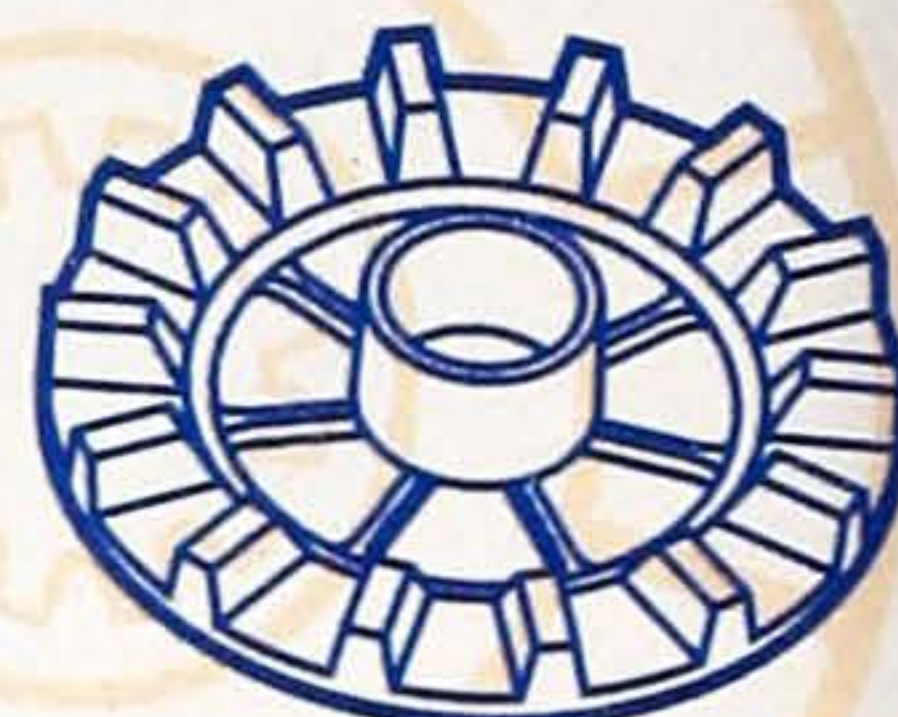
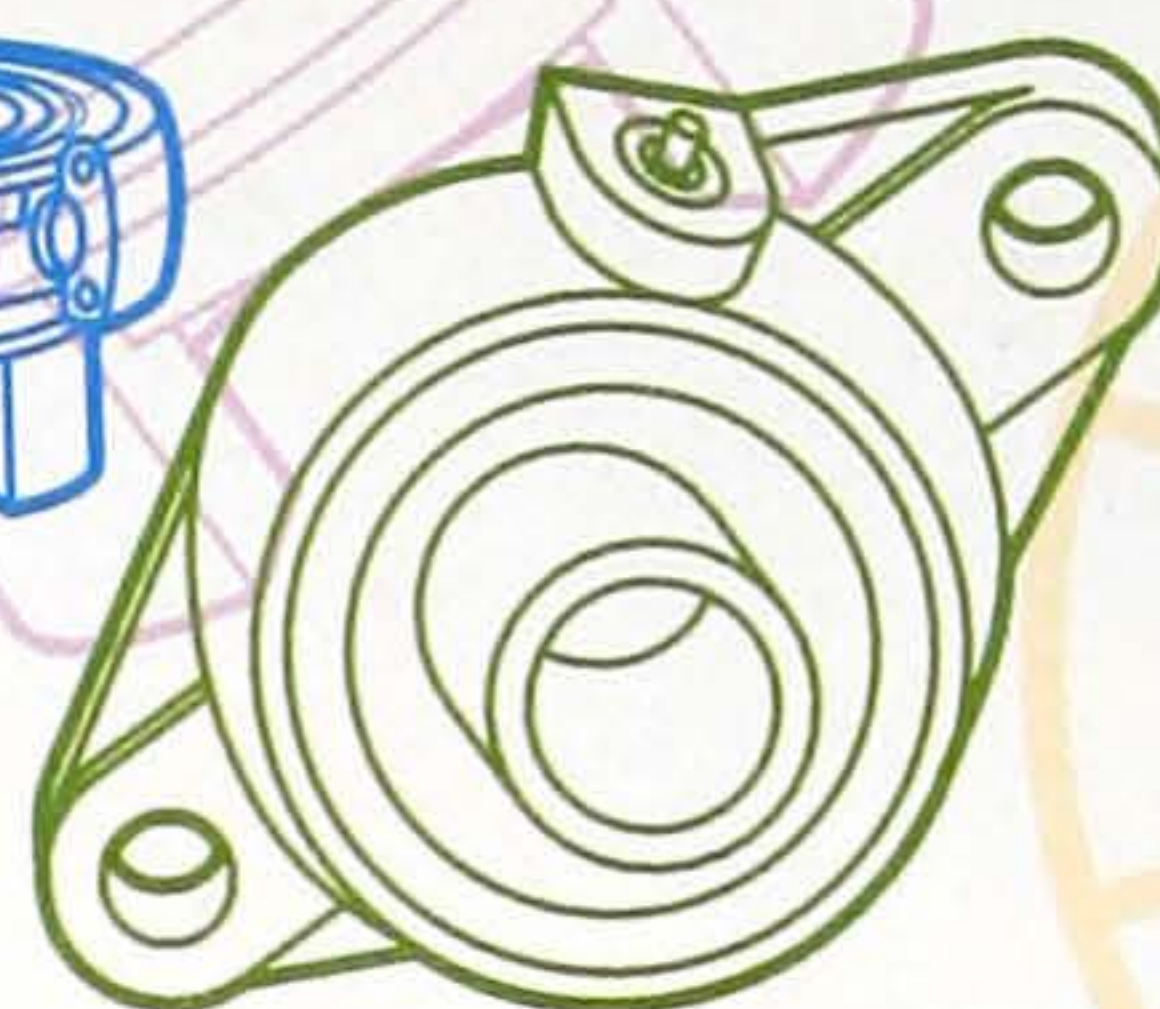
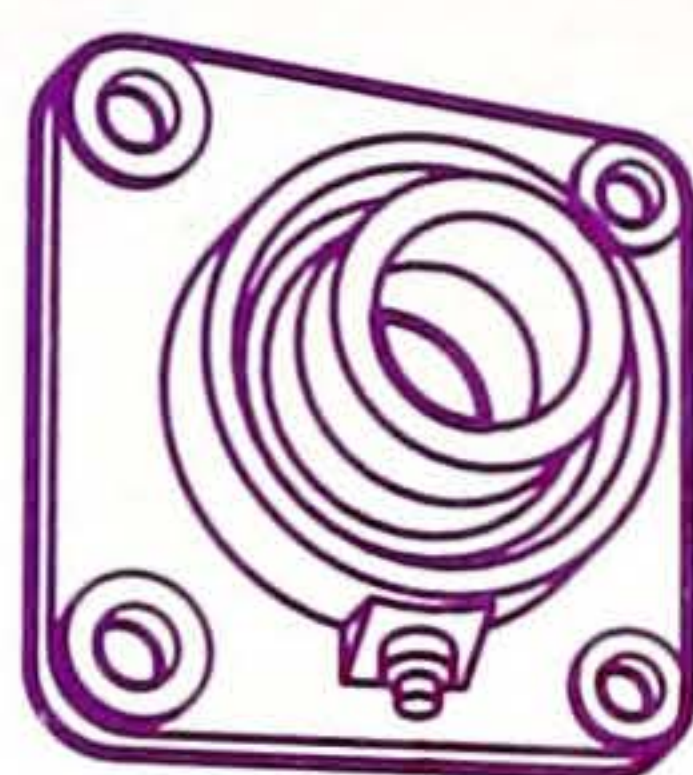
Age _____

Type of farming experience you have:

How long? _____

Volunteers must be US citizens and meet other qualifications. The term of service is two years. There is no upper age limit. Peace Corps seeks the best qualified Americans and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age or sexual orientation.

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(Continued from page 10)

"It's our job to continually improve the performance and reliability of both modern combines and even models from years ago," says 27-year-old Watts, a native of nearby Iowa. "That could mean supporting the manufacturing line with design tweaks in specific components or working to identify potential design solutions to existing engineering problems." Sometimes a new design will be scribbled on the back of a restaurant napkin, but usually it takes months of careful planning to get it right.

Bringing an idea to life

Designers like Watts work behind the scenes at all major agricultural manufacturers. While many use sketchbooks and drafting boards to create the space-age tractors, skid steers and cotton pickers of the future, the majority of today's ag designers use computer-aided design technology to meticulously develop and refine equipment and parts that outperform those already in existence.

"We use a three-dimensional computer modeling system to actually create parts on screen," Watts explains. "The 3-D views of this computer system cut down the time it takes to draw and revise parts and give us a pretty good idea of what the actual part will look like."

No stranger to computers, Watts began working with them while a high school student and member of Iowa's Dallas Center FFA Chapter. When he arrived at the University of Wyoming, he matched his computer and math skills with a keen interest in farming and decided to major in mechanical engineering. "I always knew I wanted to get into engineering or mechanics, so I joined Case 2½ years ago as a developmental technician."

Developmental technicians work in the field on specially equipped "experimental" and "quality and reliability" machines—test combines equipped with all-new part prototypes. These combines are run in special testing fields throughout the country or are loaned to working farmers.

If, after a few months of operation, the new parts fail to meet their performance requirements, the designers and technicians go back to the drawing board and run tests to determine why the prototypes failed. If the parts do improve the combine's performance, a cost analysis is conducted to assure that the part isn't too expensive to use. Once the new design clears engineering and financial hurdles, it's finally incorporated into the combines rolling off the assembly line.

When a new part is invented, a U.S. patent listing the designers' names is granted to Case. Inside the company, however, the recognition is a bit more tangible because of Case's "Master Inventor" program. In the program, a ring with a single diamond on it is awarded for the designer's first patent. Each patent thereafter earns another diamond. Once the ring is dotted with ten diamonds, the designer has earned the title 'master inventor.' Two such masters work with Watts in the East Moline facility. And while he is still awaiting his first diamond, Watts' fellow engineers and designers at Case recently earned 44 U.S. patents in a single year, according to the summer 1994 edition of *Farm Forum*.

The heat is on

Watts' day includes juggling five to 10 design projects at once; spending time on the manufacturing floor overseeing combine assembly and testing; attending meetings with his supervisors and

Realitybytes

Supercomputers bring virtual reality to equipment design

colleagues; and receiving intensive computer training. He interacts with customers when working on field assignments and puts in overtime when he's assigned to special, high priority projects.

Often, he'll travel across the state to Case's Technical Center in Burr Ridge, Illinois. It's in this

day's work for agricultural design engineers.

If torture tests aren't enough, there's always the slim chance that Watts' team will need to react to a crisis on the assembly line and re-engineer a troublesome component as quickly as possible. "It has never happened since I've been here, but if the line ever stops because of a faulty component, we have to be ready with a workable solution," he says.

The next step

Once Watts gains enough engineering experience, his design career can take him in one of two directions. "Either I continue working on the computer as a hands-on

engineer or I get my MBA (master's degree in business administration) and pursue a management position where I'd be doing more overall project supervision. I haven't really decided which way I'll go yet."

