

new horizons®

The magazine of the National FFA Organization

March/April 2001

whoa!

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8 CAREER OPTIONS YOU'LL REALLY DIG

jennifer talks

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8 Growth Opportunities

Do you like to make things grow? We've come up with eight careers where you can do just that. With the right training and education, you can become a forester, a farmer, a sports groundskeeper or even a landscape architect.

15 Be a Pal

Do you like to work with children? Find out everything you need to know about Partners in Active Learning Support (PALS), a program where you and your fellow FFA chapter members mentor elementary school children.

18 Apples & Oranges

The U.S. fruit industry is a huge business. The value of an annual U.S. fruit crop exceeds—get this—\$10 billion. Find out where the fruit goes, how it's used and why you might want to start eating a lot more of it.

20 The Next Chapter

So, you're heading off to college this fall. You probably think your FFA involvement will start to fade after you move away from home and make new friends. Not true—you could join, or even start, a collegiate FFA chapter at your new school.

On the cover: Outdoor enthusiast Jessica Jones, an FFA member from Susanville, California. Photography by Shane Morgan.

missing magazine alert! If you know of any FFA member who has not been receiving *FFA New Horizons*, please have that member fill out this coupon and mail to: **Membership Services, National FFA Organization, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960.**

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www.ffa.org

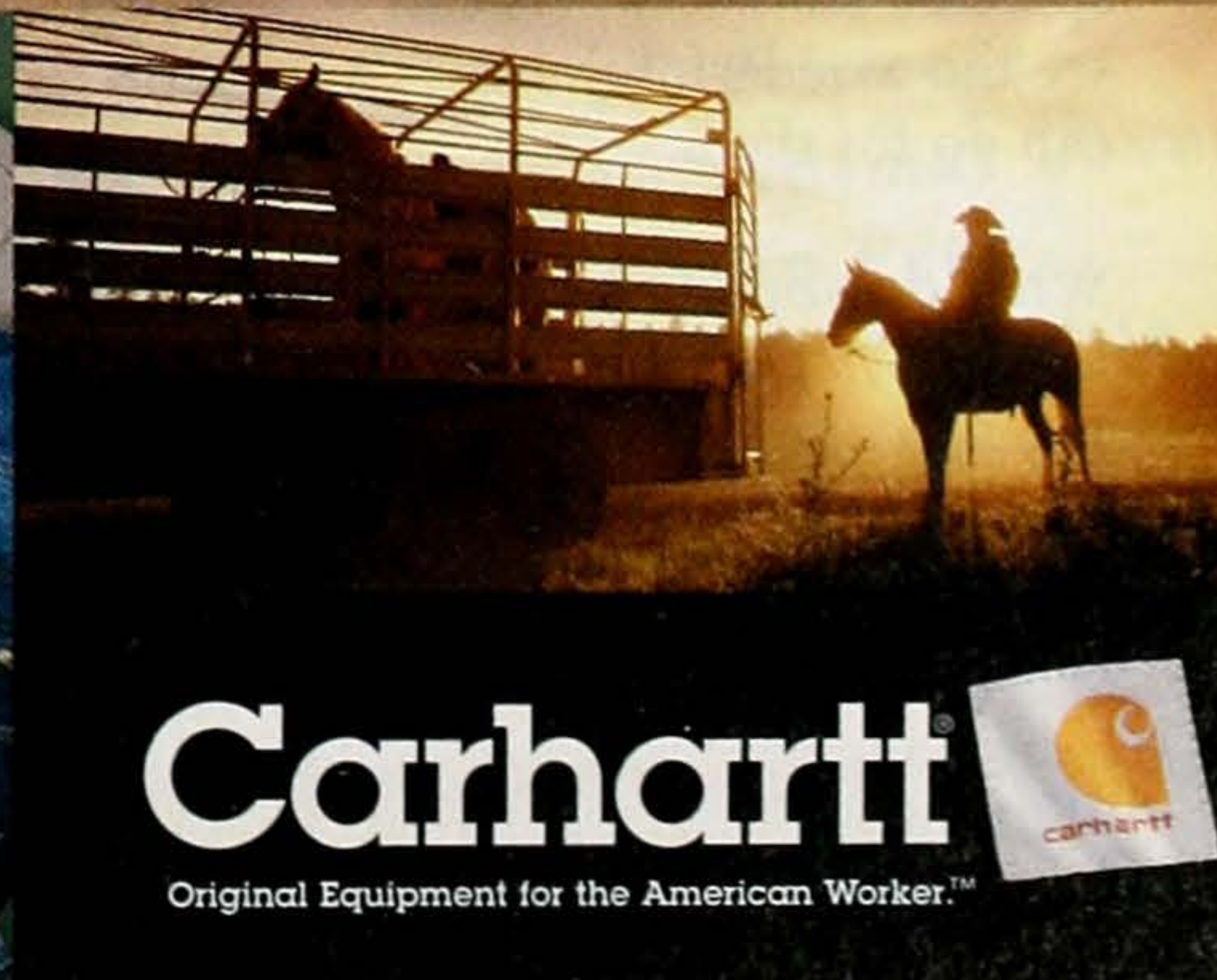
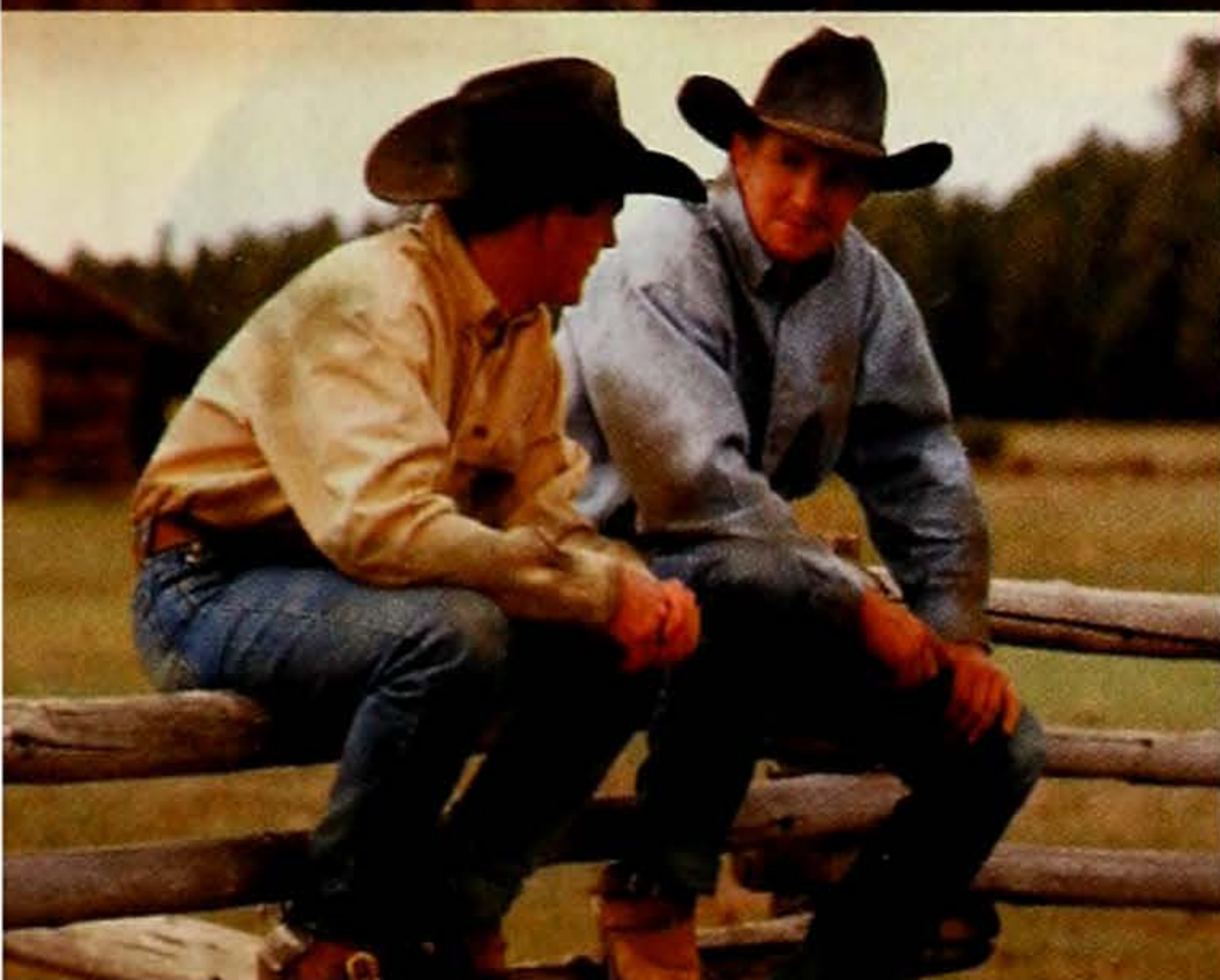
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one on one with

Jennifer Edwards

When you first joined FFA, did you ever think you'd someday be a national officer?

I was very excited about FFA, but national office was not really within sight. A favorite memory is traveling to the Alabama FFA Convention as an eighth grader. I remember asking my advisor who the students were on stage giving speeches. I was awed that people my age had the confidence to speak before thousands of students. That helped me develop the confidence to take advantage of the opportunities FFA offers. That is why I am here today.

How did you stay active in FFA once you left home for college?

Auburn University has an excellent collegiate FFA chapter that has been recognized by the Student Government Association for its involvement on campus. I also assisted our state FFA association with leadership workshops during the summer and at convention. My home chapter has remained very near to my heart. Every year I try to help with member recruitment by presenting workshops and speeches so that others can see the wonderful things FFA can do for them.

What do you like to do for fun?

My favorite way to spend a Saturday afternoon in the fall is attending an Auburn foot-

ball game with my friends and family. Other times I enjoy running, reading good books and being with friends.

Do you have any immediate plans after graduating from Auburn?

My goal is to build a career in sales and marketing with a company on the cutting edge of agriculture. Over time I am aiming for a position in politics, specifically dealing with agricultural policy and helping to create new markets for the products American farmers produce.

If you knew then what you know now, is there anything you would have done differently as a high school student?

High school was one of the most memorable times of my life. I was active in many activities, most importantly FFA. I also played on the varsity basketball and volleyball teams. To look back now, I wish I would have slowed down and reflected more on the once-in-a-lifetime experience high school is. It truly is a time of change, growth, opportunity—and fun! ★

VITALS

Hometown: Gadsden, Alabama

Age: 20

Chapter: Gaston

Advisors: Paul Beasley

SAE: Market lamb production and fruit and vegetable production

Education: Junior at Auburn University

Major: Agricultural economics

Favorite band: The Beatles

Last good book I read:

What Matters Most by Hyrum W. Smith

Favorite Food:

Mexican

Best movie I've seen lately: "Cast Away"

Hobby: Reading and running

TIMELINE

Age

- 14 • elected FFA chapter secretary
- 15 • elected FFA district treasurer
- 16 • won third high individual in district livestock evaluation CDE
 - won county public speaking CDE
 - elected state FFA secretary
- 17 • named Alabama supreme livestock exhibitor (market lambs)
 - named academic athlete all-state
- 18 • awarded national FFA scholarship
- 19 • elected senator for Auburn University College of Agriculture
- 20 • earned American FFA degree