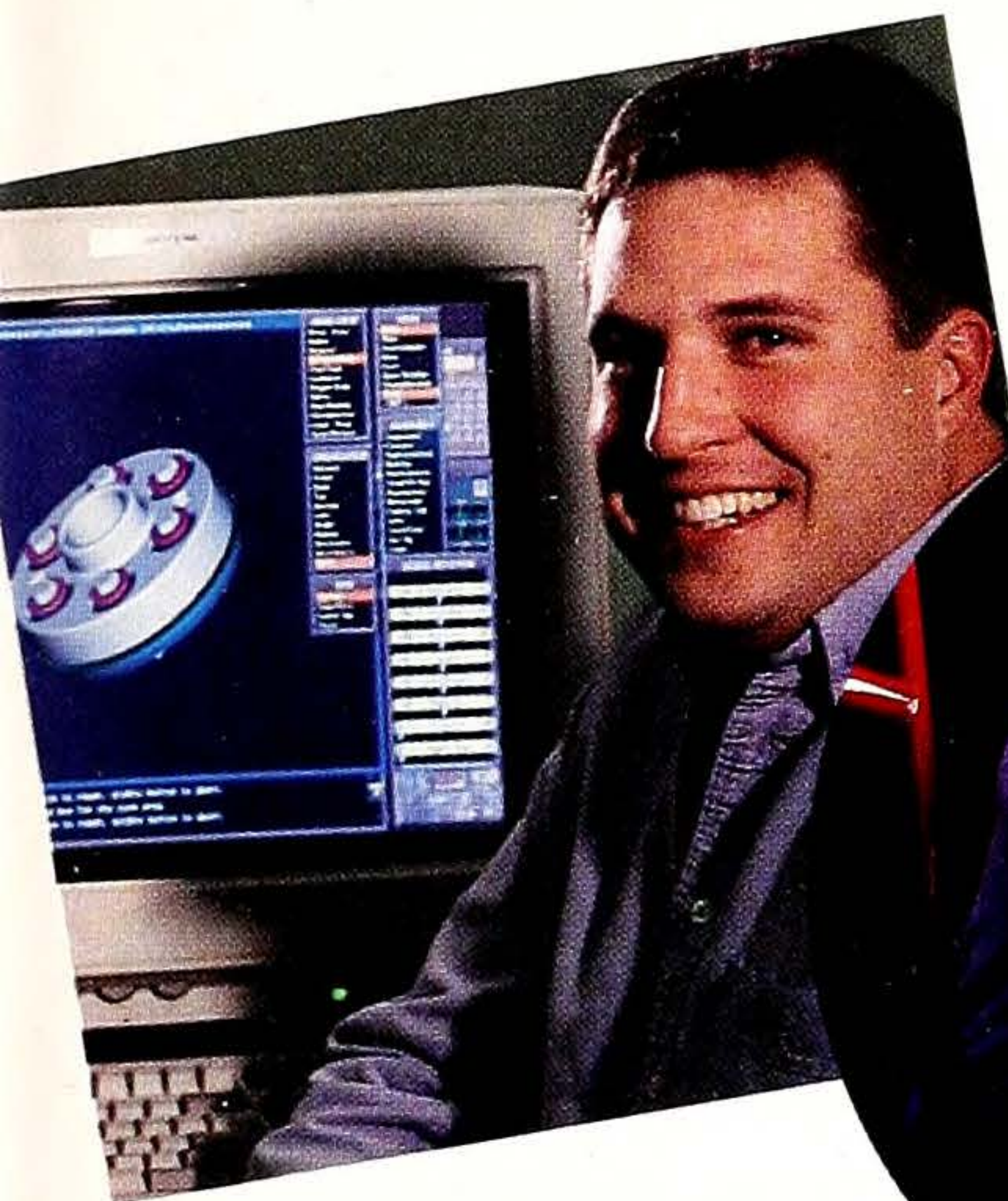
Whichever career path Watts decides upon, it's a good bet he'll be playing a key role in the way your future farm equipment is built. If you think a career in mechanical engineering sounds interesting, take as many math, science and computer classes as possible. Talk to people like Brad Watts who are in the design field. And pursue a degree at a college or university with a well-regarded mechanical engineering program. In a few years, you may have your own collection of patents. ■

If you think virtual reality is only in sci-fi movies, think again. At the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, a research facility at the University of Illinois, design engineers are using sophisticated virtual reality (VR) systems to design—and even drive—the machinery of tomorrow.

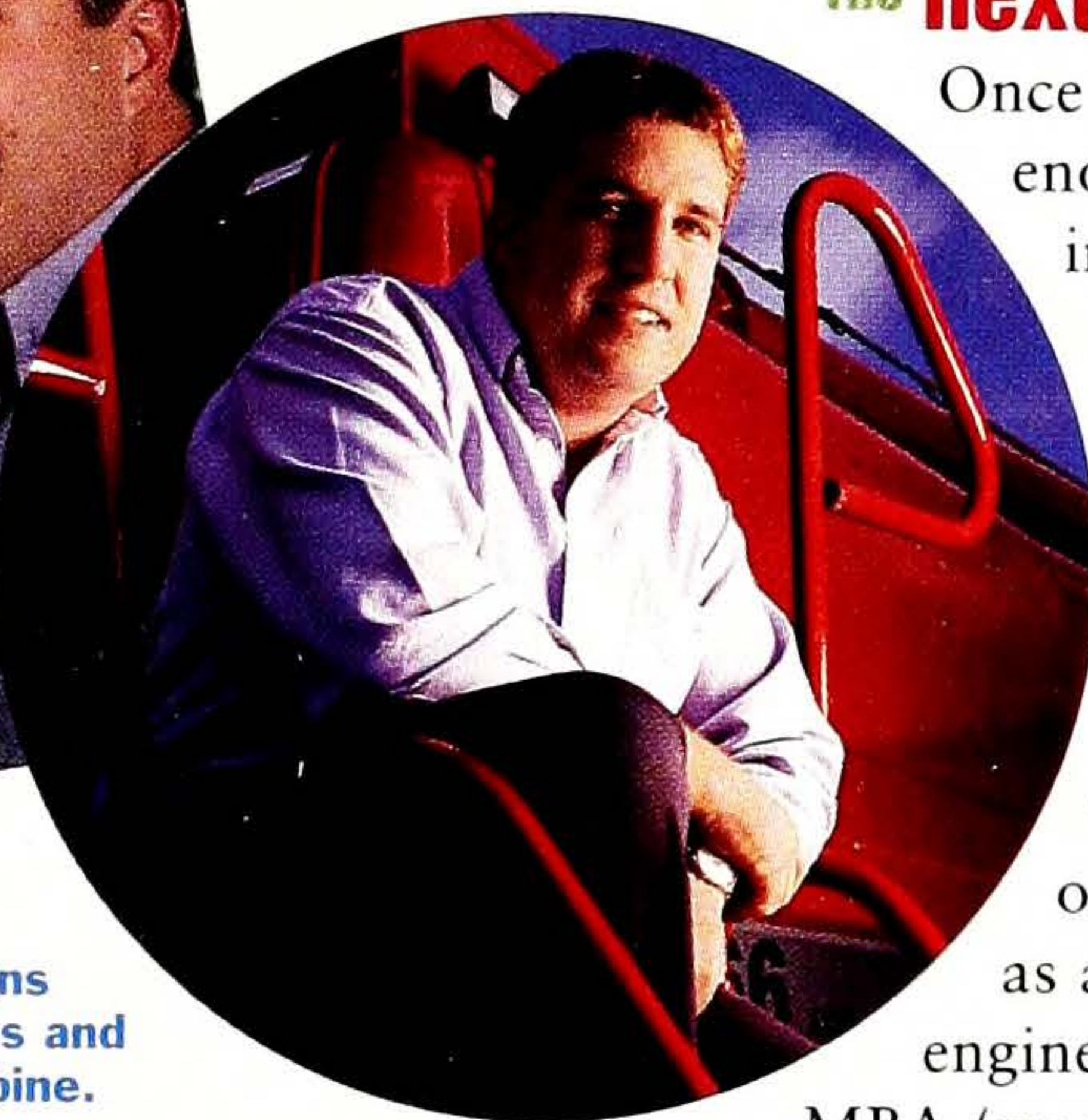
High-tech supercomputers, stereoscopic head sensors and graphical displays allow equipment designers to step into a futuristic machine and take it for a test drive in a virtual environment. The designers may then refine or re-engineer everything from steering controls and seat placement to cabin visibility and position of service ports all without spending months building an actual nuts-and-bolts prototype.

According to the NCSA's Dee Chapman, the system used by companies like Caterpillar and General Motors to develop equipment designs is a lot like playing a video game. "The virtual environment makes you feel like you're actually driving a machine," explains Chapman, an electrical engineer. "Even operators of heavy machinery think this experience is pretty natural."

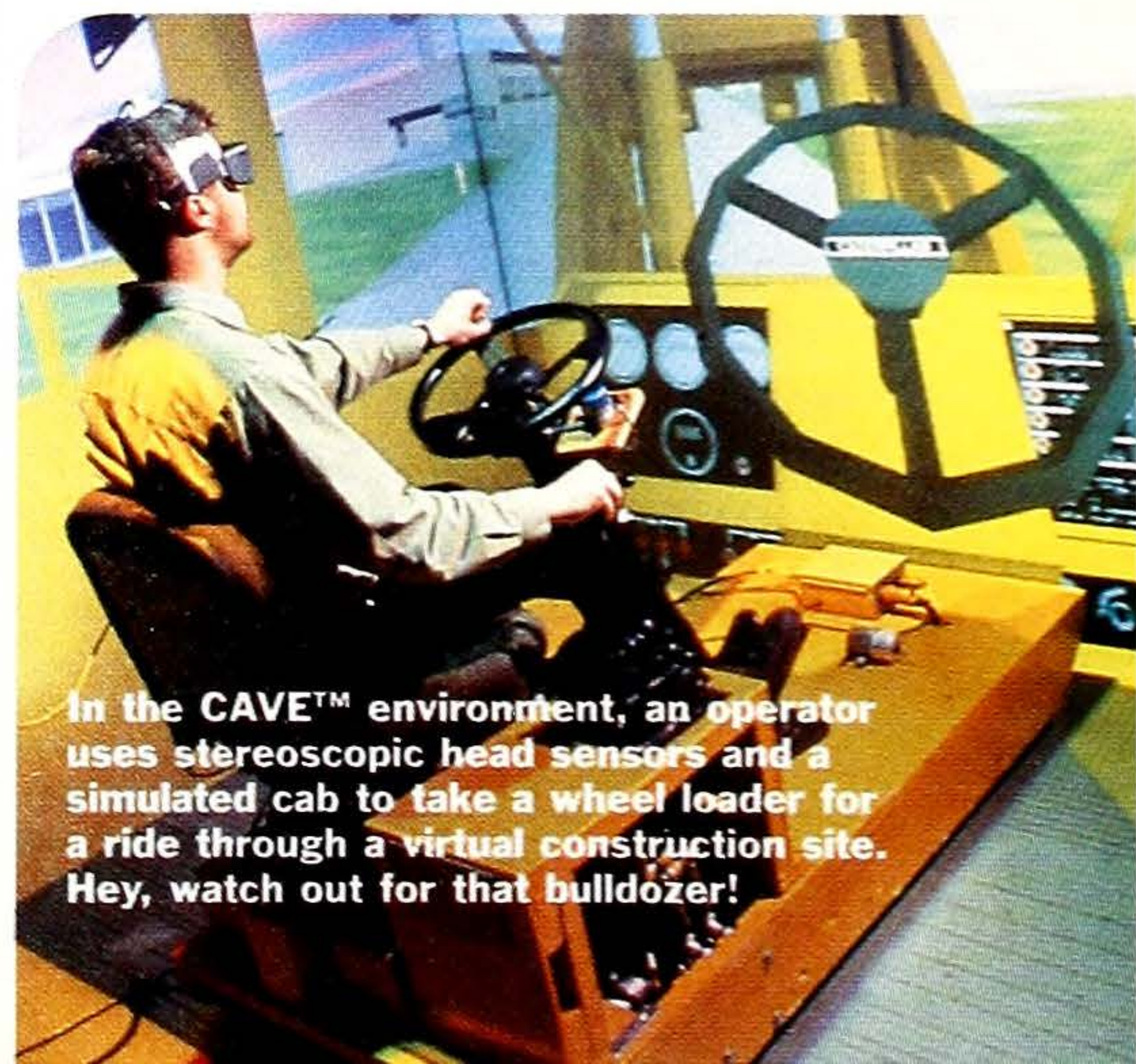
So what's the price tag for all this virtual excitement? "Our CAVE™ system (a room-sized, high-resolution 3-D video and audio environment) costs upwards of a million dollars," says Chapman. "Design engineers also work in VR formats called ImmersaDesks™, which are about the size of a drafting table, and those are only about \$250,000."



Brad Watts' mechanical designs begin as 3-D computer images and end up as part of a new combine.



massive facility that Case combines, tractors and other equipment are put through a battery of grueling torture tests to ensure top-quality performance for the customer. This is no place for the fainthearted. The cold room subjects engines to frigid temperatures of -50° F during cold start tests. The hot room smothers the equipment in stifling 110° F heat. There are even lamps that simulate solar radiation and a "bump track" which uses special sensors to test the load strains of rugged, off-road operation on the equipment's chassis. Sure, it's brutal, but it's all in a



In the CAVE™ environment, an operator uses stereoscopic head sensors and a simulated cab to take a wheel loader for a ride through a virtual construction site. Hey, watch out for that bulldozer!