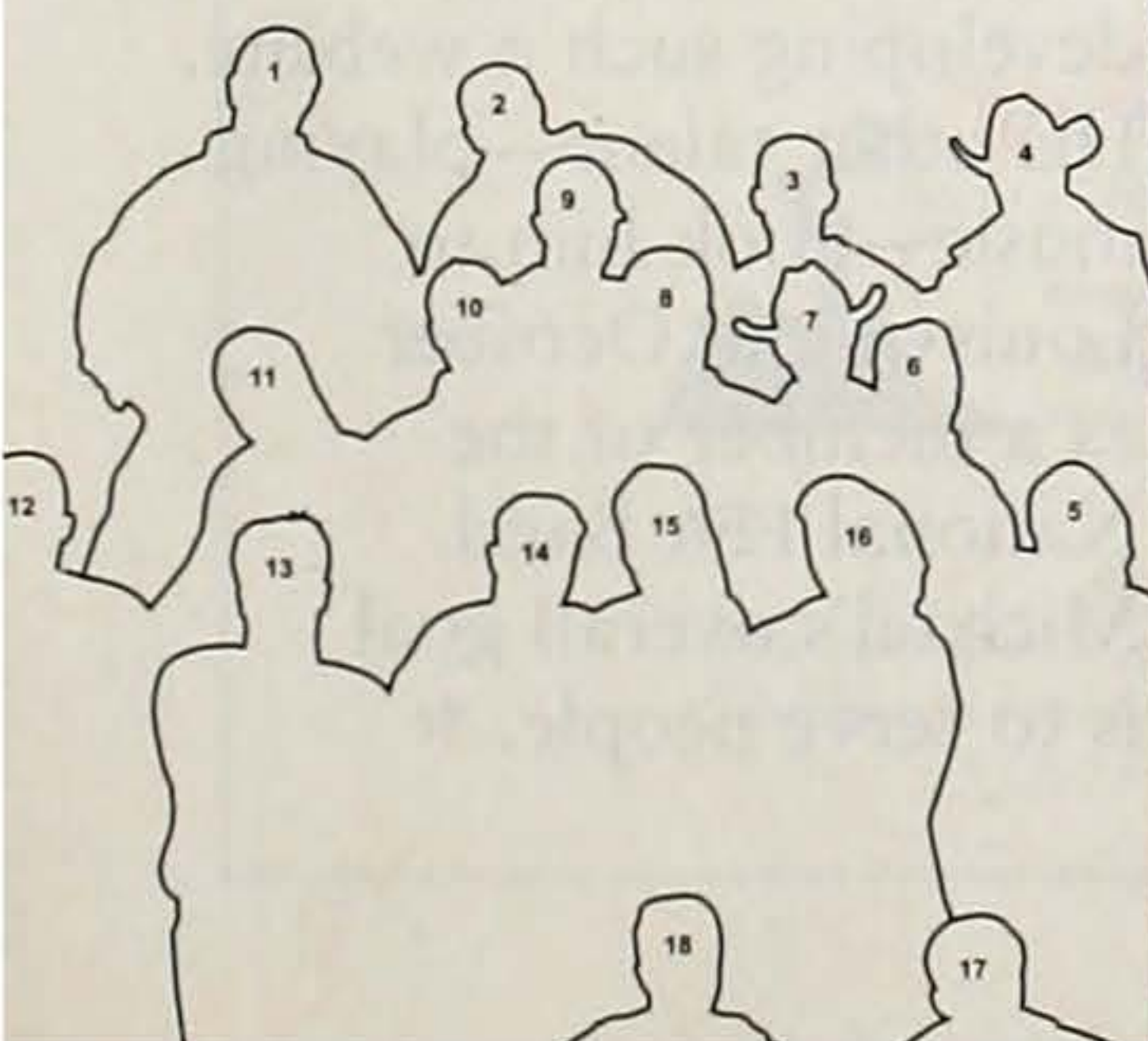
JEdwards@ffa.org



1. Trouble
2. Chas
3. Lost Sheep
4. Daddy
5. Frosty
6. City Girl

7. Bull
8. Chuck
9. All Star
10. Stone Cold
11. Queenie
12. Mooch

13. Shepard
14. Traveler
15. Princess
16. Animal Lover
17. Bo Peep
18. Big Trouble



Twenty **XX** **30**
BY WRANGLER.

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To nominate an FFA member or advisor for "FFA Stars," drop us a detailed note telling us why you or your nominee is a star. Include a photo and the nominee's name, address, phone, birthdate, FFA advisor's name and phone. We also need your name and phone number.

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MISSOURI

Meagan Jones

Fifteen-year-old Meagan has taken advantage of every FFA opportunity that's come her way. She was chosen Star Greenhand her freshman year. Now, as a sophomore, she's president of the Clinton FFA Chapter in central Missouri. Meagan, who attends every chapter meeting, has competed in creed speaking and on the chapter's dairy products and knowledge teams. She also finds time in her schedule to maintain multiple supervised agricultural experiences. ★

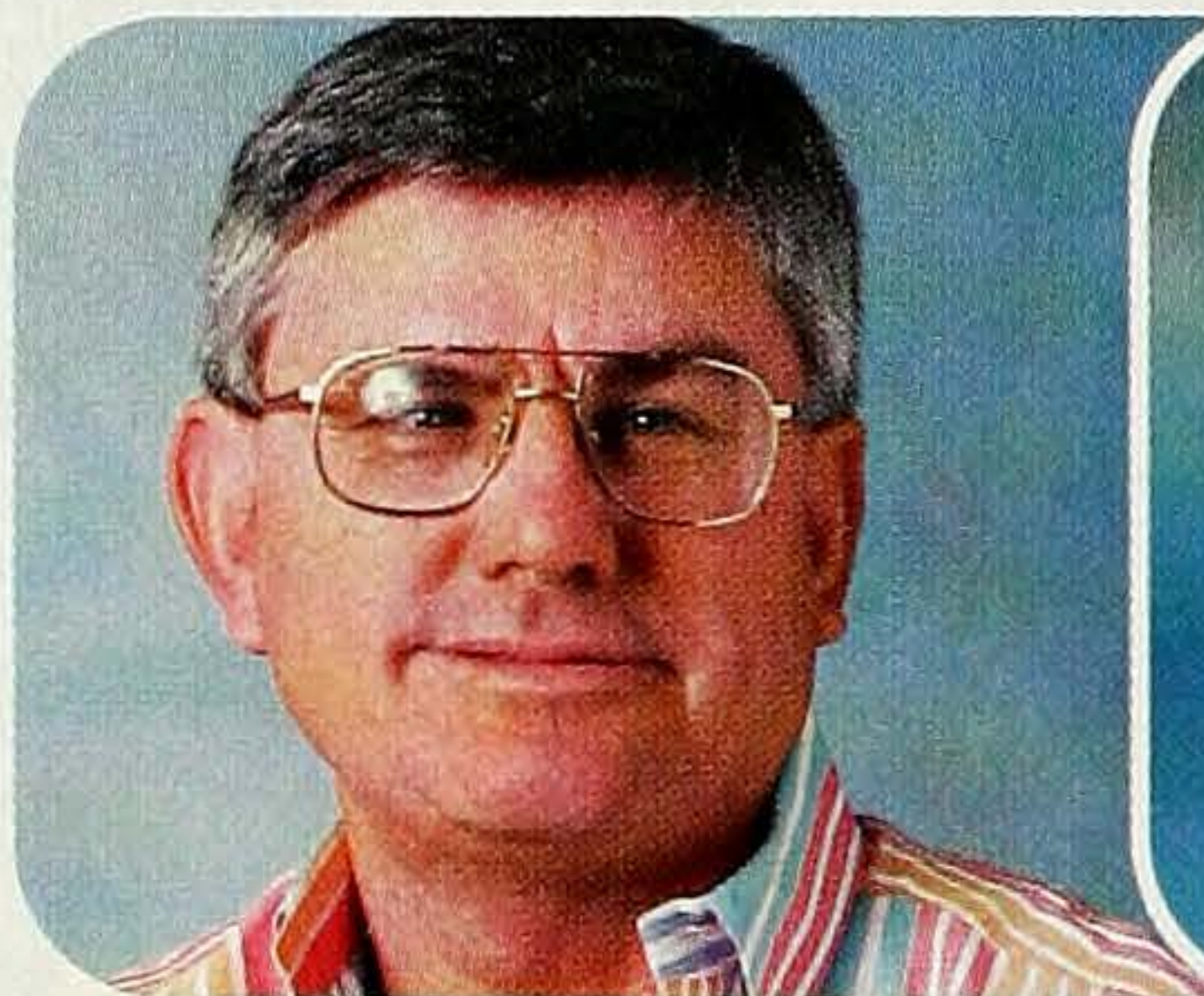


TEXAS

KENTUCKY

NORTH CAROLINA

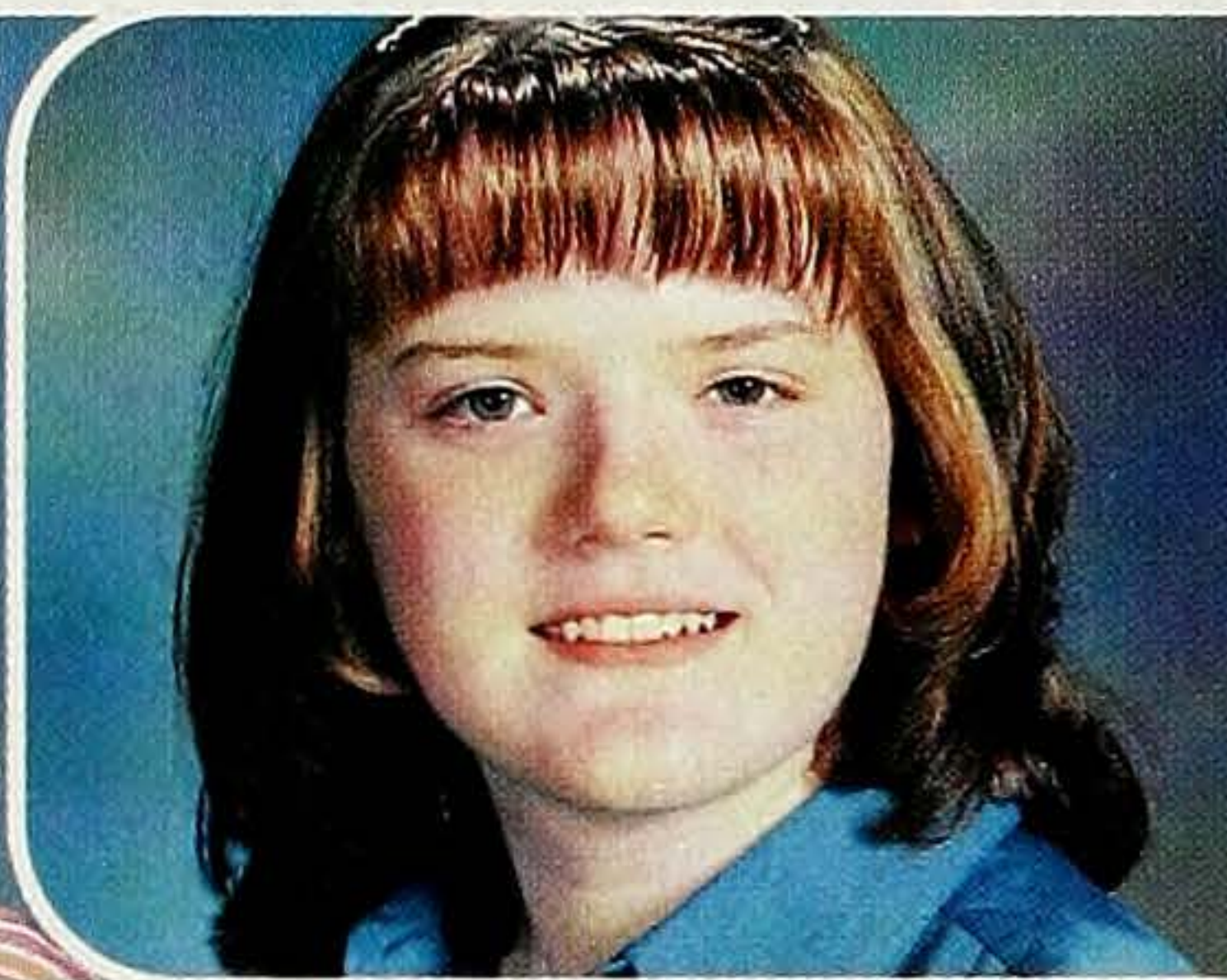
NEVADA



Lawrence Oliver (advisor)