While it would be pretty cool to spend the summer in Rocky Mountain National Park building trail heads and restoring the landscape's natural vegetation or, perhaps, working as a horticultural assistant at one of the nation's premier public gardens, a student could never get this kind of work experience while still in high school, right?

Wrong. Students—just like you—all around the country have held internships or apprenticeships working in jobs just like these.

diggin' **up** experience

by Carlotta Mast

Prepare for **future** job competition
with a summer internship



FFA member and Longwood Gardens intern Mary Spada performs some careful pruning.

Not only did these students find a great way to fill their summers, they also acquired the work experience that will be crucial in landing the jobs they want in the future. And if you're competing against one of them for that job someday, and you lack the hands-on

experience they have, who do you think will have a better chance of getting hired?

It's a well-known (and at times scary) fact that employers prefer job candidates with applicable work experience. Internships and apprenticeships offer young people a way to gain that experience before having to enter the for-real job market. While not always easy to get, internships can help pave the way for a successful ag-related career as well as offer a glimpse into what certain careers are really like.

"Internships give you tangible work experience and the opportunity to work in a particular field to see if you would want to pursue a job in it," says Su Thieda, assistant director of opera-



Mary Spada (blue shirt) works with two other Longwood Gardens summer interns.

tions for the High School Program at the Student Conservation Association. "That's really important. You don't want to wind up in a career and find out later that you hate it."

The SCA is one of many organizations that place student volunteers in ag-related summer jobs around the country. The organization places more than 400 students, age 16 to 18, in five-week internships each summer through the High School Program. The internships include working with the National Park or U.S. Forest services, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state parks or private organizations. Getting an internship through the SCA is tough, however. About three students apply for every one opening. (See accompanying stories for tips on where to look for internships as well as how to land the one you want.)

Working **in your field**

Mary Spada, a senior and FFA member at the Walter Biddle Saul High School for Agricultural Sciences in Philadelphia, says her summer internship at the prestigious Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, was the best real-life, get-your-hands-dirty work she ever

could have obtained as an aspiring public gardener.

"I will be able to use my internship experience and what I learned at Longwood in my future," says 17-year-old Mary, who plans to pursue a career in horticulture. "Putting the name Longwood on my job applications and resume will really help me out. Working there shows that I am really interested in and believe in high standards for horticulture."

Like Mary, former FFA member Jenny Stiles, a junior and animal sciences major at Washington State University, knows her internship experiences will be key in helping her find a leadership position in her chosen field—the beef industry.

Jenny, 19, worked for the Washington Cattlemen's Association last year as a legislative intern. In this

HOW TO

A little **advice** for landing that internship

Begin looking early. You should start your internship search nine months to one year prior to when you would like to begin your internship. Target as many sources possible for an internship (see sidebar on where to begin looking) and call each one for information and an application. If a company or organization doesn't offer a formal internship program, ask about the possibility of creating one to fit your needs in exchange for your volunteer service. The more internships you apply for, the better your chances at landing one. Plus, the application process is a good learning experience.

Determine the internships you want to apply for are right for you. Is the internship located in a place you will be able to live? Will the internship offer experience in a field you're thinking about pursuing? Do you possess the necessary skills to succeed in the internship? Can you fit the work into your schedule? It is important to make sure the internships you are applying for could become a feasible addition to your life.

Make sure you have the right tools to apply. A quality resume and well-written cover letter are crucial to landing an internship. Be sure to highlight the leadership and other skills you've acquired through FFA and other student organizations. Employers use this information to determine what skills and background you have as well as why you would like to work for their company or organization. When filling out an application for an internship, be sure to address all of the objectives listed for the position. Tell the employer how you can use your skills and background to meet those objectives.

persistent. Don't end your internship search after you've sent off your resume and applications. Call to make sure your prospective internship employer received your materials. Ask if you could come in for an interview or if you can answer any questions about yourself and your background over the phone. Basically, don't give up until you have landed an internship.

position, she tracked and summarized legislation pertaining to the beef industry for the association's lobbyists.

"I learned tremendous amounts about the beef cattle industry," Jenny says. "Now when I read a summarized bill in a farm bureau magazine, I know what it means and I have some background on it."

Along with offering students the perfect opportunity to gain work experience, internships also provide young people with a network of career contacts, says Jenny, who also held an internship during the summer of 1994 doing laboratory research at Cargill Inc.

"An internship with a well-known company is going to give you a real edge," Jenny says. "Like Cargill, for example. I've had an internship with

them, and while I can't guarantee that I'll ever get a job there, the fact that I've already worked at Cargill will give me a foot in the door if I ever did want to work there."

Mary, who hopes to attend Longwood's two-year professional gardening training program after graduation, plans to take advantage of her internship contacts, too. "Having already worked at Longwood will likely give me a leg up on the competition," she says.

Once you're in

Once you've landed an internship, it's crucial to make the most out of the experience. An internship isn't just like a job, it is a job. Even if you're not getting paid, it is still important to do the best work possible. ■

THE HUNT IS ON

Unless you've got the luck of a leprechaun, internship opportunities won't magically land in your path. You've got to relentlessly search out that pot of career gold and make your own opportunities to get hands-on work experience. The process isn't easy, but it is worth all the trouble in the end.

The key to finding an internship is in networking. Make the most of the contacts in your school as well as in your community. Ask your FFA advisor, ag teachers and your school's career counselor if they know of internship opportunities in your area. Your local extension service office should be able to offer you a bit of advice on where to look, too. Talk to local agribusinesses or farmers to see if they can offer you a chance to work with them. Also, the regional field offices of the Fish and Wildlife, National Park and Forest services may have internship opportunities available.

Here's a list of other organizations that place students in ag-related internships:

Student Conservation Association

P.O. Box 550
Charlestown, New Hampshire 03603
603/543-1700

The SCA also has offices in Virginia, New Jersey, California, Colorado and Washington.

Bio-Dynamic Farming and Gardening Association

P.O. Box 550
Kimberton, Pennsylvania 19442
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th St. and Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20250
202/720-2791

Send inquiries to the personnel division. The deadline is ongoing.

The Land Agricultural Program EPCOT Center Science and Technology Group

P.O. Box 10000
Buena Vista, Florida 32830
407/560-7450

Northeast Workers on Organic Farms (NEWOOF)

Box 608
Belchertown, Maryland 01007

Southeast Workers on Organic Farms (SEWOOF)

Janus Farms
Route 3, Box 494
Siler City, North Carolina 27344
Tilth Apprentice Placement Program
P.O. Box 218

Tualatin, Oregon 97062
503/692-4877

The Washington Group
514 Tenth St. NW, Suite 6000
Washington, D.C. 20004
202/624-8000

National Society for Internships and Experiential Education
3509 Haworth Drive, Suite 207
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

John W. Lee Shoes Decatur, AL	Pard's Western Shop Rockford, MI
Atlas Safety Shoes Birmingham, AL	The Great Western St. Peters, MO
Acme Shoe Shop Sheffield, AL	Shoe Depot, Inc. Lucedale, MS
Pollock's Western Outfitters Safford, AZ	Middleton's & Sons, Inc. Wiggins, MS
Bunny Junction New Castle, DE	Ropers Store Andrew, NC
Eli's Western Wear Arcadia, FL	Diamond P Western Burlington, NC
Skip's Shoes & Western Daytona & Osteen, FL	Burroughs Safety, Inc. Charlotte, NC
Skip's Western Outfitters Orlando, FL	Lebo's Inc. Charlotte, NC
The Great Western Orlando & Tampa, FL	Leon Barker's Western Harmony, NC
Boots 'N Brims Adel, GA	Liners Shoes Lexington, NC
Bennett's Supply Co. Albany, GA	Shoe Hut Lumberton, NC
Gold Kist Albany, GA	Whit Miller's Shoes Mooresville, NC
The Hub Shoe Shop Americus, GA	Kings Leather Murphy, NC
The Branding Iron Ashburn, GA	Nu-Way Shoe Shop Inc. Statesville, NC
Ware's Auto & Farm Supply Climax, GA	Boot Town USA Alamogordo, NM
Carroll's Shoe Service Dublin, GA	Springfield Fireworks, Inc. Bluffton, OH
Fitzgerald Shoe Hospital Fitzgerald, GA	Boot Outlet Carroll, OH
Sears Self Service Shoes Fort Oglethorpe, GA	Charm Harness Shop Charm, OH
Hancock's Western Wear Norman Park, GA	ZZ Boots Columbus, OH
BC Sales Fruitland, ID	Kidron Town & Country Kidron, OH
Co Op Supply Post Falls, ID	Jo Jo's N. Baltimore, OH
The Great Western Fairview Heights & Rolling Meadows, IL	Rhyne's Surplus Ada, OK
Goodman Supply Co. Louisville, IL	Wacker's Dept. Store Inc. Norma, OK
Big R Stores Springfield, IL	W.R. Jones Co. Shawnee, OK
George's Gateway Bedford, IN	Cobbler Shoppe Tulsa, OK
Wells Variety Connersville, IN	Majors Central Point, OR
Bar Nunn/Boot Mart Evansville, IN	Weaver's Store Denver, PA
Zehr's Shoes & Repair Grabil, IN	Old Timers Tack & Feed Fort Mill, SC
Gilvins Work Boots & Shoes Indianapolis, IN	Elliott's Shoe Service Lancaster, SC
The Great Western Indianapolis & Merrillville, IN	Brock's Department Store Pickens, SC
Fetla's Valparaiso, IN	Duffy's Western Seneca, SC
Coburn's Boot Country Grayson, KY	The Great Western Memphis, TN
Boot City Bossier City, LA	Work Boot Amarillo, TX
Joe's Boots & Work Clothing Houma & Morgan City, LA	Pee Wee Dalton Odessa, TX
Mieras Shoes Grand Rapids, MI	Bill's Man's Shop San Angelo, TX
Okun Bros. Shoes Kalamazoo, MI	JR's Boot Center Victoria, TX
	Workingman's Store Winchester, VA
	Renton Western Wear Renton, WA
	Safety & Supply Seattle, WA

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While It Might Be Noble To Be Buried With Your Boots On, In Our Case, It Would Be A Waste.

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They say you can't take it with you. But while you're here, we've made a boot to give you style, durability and comfort. It's a job these boots don't take lying down.



DOUBLE H
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trading turf for top

Until they arrive at the gates of this special school, some students have never seen open country or been anywhere near livestock. They're more familiar with life on the streets than with life on the farm. And many have no hope of even graduating high school, much less attending a major university. That is, until they get to Piney Woods Country Life School, about 20 miles from Jackson, Mississippi.

This learning institution requires that at least 60 percent of its all-African-American student body come from at or below the poverty level and parents pay according to ability. Those students, some 300 plus of them, come from 28 states and seven countries, but most are from urban areas. Some were labeled "uneducable."

"I'd say at least half our new students experience some form of culture shock," says Piney Woods' Ronald Weathersby, whose background includes teaching in South Central Los Angeles and work in Washington, D.C. "They come from places like New York and Chicago and Los Angeles

and arrive in Jackson, where the population is about 300,000, so right away they get the feeling something's different. Then, as they get to the school, they see kids working the farm [Piney Woods' 2,100 acres include a 500-acre working farm] and other kids working with animals. And, of course, there's rigid discipline, which they probably haven't had much of—and certainly not in school.

"But everybody who comes here wants to come here, so they have a good idea of what to expect. Almost all of them recognize the 'second-chance' aspect of Piney Woods. They've seen their family, school and social lives begin to crumble in the city, and some of them have seen friends and family hurt or killed. But almost all of them adjust right away. You can leave here any time you want to—but nobody ever does."

Plunging late into agriculture

At Piney Woods, African-American students from some of the toughest areas on earth learn what it takes to run a successful farm. They have the

opportunity to conduct research in soils, water, air quality, plant and livestock genetics, and breeding as well as to participate in agricultural programs with area universities. They also frequently attend a variety of FFA events, where they exhibit livestock, work in demonstration booths and get a good look at the extensive career opportunities in agriculture.