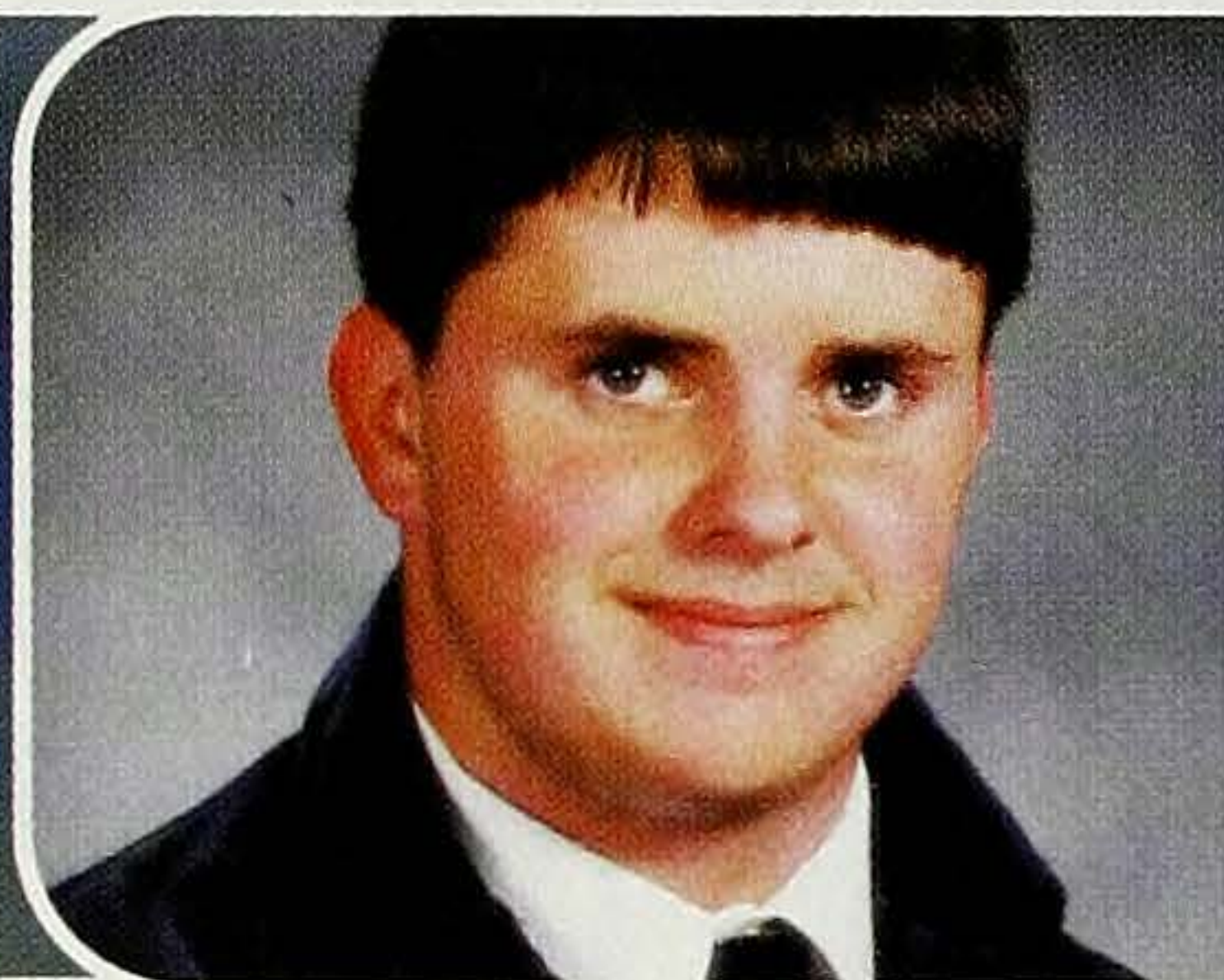
Mr. Oliver has made a big splash among students at Big Sandy High School in the town of Dallardsville. FFA member Amanda Duke says he's a devoted teacher who goes out of his way to help students at Big Sandy and nearby schools. "He's always been there for me under every circumstance no matter what," Amanda says. "I would be so proud to see him in *FFA New Horizons* magazine." ★

Would you like to see your FFA advisor recognized here? Find out how at the top of this page!



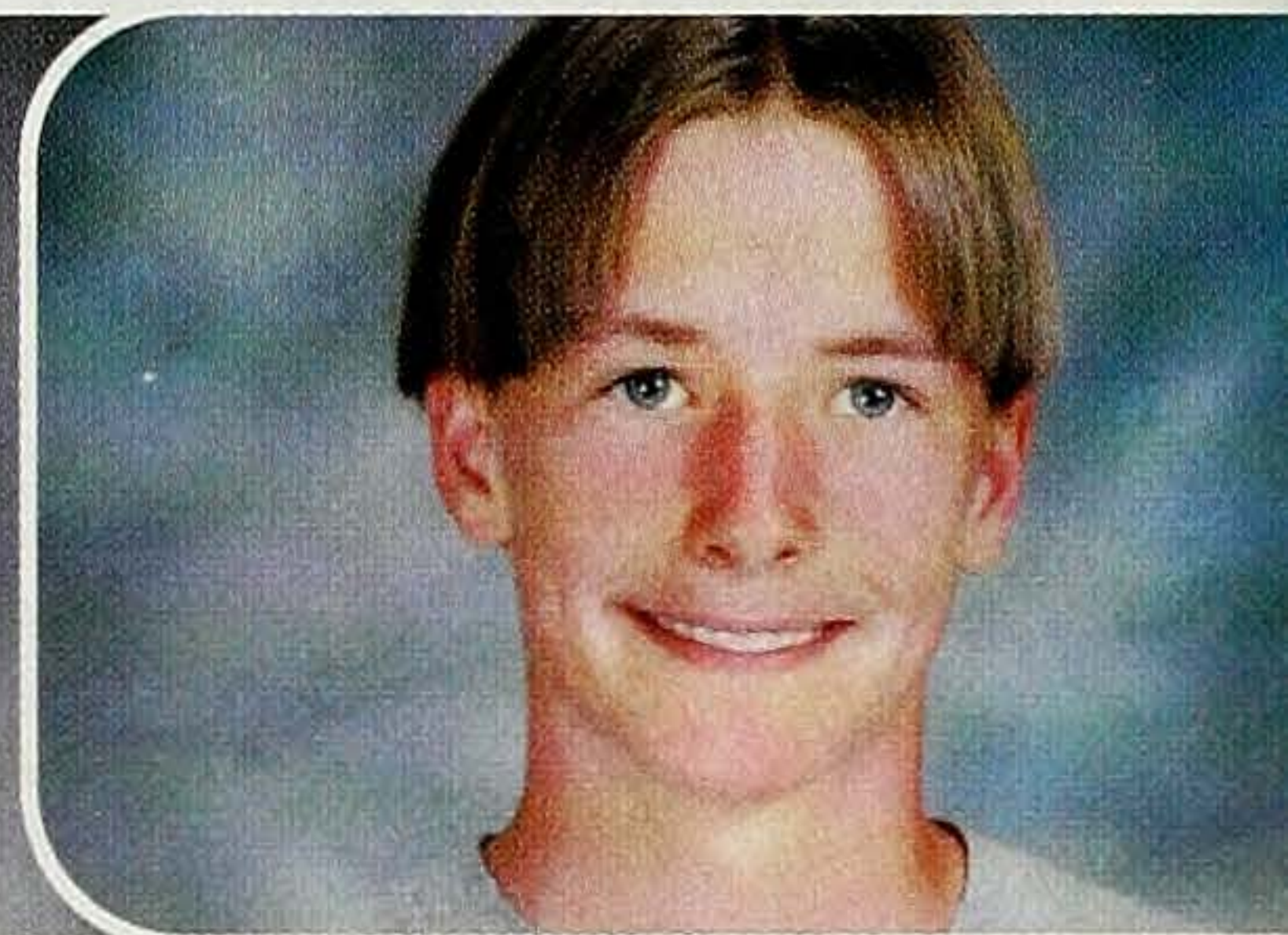
Tashia Rash

Since she was eight years old, Tashia has been breeding, raising, showing and selling rabbits. Now, at 16, she is a leader in the Bullitt Central FFA Chapter in the town of Brooks. This FFA chapter reporter devotes 20 hours a week to volunteerism projects involving children's safety and helping senior citizens. Tashia has developed a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) with her rabbits and is the youth director for the state's largest rabbit club. ★