"Where do I begin?" sighs Billy Sumrall, Piney Woods' director of agricultural services, who has also taught elsewhere in Mississippi and Texas, when asked about the different teaching experiences Woods offers. "I think the biggest difference is that the kids here are aggressively interested in learning. They put in lots of extra hours at night and on the weekends on their projects—and that's in addition to a full schedule of two-hour classes, plus the 10 hours a week everyone is required to work outside school. We've got hands-on applications for them right outside the classroom door: a 60-head breed cow operation; artificial insemination for swine and cattle herds as well as goats

Piney Woods Country Life

School brings **inner-city**

students to the country

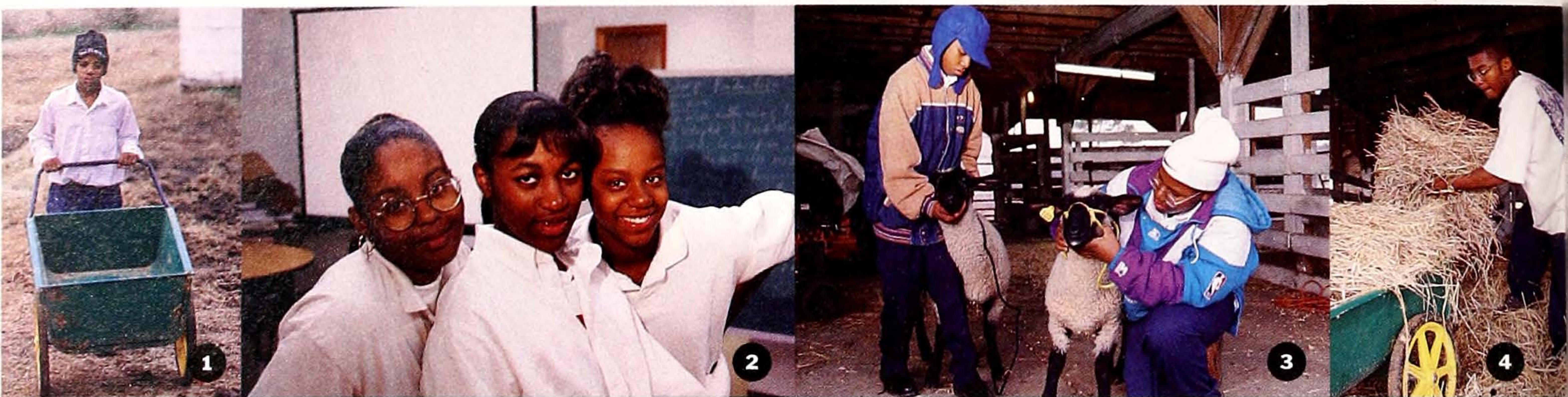
SOIL

by George Fels

Charles Newton of
Brooklyn, New York, shows
off a Piney Woods oinker.



"I'd say at least half our new students experience **some** form of **culture shock**"



and sheep; breeding and blood serum cholesterol testing for swine; and lots more."

There are about 25 active FFA members among the student body. RaSean Thomas, the president of the Piney Woods FFA Chapter, and several others attended the national convention. RaSean has exhibited a grand champion heifer at the Dixie National Livestock Show, and classmate Bahati Brown exhibited a champion artificially inseminated calf at the Mississippi State Fair.

Making the grade

Academics take precedence at Piney Woods. Last year's graduating class had a 100 percent college acceptance rate from such schools as Duke, Middlebury, Northwestern and Cornell. (Of 47 students, 45 are in school, one is in the Armed Services, and the other is in the Ukraine on a one-year State Department program that will eventually send him to George Washington University in the

nation's capital. Of the 45 college students, however, only three are majoring in agriculture, proving the well-roundedness of the Piney Woods program.) Students must maintain a "C" average in all classes to participate in extracurricular activities, and while no particular emphasis is placed on sports, Piney Woods boasts two state basketball championships plus five cross country crowns.

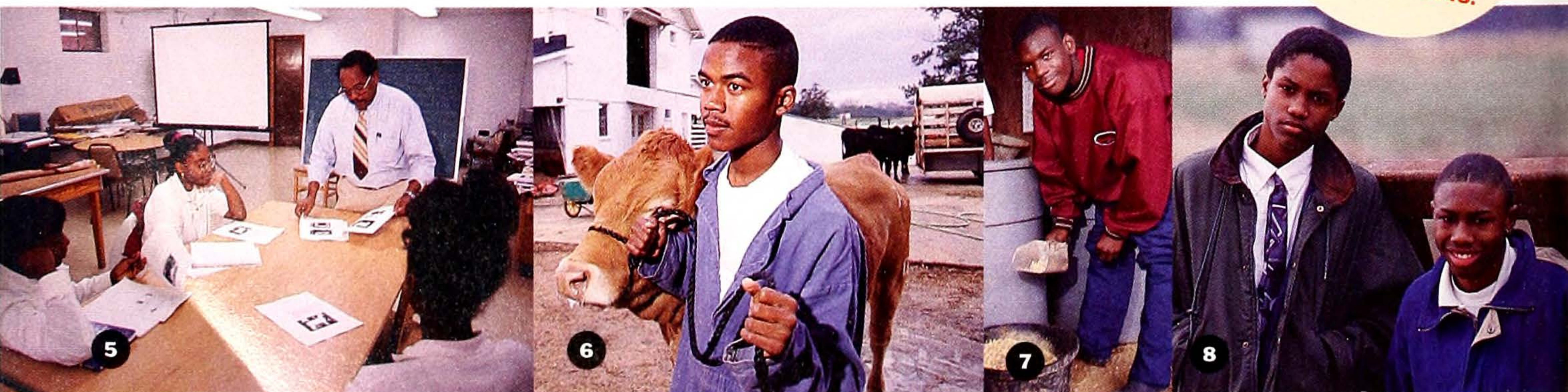
"That's just because the kids learn what a good work ethic is, and they get a view of the positive side of life," explains Weathersby, who is from the area originally and whose family has a long heritage with Piney Woods. "Once they see those things, they're free to work and study and play to their potential. Having spent years in South Central L.A. and D.C., I know that most of what you read about teenagers these days is negative. But here at Piney Woods, everything is wholesome and clean and unblemished. We get kids ready for college, or at least to do something positive with their lives."

Life on the Piney Woods farm: 1) Charles Newton works outside. 2) April Nichols (left), Lisa Johnson and Ebony Reeves take a break from class. 3) Sean Allen and Desmond Thomas steady two sheep. 4) Aflon Adams feeds show cattle. 5) Students listen to Dr. Zere Ezuz, professor of agriscience. 6) Bahati Brown stands at attention with a show heifer. 7) Henry Journigan prepares feed. 8) Mike Marshall (left) and Andre Reese enjoy a rare unbusy moment.

A national reputation

Piney Woods receives no government funds and is subsidized entirely by private donation. (Ralph Edwards, the former host of TV's *This Is Your Life*, on which the school was profiled more than 40 years ago, and Peanuts cartoon creator Charles Schulz have been benefactors for decades. In fact, school halls now bear their names.) While the school has many friends in all 50 states, it has also benefitted from prestigious television appearances on *60 Minutes* and *The Today Show*, and its choir has sung on the latter as well. ■

For further information on Piney Woods, contact Ronald Weathersby at 601/845-2214, or write the Piney Woods Country Life School, Piney Woods, Mississippi 39148.



Last year's graduating class had a **100%** college acceptance rate

Type A personality

To Ty Murray's way of thinking, his success as a professional rodeo cowboy has required the same tools needed for success in any field—hard work, discipline and a passion for what you're doing.

"My success is the result of a combination of things," says the six-time all-around Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) champ. "But a love for what you do is the common ingredient. You'll find that in anyone who is successful—in sports, business, whatever. When people enjoy what they do, it's easier for them to get good at it."

But enjoying what you do doesn't mean always doing what you enjoy. The 26-year-old Murray has made a habit of forcing himself to work every single day. Discipline and a willingness to devote enough time to unpleasant but necessary chores is critical to developing the skills needed to excel in any field.

"A strong work ethic is something that you learn in school. What you are learning is not always as important. What is important is the fact that you are learning and you are learning how to learn," says Murray, who was the intercollegiate all-around, saddle bronco and bull riding champion while at Odessa College in Texas. "I've got news for kids who are in school now: You are going to have homework for the rest of your life. There are always going to be the things that you don't

really want to do. But you have to do them anyway."

For Murray, that often meant getting out and riding roughstock on days when he was hurting or tired, the weather was bad, or he just didn't feel like working.

"I would practice something every single day. And I also did other things because I thought they would help me. I took gymnastics for four years. I would ride a unicycle and walk along fence lines because I thought that would help my balance. And I have been weight training ever since the seventh grade."

That kind of dedication is essential in the increasingly competitive—and popular—world of rodeo. It's a world Murray has dominated since he was the PRCA rookie of the year in 1988. Since then, he has won six straight all-around PRCA championships and totaled up more than \$1.3 million in PRCA event prize money. His achievements place him among the rodeo elite. Only Larry Mahan and Tom Ferguson have won as many all-around titles as Murray.

These days, Murray is dedicating himself to rehabilitation from reconstructive surgery last year on both of his knees. The operations have kept him off the PRCA circuit for more than 10 months, and he undergoes physical therapy two hours a day, five days a week. With luck, Murray should be back on the circuit in the spring. But he wants to make sure he is completely recovered before facing the punishing events he has mastered like few others.

"I am not coming back until I am



ready," he says. In the meantime, the Arizona native is working on buying livestock for his new Texas ranch.

Asked what advice he has for budding cowboys, Murray says anyone taking up rodeoing needs to ask one question: Do I really want to do this?

"These events are really dangerous. You need to be serious about it," Murray says. "You need to do it for yourself. Not to fit in. Not to impress your friends. This is too dangerous to be a hobby. If you want a hobby, you need to collect stamps." ■

HISTORY

- 1988 PRCA Rookie of the Year
- 1989 PRCA All Around World Champion
- 1990 PRCA All Around World Champion
- 1991 PRCA All Around World Champion
- 1992 PRCA All Around World Champion
- 1993 PRCA All Around World Champion;
PRCA Bull Riding Champion
- 1994 PRCA All Around World Champion

Source: PRCA 1995 Media Guide



Wild th

Go **inside**
the exhibit with a group of Ohio students

dining!