Joshua Davenport

When his school dropped its choral program, Joshua, then a freshman, dove head-first into FFA. He quickly became a Plymouth FFA Chapter officer and found success in public speaking and various proficiency award areas. After serving as FFA regional president, Joshua ran for state office and emerged as state FFA president. This 18-year-old Eagle Scout performed with the National FFA Chorus at the 1999 National FFA Convention and is now a freshman at North Carolina State University. ★



Michael Mulreany

It's a sign of these technological times when you read that an FFA member's supervised agricultural experience (SAE) is building a website that will provide career resources for other FFA members. Fourteen-year-old Michael, a member of the Smith Valley FFA Chapter, is now developing such a website. His other talent—playing music—took him to Louisville in October as a member of the National FFA Band. Michael's overall goal is to serve people. ★

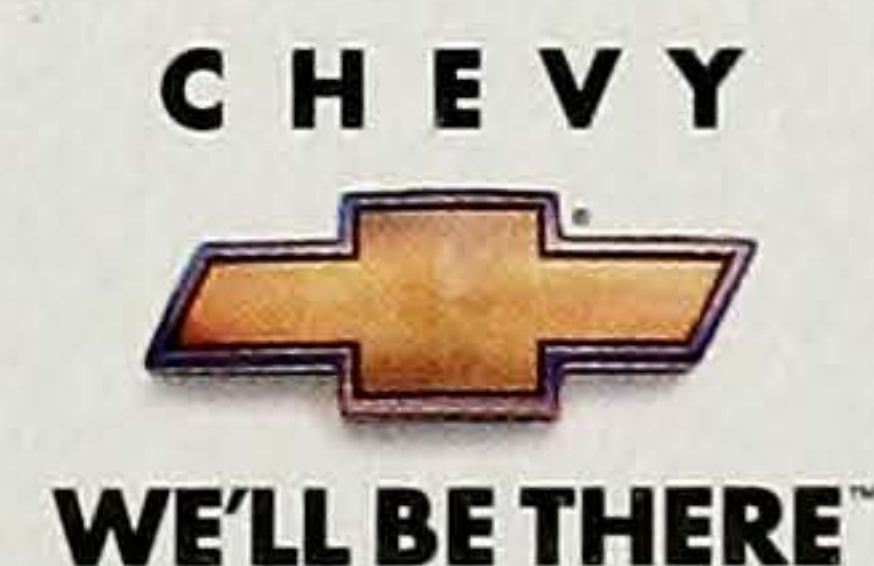


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growth opportunities

Got a green thumb? Here are 8 careers

Farmer

Though the number of farmers in the U.S. has dropped significantly over the years, there will always be room for young farmers, whether you're growing mushrooms, soybeans, turf, grapes or cotton.

What you need most to succeed are knowledge and a desire to make it happen. The hours are long, the work is tough and you'll always have to contend with weather and price fluctuations. That said, most of those who do it wouldn't want to be doing anything else.

education: Today's farmers need to know as much about marketing as they do about farm machinery. A four-year college degree can give you a definite edge by developing your understanding of business, economics and agronomy. In high school, load up on agriculture and business classes. ★

PHOTOS BY SHANE MORRIS



FFA members Nick Harrod, Robert Chastain and Magda Sanchez (left to right)

Opportunities

Options you'll really dig

by Erich Gaukel



Landscaper

If you love to be outdoors and you enjoy planting, pruning and trimming trees, flowers and shrubbery, you just might have found your calling. Landscapers are experts at growing things, but they also mow grass and perform light construction work (building stone and brick paths, retaining walls and sheds). Most of the work is performed outdoors, which poses a



problem for landscapers in places with cold winters.

Many turn to snow removal and small engine repair while the snow is on the ground.

education: A two-year college degree is advised for those who want to manage a landscaping company or start their own business. Take agriculture and business classes in high school. ★

Plant geneticist



Plant geneticists, who study and analyze inheritance and gene characteristics, have been working tirelessly over the years to unlock the mysteries of genetics in plants. In the last century, geneticists introduced hybrid and genetically altered plants, which have provided farmers stronger and more resilient seeds to plant. They are pioneers of what is now called biotechnology. They work in research labs at universities and agricultural seed corporations.

education: Plant geneticists normally need at least a four-year college degree to perform testing and inspection. A master's degree is needed for advanced research and teaching positions. Agriculture, math and science classes in high school are advised. ★

Nursery worker

As a nursery worker, you're in the business of growing plants and flowers that will be purchased and planted elsewhere. You need be skilled at all phases of growing—planting, feeding, storing, pest control, pruning and transplanting. Customer service is a big part of the job, as you will frequently be dealing with customers who will seek your advice in making things grow. The job involves lots of physical work in an outdoor setting.



education: A two-year degree in horticulture with additional coursework in business and biology is advised. In high school, load up on agriculture, biology and business classes. ★

Sports groundskeeper



If you're a sports fan, there's no better way to stay close to the action than to break into groundskeeping at a golf course or other type of athletic field. You'll need to be an expert in grasses, soils and chemical applications. Many groundskeepers in the sports industry aspire to be golf course superintendents or head groundskeepers. In this expanded role, you'll be the person in charge of the course or field, as well as the staff and equipment.

education: A four-year degree in turf grass management is standard training for those who plan to become golf course superintendents or head groundskeepers. Additional coursework in business is strongly advised. Take agriculture and business classes in high school. ★

continued



Agronomist



There's a tough road ahead for agronomists. They've been handed the responsibility of figuring out how we're going to improve crop quality, efficiency and yields to feed a growing world population. At the same time, they have to protect our soil and water. It's a formidable task, but it's one that can be highly rewarding. Agronomists work in a wide range of settings—at farms, universities, corporations and government agencies.

education: A four-year degree in agronomy is required. For some positions, master's or Ph.D. degrees are essential. In high school, load up on agriculture, science and math courses. ★



Landscape architect



Here's a great way to combine your green thumb with your abilities in drawing and math. Landscape architects design green areas for parks, businesses, schools and homes. Using their knowledge of site planning, plants, drainage, soils, design, construction and environmental factors, these professionals take all factors into account when creating a plan. Landscape architects are employed by developers, architectural firms and government agencies.

education: A four-year college degree in landscape architecture is required, although a master's degree will improve your employment opportunities. In high school, take agriculture, art, math and science classes. ★

Forester



As a forester, you will become a specialist in forests as they relate to conservation, logging, wood products and recreation. Foresters work for government agencies, private land owners, corporations and universities. They are directly involved in planting, data collection, pest control and tree removal. They also direct prescribed burning and firefighting efforts, both of which received national attention during last year's extensive forest fires in the western U.S.

education: A four-year college degree in forestry is required. High school classes in agriculture and the sciences will prepare you for college coursework. ★

Find more careers and information at the National FFA Organization's Career Center at www.ffa.org/careers/index.html

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Whoa!