by Michael Speck

who go to **School** at the **ZOO**

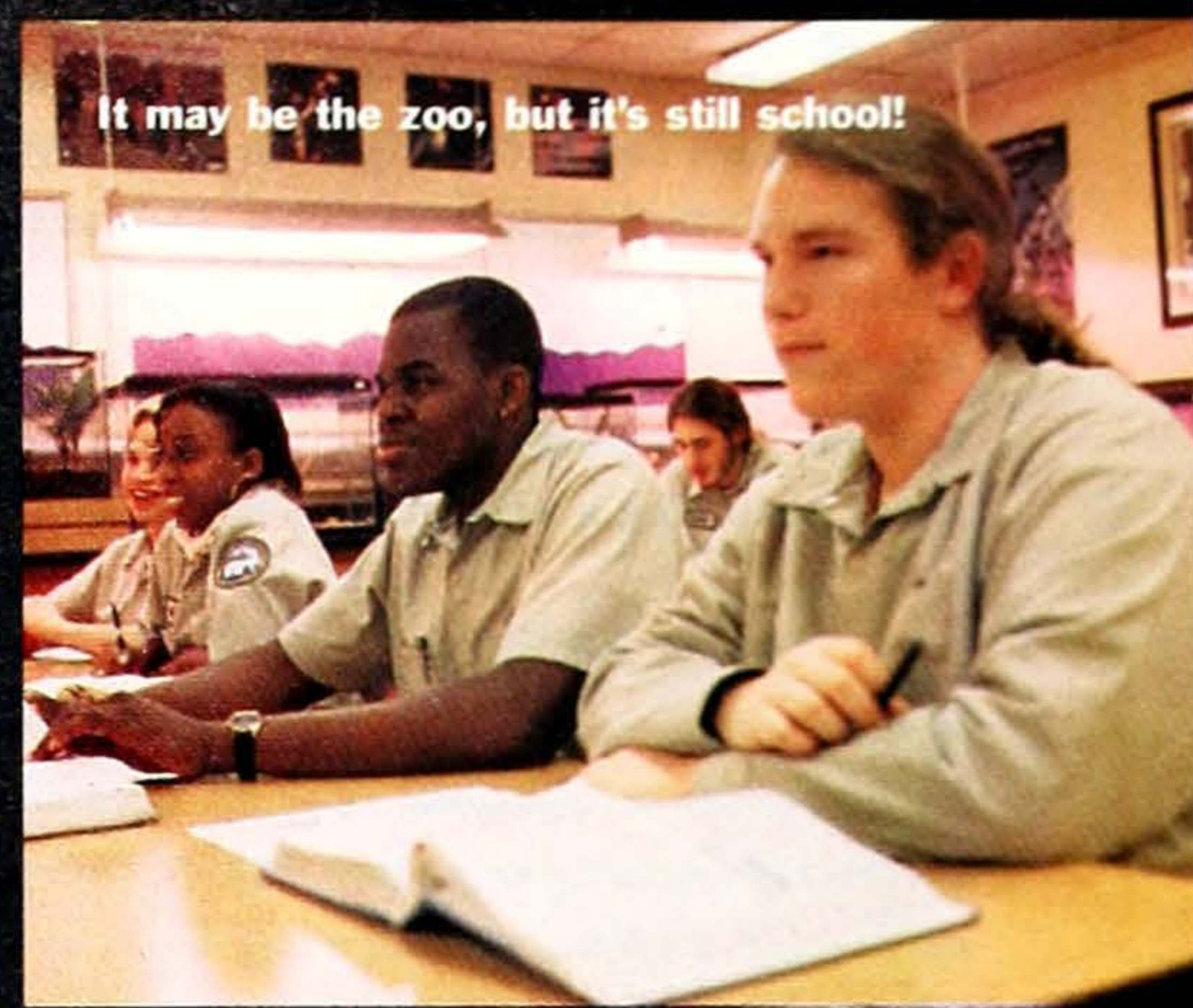
Hungry leopards perch in the trees above. Snakes and snapping turtles lurk only a few feet away. And all around, the sounds of vultures, rhinos and wild monkeys constantly remind you not to stray too far from the path. For a team of students from Cincinnati, Ohio, this is no jungle expedition or African safari—it's just another day of high school classes.

Welcome to the Zoo Academy at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. This intensive two-year program affords 13 juniors and 20 seniors from Hughes High School the opportunity to earn their high school diploma in a specially designed classroom located right on the zoo grounds. While completing coursework in mathematics, botany, zoology, English and government, the students also work inside the zoo for 2½ hours each day.

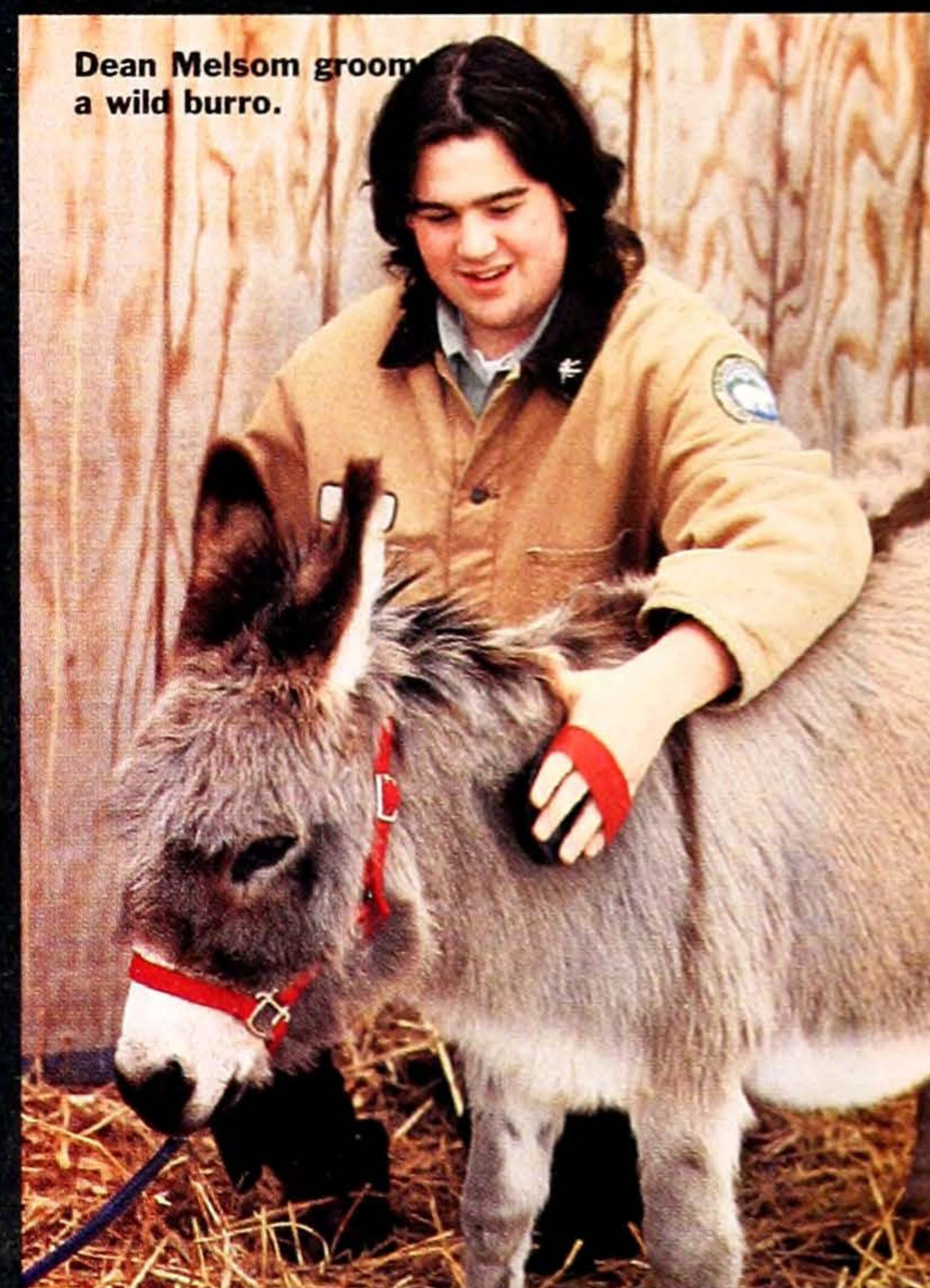
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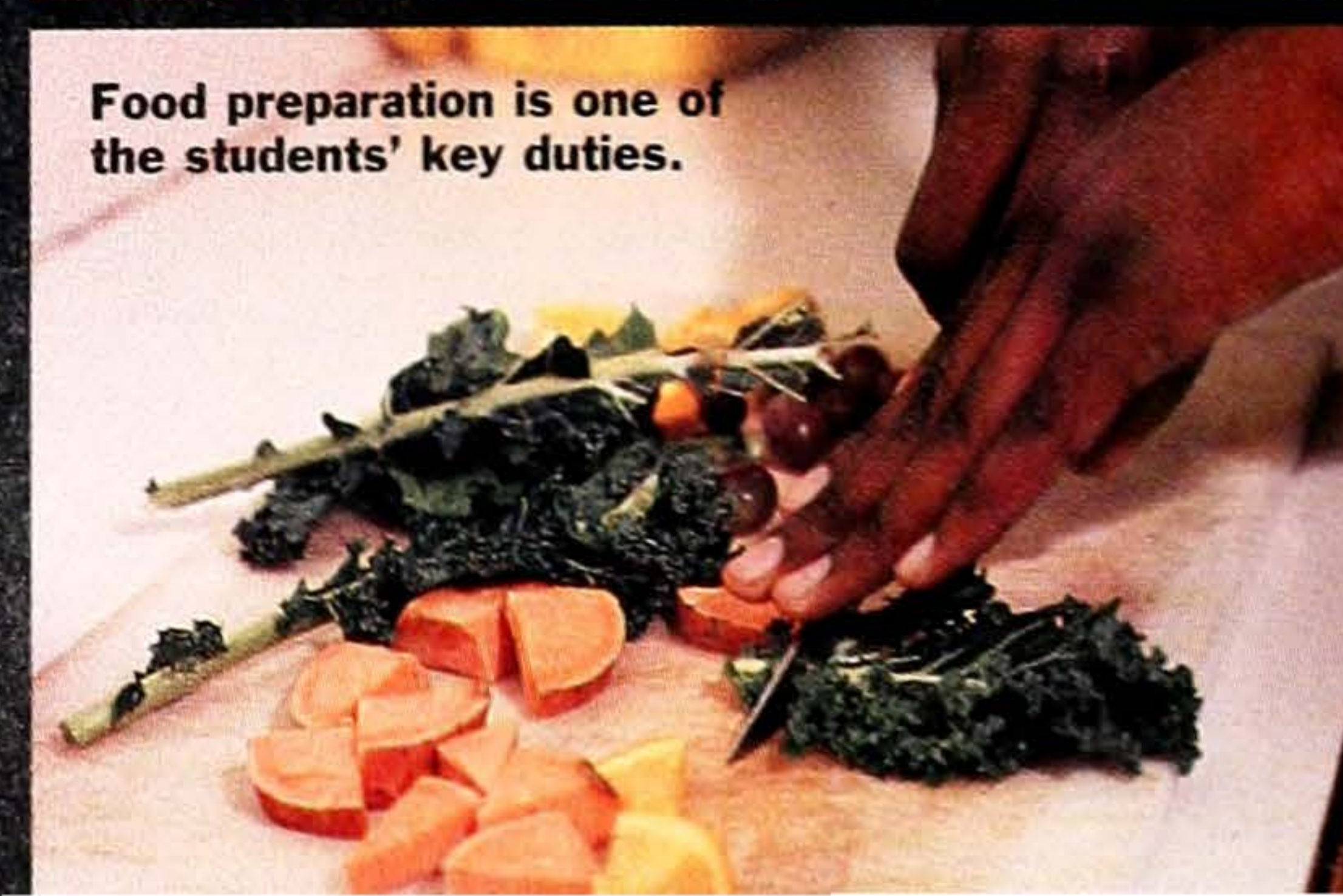
Kristen Hren feeds a reindeer.



It may be the zoo, but it's still school!



Dean Melsom grooms a wild burro.



Food preparation is one of the students' key duties.

Are **YOU** the next **Dr. Doolittle**?

Three keys to getting into veterinary medical school

One of the most important jobs in the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden is that of wildlife veterinarian. If you're interested in a career as a vet—whether in a zoo, working with domestic pets or caring for large farm animals—there's never been a more competitive time to apply for admission to veterinary medical school. With fewer than 2,500 first-year positions available across the country, getting a head-start on padding your vet school application isn't just a good idea, it's essential. According to Dr. Lester Crawford of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, a clearinghouse for veterinary medical school admissions, if you're serious about becoming a veterinarian, here's three ways to show it.

Concentrate on biological sciences

In high school and college, take as many biology, zoology, biochemistry and animal science courses as possible. Physics, mathematics through calculus and even humanities classes are equally important. "Don't worry if your major is not 'pre-vet.' Today's veterinary medical colleges are looking for a more well-rounded education," says Crawford. "We need people who can relate to other people."

Gain hands-on experience working with animals

Whether you work on a dairy farm, in a research facility or in a local clinic, it is important to immerse yourself in your future career. According to Dr. Ronald W. Hilwig, associate professor of veterinary science at the University of Arizona, vet schools want to see experience on your application. "We look for at least 300 hours of documented undergrad experience working with animals," says Hilwig. "That's because, with the limited number of available spots, vet schools can't afford to admit someone who may drop out later."

Familiarize yourself with the profession

By the time you're ready to apply to veterinary medical school, it's critical that you have a good idea what type of vet you'll be. After all, while 80 percent of new veterinary medical students go on to private practice, a full 20 percent branch off into such areas as research, nutrition or health services. Thoroughly researching all of your professional options will help you in the screening process and in choosing the right school.

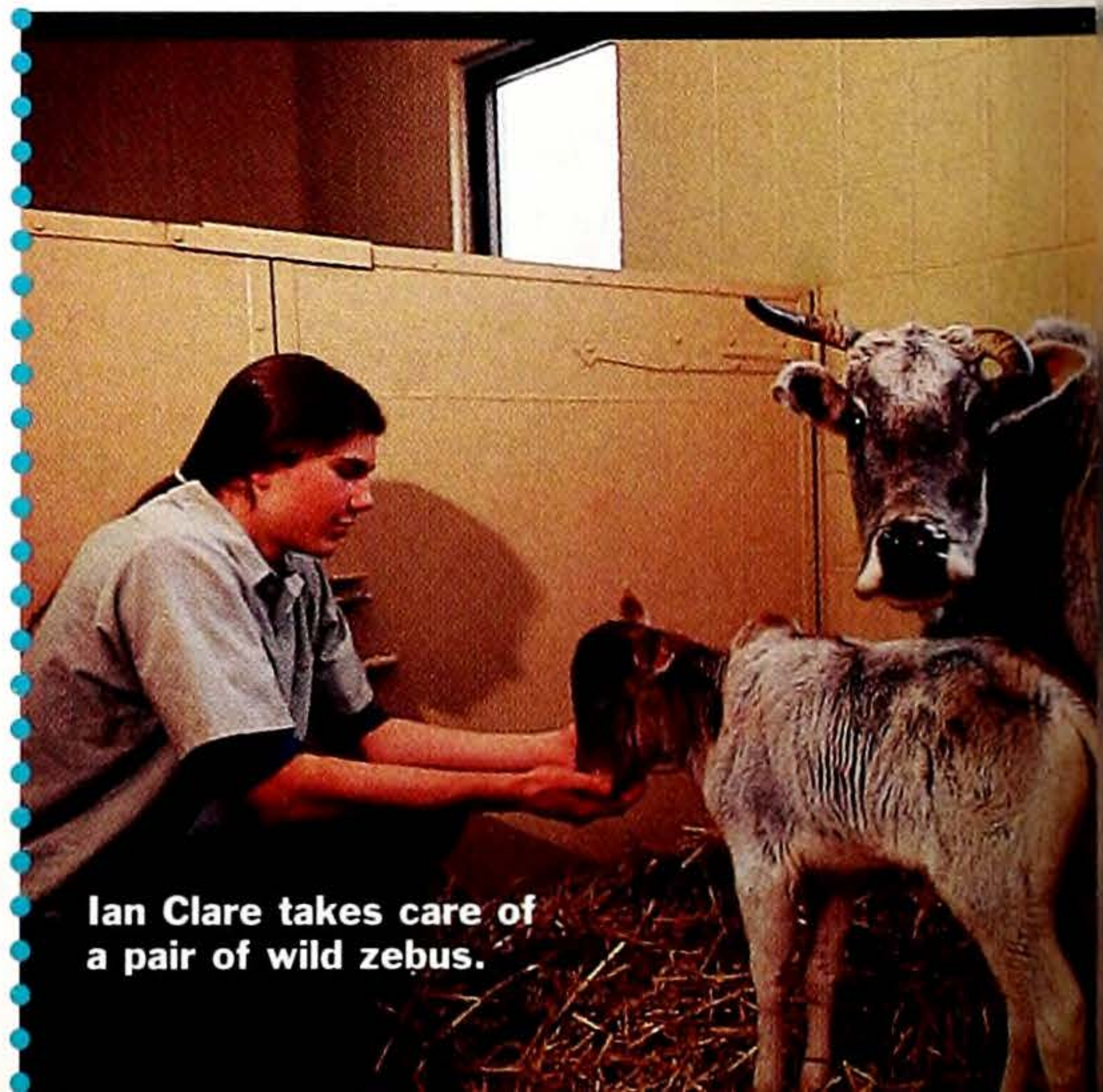
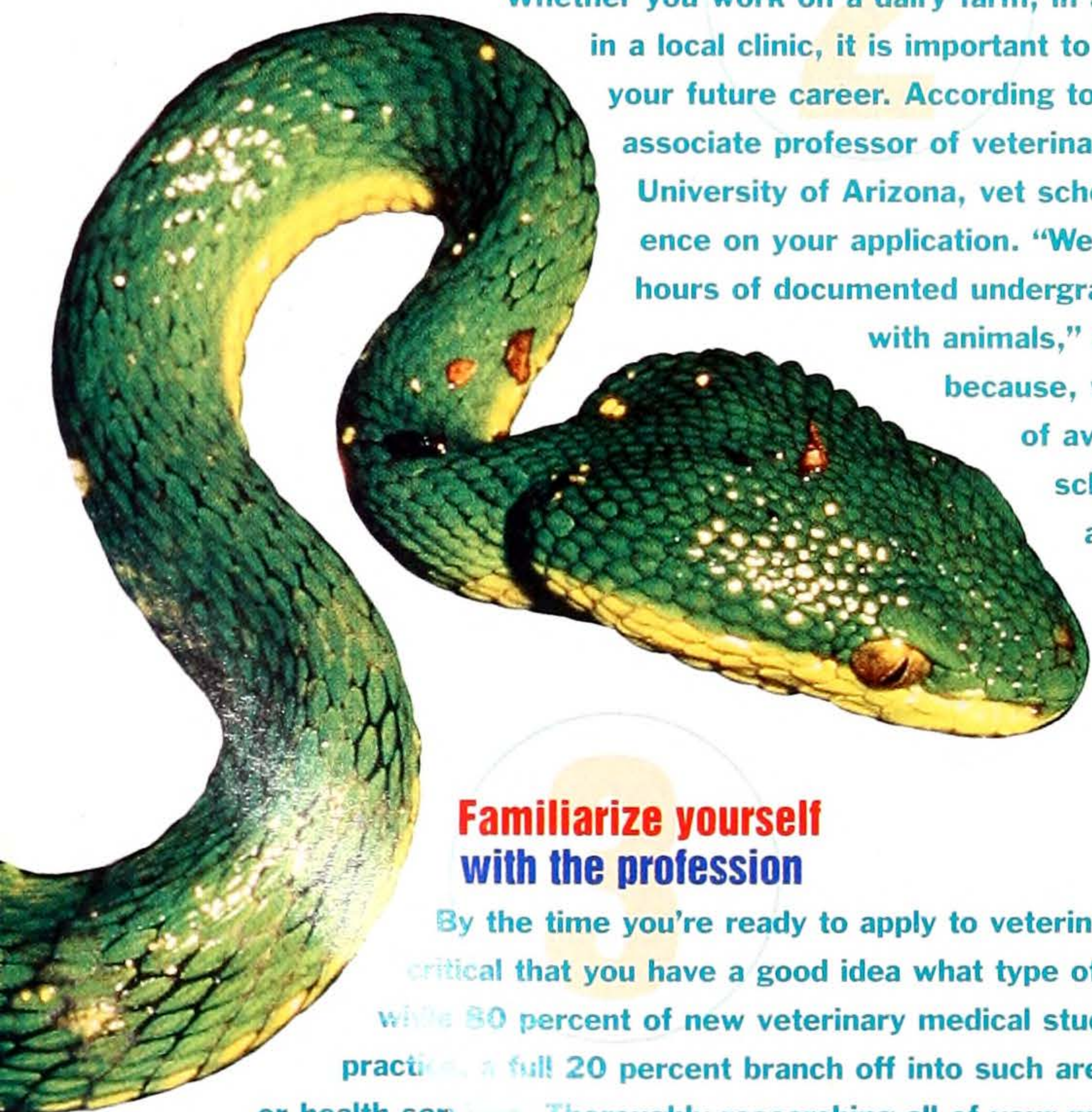
Of **homerooms** and **habitats**

"It's actually a tiny high school inside the zoo," says Lisa Pennisi, a Hughes environmental science teacher who oversees the program. "But the students get to spend part of their day working closely with zookeepers and animals." During their daily zoo shifts, the students are given a wide variety of animal-care responsibilities. They help maintain clean, safe habitats for all species; monitor diets and nutritional needs; assist zookeepers in setting up animal enrichment activities (such as hanging a tire swing in the elephants' pen); and help promote animal science by aiding in outreach programs for children's groups. Just like the zookeepers, the students wear uniforms and are considered employees of the zoo. And though they may not get a paycheck, they do get a behind-the-scenes perspective on zoo life.

"While the students are kept safely away from dangerous animals like the big cats, they may come into contact with others like ferrets, birds or turtles," says Myra Elfers, another zoo teacher.

'The **gorilla** ate my homework...'

The Hughes students rotate within each of the zoo's houses. One rotation may find a student delivering mice to use as food inside the reptile house. (And you thought cafeteria food was bad.) Another may put a student inside the insectarium, cleaning debris from a tarantula's enclosure. Others



Ian Clare takes care of a pair of wild zebus.

include stints in the bird house, the nocturnal house, the big cat house, the Jungle Trails exhibit (monkeys), the Wildlife Canyon (rhinos and warthogs) and more. Senior year, students may select a specific zoo house that particularly interests them and devote more time in it. "The amphibian and reptile houses and the zoo's aquarium seem to be the most popular choices," notes Pennisi.

Another exciting opportunity within the zoo is the students' chance to witness the beginning of life in CREW—the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Wildlife. In this facility, zoologists, biologists and wildlife veterinarians work to breed rare or endangered species using today's most sophisticated fertilization methods. The CREW team has had great success with a number of hoofed animals and is now working to breed an endangered wildcat by implanting the wild species's embryo in a domestic surrogate cat.

Putting the program to work

According to FFA member Rebecca Holcombe, a 17-year-old Hughes senior, the Zoo Academy offers challenges and rewards. "It takes a major commitment to go to school at the zoo. You work all morning and then come to classes all day and sometimes you're wet and smelly from cleaning cages or feeding the animals," Rebecca says. "But you do find out if you really like animals. After all, it's much more than just petting or grooming. It's cleaning pens, weighing animals, setting up aquariums and

terrariums, and maintaining animals' diets and nutrition." Of course, Rebecca also says the program offers a lot in return. "I really like the small size of the class and the fact that you can always ask a ton of questions of the zookeepers and teachers. I think I'd go crazy sitting around in regular school classes!"

While Rebecca's goals include going to college and pursuing a career as an environmental educator, many of her classmates are interested in forestry, veterinary medicine, environmental science, zoology and teaching. One of her classmates (zoo experience notwithstanding) will become a farmer.