**Thrill-seeking
FFA members
take sports to the outer limits**
By Chris Hayhurst

If you've never ridden a bull before, but think you might have what it takes, here's a bit of advice: Hold on tight, keep a weary eye on those horns—and don't let your fear get the best of you.

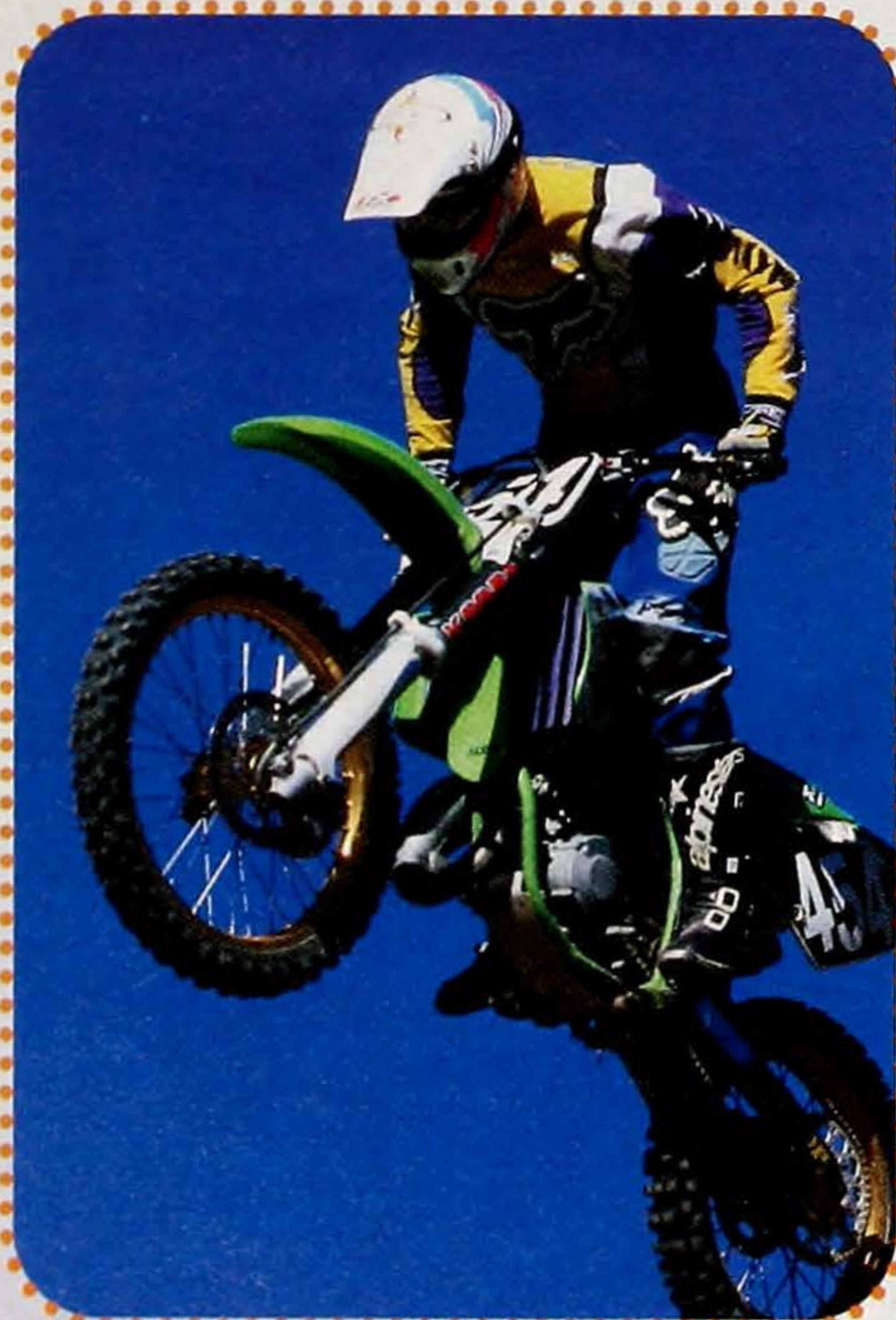
"That's the most challenging part," explains Joe Sneed, a freshman at McDonald County High School in Anderson, Missouri, and a member of the McDonald County FFA. "You have to face your fear and get over it." Joe, who has a year of bull-riding experience beneath his belt, has never been seriously injured. Still, he knows exactly how much damage a mad beast weighing more than 1,000 pounds can cause. "People break bones, get speared by the horns, get trampled," says Joe. "It's a dangerous sport, but it's fun."



Welcome to the world of high-thrill, so-called “extreme” sports and recreation, a world of physical and mental challenges, lots of adrenaline and, quite often, danger. In the last decade or so such activities—including everything from backcountry skiing and snowboarding to rock climbing, long-distance adventure racing, whitewater kayaking and skydiving—have exploded in popularity.

Air time

Whether they’re pedaling mountain bikes over rugged dirt trails, barrel racing at breakneck gallops or surfing massive swells in the Pacific Ocean, thousands of teens nationwide have found a new way to play—that is, hard. Of course, it may just be a fad, a temporary change of pace until “normal”



recreational activities like soccer, Ping-Pong, and softball become the rage again. But for now, one thing’s for sure: the bigger the thrills, the better the game.

“Jumping,” says Jessica Jones, a senior at Lassen High School in Susanville, California, “is an intense rush.” Jessica, a member of the Susanville FFA, has been riding dirt-bike motorcycles in the Southern California desert for as long as she can remember. She has yet to enter an official competition, but plans to participate in local races in the near future.

Also an avid snowboarder, she likes the speed she gets on the motorcycle, but it’s the big air that comes with it that she loves most. “The best thing about it is being so high off the ground and knowing I’m going to make it,” says Jessica. “It’s dangerous if you’re not careful, but if you watch what you’re doing and just have fun, it’s great.”

Splash!

Fun, of course, is relative, and not everyone considers flying through the air aboard a dirt-bike a good time. Jordan Leithen, for one, gets his thrills on the ground. Jordan, a senior at Wisconsin’s Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School and part of the Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA, plays paintball—a game using special guns that launch harmless paint-filled pellets.

Continued

Jessica Jones, an FFA member from Susanville, California, gets air on her snowboard and on her motorcycle.