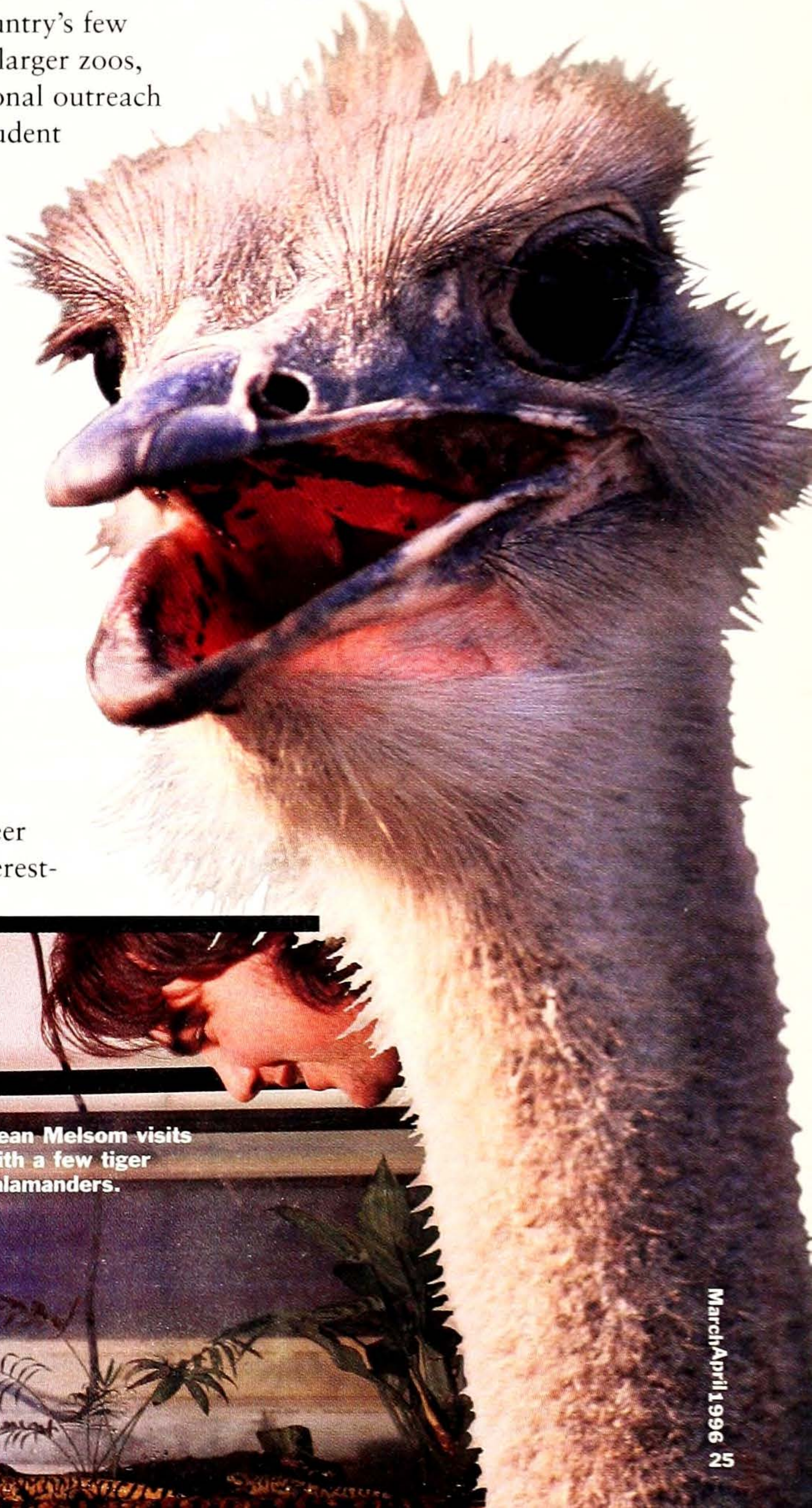
The Hughes High School Zoo Academy is one of the country's few full-time programs. Most larger zoos, however, do have educational outreach programs to encourage student involvement in zoology and naturalism.

The Toledo Zoo, for example, offers "EdZOOcation," a program that provides interactive learning labs called "Biofacts" to area high school science classes. The labs contain various artifacts and zoological samples that give students a real hands-on opportunity to study nature by handling everything from a giraffe skeleton to chinchilla fur.

The Philadelphia Zoo sponsors a host of volunteer programs for students interest-

ed in wildlife conservation. Whether the students assist zookeepers in the children's zoo or work in the zoo's data processing department, this on-the-job training is "a real stepping stone to zoo employment," says Kathleen Wagner, the zoo's vice president of education.

If zoo employment or learning opportunities are limited in your area and you're still interested in pursuing a zoo-related career after high school graduation, consider visiting one of the many colleges and universities that offer work/study programs at neighboring zoos. Ask your guidance counselor or college recruiter for more information. ■



A Zoo Academy class picture. Rear, from left: Christian Kirsch, Kristen Hren, Dean Melsom, Chrissy Section, Angie Mackey, Ian Clare, Bruce Mercier, Collin Schneiber.



Front row, from left: Cheryl Grant, Alisha Johnson, Tracie Teeter, Laura Buchanan, Rebecca Holcombe, Danielle Best, Julie Wysong, Jamie Mirus, Jenny Wheeler.



Dean Melsom visits with a few tiger salamanders.



National FFA Career Development Event award recipients

Due to problems with a new computerized scoring system, results for the Meats, Dairy Foods, Nursery/Landscape and Floriculture Career Development Events were unavailable during the 68th National FFA Convention last November. We appreciate your patience and understanding. In addition to publishing the results here, a national FFA officer will visit each of the top teams' schools this spring.

TOP TEN INDIVIDUALS

Dairy Foods Career Development Event

NAME	STATE	ADVISOR	SCHOOL
1. Jennifer Rode	TX	Glen Rode	East Central High School
2. Dana Peterson	MO	Gerald Whistance	Halfway R-III High School
3. Andrew Friesenhahn	TX	Glen Rode	East Central High School
4. Sheree Nolan	AR	Billy Lee Jr.	Delight High School
5. Erica Stelljes	ID	Larry Church	Fruitland High School
6. Kristal Lampman	TX	Glen Rode	East Central High School
7. Nichole Lowrey	IL	Kent Weber	Seneca Township High School
8. Alana Cox	TX	Glen Rode	East Central High School
9. Jolena Stephens	OK	Larry Meeks	Skiatook High School
10. James Urlacher	ND	Larry Lechler	New England High School

Floriculture Career Development Event

NAME	STATE	ADVISOR	SCHOOL
1. Jacob Czarnick	NE	David Tejral	Genoa High School
2. Andrea Cadmus	CA	Sharon Weisenberger	Quartz Hill High School
3. Adelee Gade	MN	Louise Worm	Heron Lake-Okabena H.S.
4. Jodie Scheele	IL	Chester Nelson	Huntley High School
5. Susie Maczak	OH	Jeff Johnson	Wayne County High School
6. Shanna Larsen	CA	Sharon Weisenberger	Quartz Hill High School
7. Larie McFarlin	GA	Gary Minyard	Franklin County High School
8. Tara Koelling	MO	Larry Henneke	Hermann Gasconade H.S.
9. Ciara Nations	CA	Sharon Weisenberger	Quartz Hill High School
10. Jessica Larsen	IN	Richard McGown	Triton Central High School

Meats Evaluation & Technology Career Development Event

NAME	STATE	ADVISOR	SCHOOL
1. Cobi Elliott	CA	Dennis Mann	Hanford High School
2. Trae Ottmers	TX	Scott Fields	Fredricksburg High School
3. Paul Crawford	ID	Terry Crawford	Culeesac High School
4. Heather Smith	FL	Ed Dillard	Pasco High School
5. Allison Woodbury	ND	Rick Vannett	Jamestown High School
6. Susan Resch	MN	James Resch	Lakefield High School
7. Chad Golden	AR	Mike Collins	Mena High School
8. John Richeson	OK	Billy Foote	Stillwater High School
9. Ben Blocker	FL	Ed Dillard	Pasco High School
10. Cassie Latta	CO	Trent Bushner	Yuma High School

Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event

NAME	STATE	ADVISOR	SCHOOL
1. Jeff Brown	NC	Julian Smith	Chatham Central High School
2. Chris Lamb	NC	Julian Smith	Chatham Central High School
3. Jeff Resch	MN	Louise Worm	Heron Lake-Okabena H.S.
4. Amy Marsh	GA	Argene Claxton	Perry High School
5. Gary Lee	IL	Jeff Yordy	Glenbrook South High School
6. Carey Faircloth	GA	Argene Claxton	Perry High School
7. Jacqueline Parks	IL	Jeff Yordy	Glenbrook South High School
8. Trey Allgood	GA	Argene Claxton	Perry High School
9. Jonah Reyes	MN	Louise Worm	Heron Lake-Okabena H.S.
10. Jody Powell	MD	Tonja Mayne	Linganore High School

TOP TEN TEAMS

Dairy Foods Career Development Event

TEAM	ADVISOR	MEMBERS & CHAPTER
1. TX	Glen Rode	Jennifer Rode, Alana Cox, Andrew Friesenhahn & Kristal Lampman, all of East Central
2. AR	Billy Lee Jr.	Sheree Nolen, Shannon Slatton, Carol Whisenhunt & Karen Howard, all of Delight
3. ID	Larry Church	Erica Stelljes, Isaac MacKenzie, Dartanyon Burrows & Bradley Long, all of Fruitland
4. MO	Gerald Whistance	Bryan Hensley, Dana Petersen, John Kennedy & Joe Edwards, all of Halfway R-III
5. IL	Kent Weber	Patience Biros, Nichole Lowery, Ben Schwinn & Kyle Sulzberger, all of Seneca
6. OK	Larry Meeks	Mandy Joplin, Jessica Eshbach, Jolena Stephens & Keith Meeks, all of Skiatook
7. OH	Mark Hoffman	Nicholas Young, Katie Draper, Erika Crider & Sarah Jones, all of Hillsdale
8. WA	G. VanWeerdhuizen	Joe Myer, Nick Spoelstra, Louis Juergens & Angela Hoiby, all of Lynden Christian
9. IA	Dennis Miller	Stacy Kirby, Jenni Holthaus, Michelle Curtis & Marissa Knehans, all of Starmont
10. CA	Marge Martindale	Heather Venegas, Janella Dutra, Brianna Potter & Melissa Wills, all of Lemoore

Floriculture Career Development Event

TEAM	ADVISOR	MEMBERS & CHAPTER
1. CA	S. Weisenberger	Andrea Cadmus, Shanna Larsen, Ciara Nations, all of Quartz Hill
2. MN	Louise Worm	Adelee Gade, Erin Knutson & Teri Jo Tungland, all of Heron Lake-Okabena
3. IL	Chester Nelson	Denise Archambeault, Amanda Sartell & Jodie Scheele, all of Huntley
4. MO	Larry Henneke	Tara Koelling, Tara Harrison & Cindy Gerlemann, all of Hermann Gasconade
5. IN	Richard McGown	Jessica Larsen, Sara Larsen & Andy Wright, all of Triton Central
6. NC	Raymond Caviness	Penny Threadgill, Tammy Kimrey & Kelly Fesmire, all of Eastern Randolph
7. GA	Gary Minyard	Larie McFarlin, Debra Rhinehart & Kim Brown, all of Franklin County

TOP TEN TEAMS CONT.

TEAM	ADVISOR	MEMBERS & CHAPTER
8. WA	Margaret Olson	Rachel Houser, Jessica Franklin & Jeannie Warner, all of Evergreen
9. OK	Shirley Stephens	Rosslyn Spencer, Amy Strunk & Crystal Hooper, all of Chickasha
10. FL	Donna Mocler	Jennifer Skipper, Michele Alday & Kerri Perrochi, all of Plant City

Meats Evaluation & Technology Career Development Event

1. CA	Dennis Mann	Ryan Cody, Cobi Elliott, Dolly Silveira & Jennifer Stewart, all of Hanford
2. FL	Ed Dillard	Ben Blocker, Crystal Davenport, Justin Newsome & Heather Smith, all of Pasco
3. TX	Scott Fields	Charles Krueger, John Metzger, Trae Ottmers & Scott Striegler, all of Fredricksburg
4. ND	Rick Vannett	Bill Bear, Allison Woodbury, Brandon Wells & Kyle Kukowski, all of Jamestown
5. KS	Larry Gossen	David Johnson, Raymond Hare, Daniel Drawdy & David Beye, all of Neodesha
6. OK	Billy Foote	John Richeson, Brian Burk & Travis Perrin, all of Stillwater
7. WY	Gerry Miller	Jeanine Herman, Joe Hall, Shawn Miller & Kathy Zexas, all of Buffalo
8. MO	Kevin Duncan	Amber Ziler, Ryan Sparks, Charity Baugh & Sam Madsen, all of Carthage
9. MN	James Resch	Susan Resch, Melissa Bartosh, Angela Milbrath & Dana McKinney, all of Lakefield
10. KY	Bland Baird	Bob Coots Jr., Ryan Pinkston, Raymond Eisenback & Tad Clevenger, all of Spencer County

Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event

1. NC	Julian Smith	Nicholas Allen, Chris Lamb & Jeff Brown, all of Chatham Central
2. GA	Argene Claxton	Amy Marsh, Trey Allgood & Carey Faircloth, all of Perry
3. MN	Louis Worm	Jonah Reyes, Jeff Resch & Vanessa Gade, all of Heron Lake-Okabena
4. IL	Jeff Yordy	Mark Chwierut, Gary Lee & Jacqueline Parks, all of Glenbrook South
5. OH	Larry Lokai	Keith Diedrick, Brad Smith & Matt Kappan, all of Keystone
6. MD	Tonja Mayne	Jody Powell, Mike Bowles & Davis O'Hara, all of Liganore
7. VA	Deborah Barker	Cory Lanier, Sara Phillips & Shannon Hatcher, all of Laurel Park
8. CA	Rose Marie Turner	Jennifer Bedard, Iris Leong & Kristen Sasahara, all of John Rowland
9. IA	Dennis Selness	Angie Cole, Jessica Farmer & Charlie Potter, all of Linn Marr
10. TX	Gary Adams	Becca Griffin, Justin Spillman & Crystal Litterall, all of James Bowie

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Actor

Actress

Musician or Band

Album

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Place to go

Thing to do

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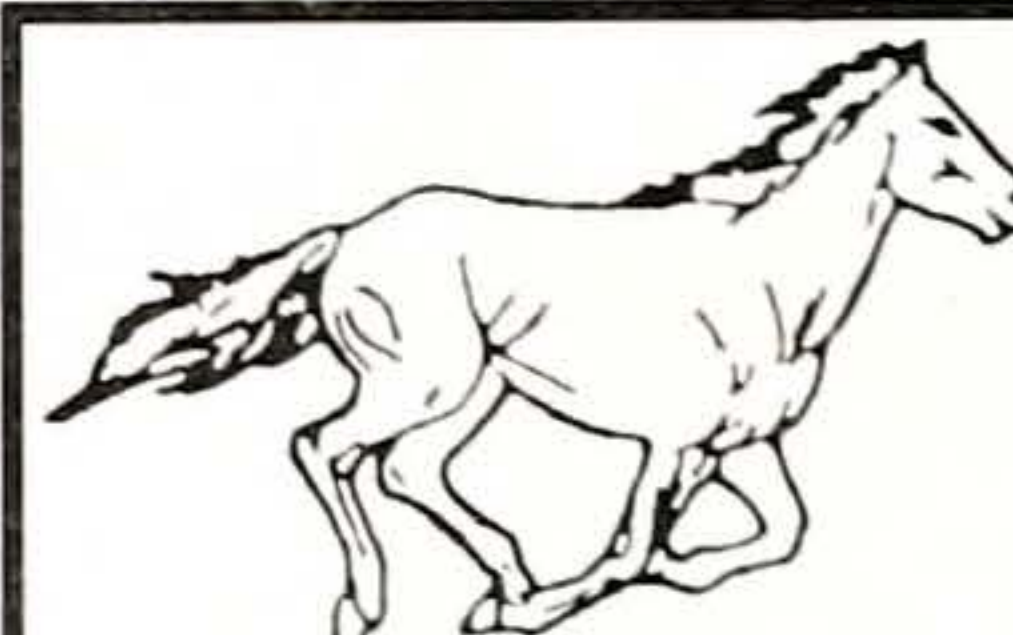
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Last Laff

Q. What did the three-pawed dog say when he walked into the saloon?

A. "I'm here to find the guy who shot my paw."

Amanda Jenny
Wishek, North Dakota

Q. Who was the first chicken in space?

A. Cluck Rogers

Reynaldo Perez
Grannis, Arkansas

Q. What did one elevator say to the other?

A. I think I'm coming down with something.

Andrew Albrect
Cross Plains, Texas

Farmer (plowing with one mule):
Giddap, Pete! Giddap, Buddy!
Giddap, Jack!

Stranger: How many names does that mule have?

Farmer: Only one. His name is Pete, but he don't know his own strength, so I put blinders on him, yell a lot of names at him, and he thinks he's got other mules helping him!

Pat Juenemann
Clements, Minnesota

Q. Where does Grade A milk come from?

A. An intelligent cow.

Sarah Arney
Lott, Texas

Last night I had a dream that I was a tailpipe. When I woke up, I was exhausted!

Melissa Lloyd
Meadville, Missouri

Q. Why did the farmer buy a cow and two ducks?

A. Because he wanted fresh milk and quackers.

Kristin Alexander
Victorville, California

Farmer: Would you like a job working in my garden?

Rabbit: That depends. How much celery would you pay?

Mike Sheflin
Bradenton, Florida

Q. What gets wetter the more it dries?

A. A towel.

Jarvis Green
Homer, Michigan

Did you hear about the depressed archeologist? His life is in ruins.

Rhonda Cochran
Fulton, Arkansas

Q. What do you call a pig that knows karate?

A. A pork chop.

Josh Sayre
Letart, West Virginia

Q. What did the pig use to harvest his rutabagas?

A. A squealbarrow.

Chris Noble
Verona, New York

Q. What do you call the lion trainer who stuck his right hand down the lion's throat?

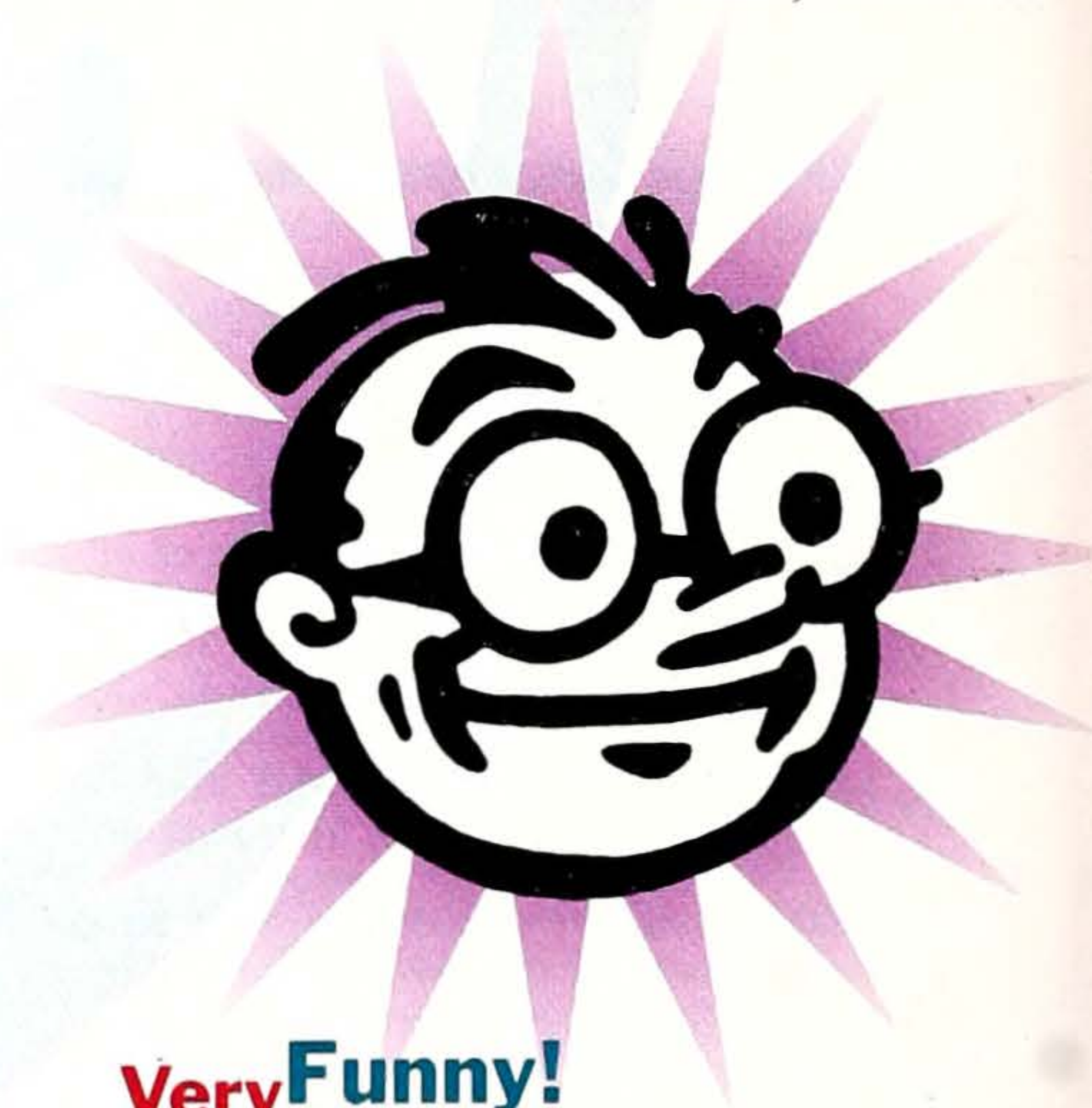
A. Lefty.

Matt Campbell
Sweetwater, Texas

Q. What's cuddly, furry and has a trunk?

A. A teddy bear on vacation.

Renita Lampkin
Abbeville, Alabama



Very Funny!

FFA New Horizons will pay \$5.00 for each joke selected for Last Laff. Jokes must be addressed to:

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Stay tuned! A new, improved "Charlie and Friends" comic will appear in an upcoming issue of FFA New Horizons!



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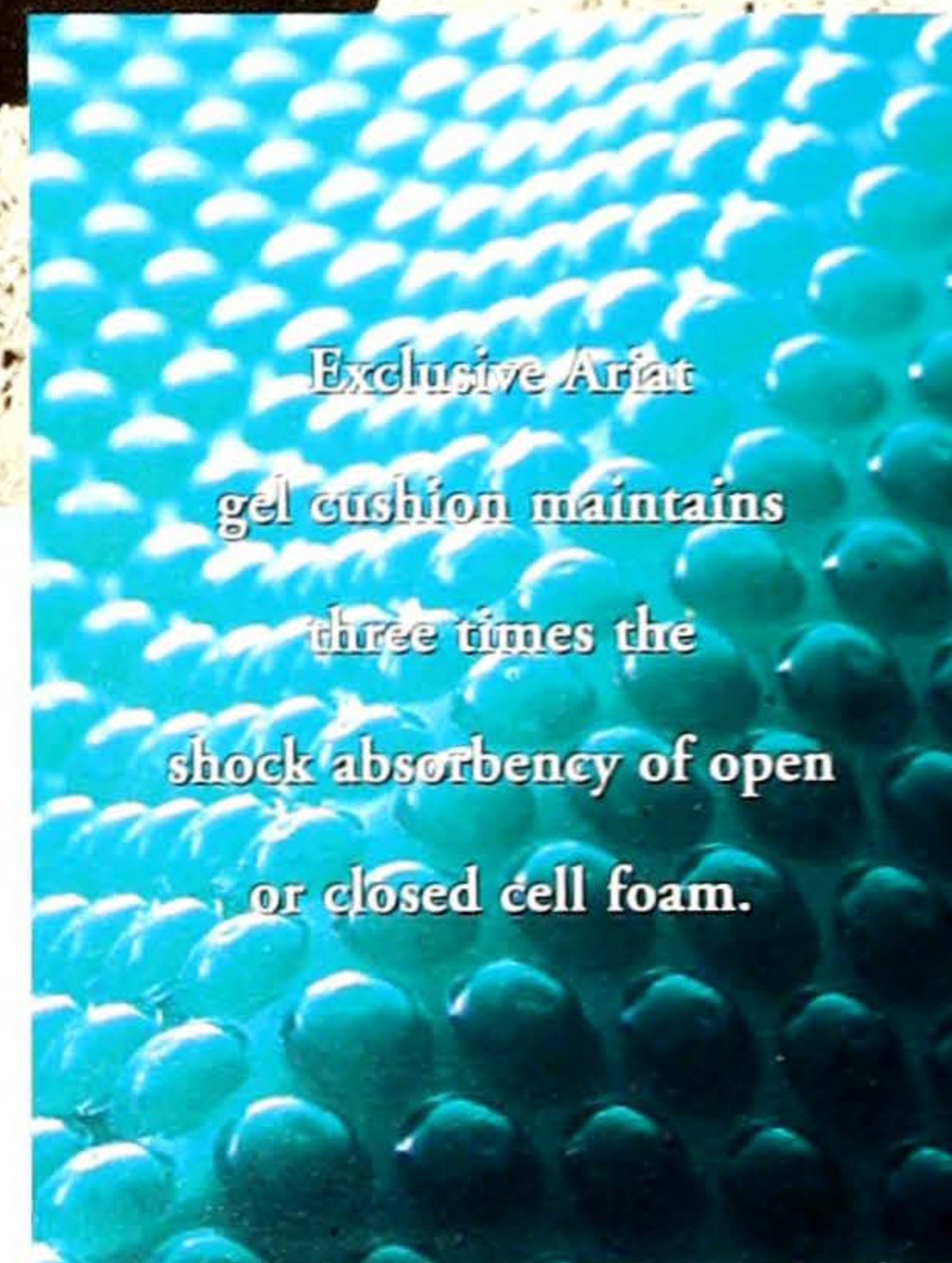
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