Getting Started

Before you try a new game or sport, get professional training. Without it you might risk serious injury. Here’s a sampling of organizations that can help you get started:

On the ground

American Motorcyclist Association, 614/856-1900, www.ama-cycle.org

International Mountain Bicycling Association, 888/442-4622, www.imba.com

National Barrel Horse Association, 706/722-7223, www.nbha.com

National Outdoor Leadership School, 307/332-5300, www.nols.edu

U.S.A. Snowboard Association, 530/587-6656, www.usasa.org

In the sky

U.S. Parachute Association, 703/836-3495, www.uspa.org

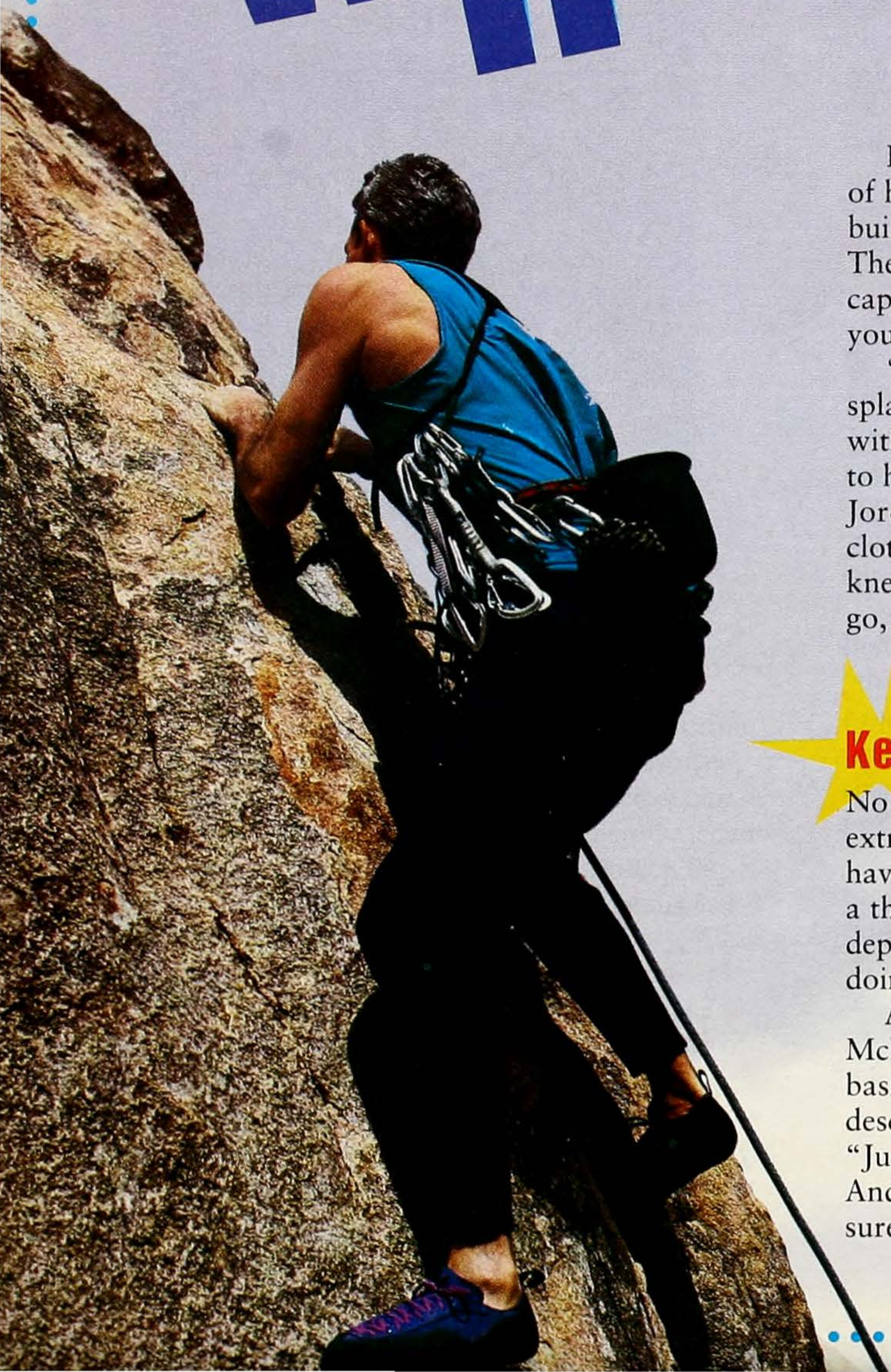
In the water

American Whitewater, 845/586-2355, www.americanwhitewater.org

Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), 800/729-7234, www.padi.com

World Wakeboard Association, 863/551-1683; www.thewwa.com

Whoa!



He and his friends gather on the cow pasture of his family's dairy farm, break into teams and build forts out of wood from his father's sawmill. The idea is simple: Work with your teammates to capture the opposing team's flags. And whatever you do, don't get splashed.

"When the shell hits, it's supposed to pop and splatter," says Jordan. "We have different games with different rules, but you usually have to return to home base if you're hit." To ensure their safety, Jordan and his friends wear extra layers of clothing and protective facemasks, goggles and kneepads. Once they're geared up and ready to go, the fun begins.

Keep it fun

No matter what they're doing, when teens go extreme, it's always about fun. And even those who have yet to raft a Class V stretch of rapids, scale a thousand-foot cliff or scuba dive to the darkest depths of the sea can understand the appeal of doing so—if not now, then one day down the road.

Andy Bethel, another freshman at Missouri's McDonald County High School and an avid basketball player, equestrian jumper and self-described heights-addict, may sum it up best. "Jumping out of planes sounds like fun," says Andy. "One day I'll try it with my friends. I'm sure it will be awesome." ★

What you YOU do for fun?

The FFA members you just read about seek thrills by riding bulls, snowboards and motorcycles. We want to know what other kinds of things FFA members do for fun. Who knows? Maybe we'll write a story about you. Send a description of your activity to:

FFA New Horizons
P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
or egaukel@mindspring.com


Indiana

m a r c h / a p r i l

FFA News



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP "NO HOLDS BARRED"

What's Inside... Leadership Development Workshop
Career Development Event Results
Business & Industry Visits
 Agricultural Careers Today - Animal Science

Leadership Development Seminar

★ Rising above the heat ★

By: Karissa Hedrick

North Newton FFA

The North Newton FFA recently put on a Leadership Development Seminar to fire up various other clubs' officer teams for the upcoming year. This was an all day seminar with approximately 80 students attending. The seminar was held at North Newton High School where club officers and other student

leaders had the opportunity to learn about various personal and team building skills. Some of these skills included officer responsibilities, teamwork, time management, and communication skills. This was an action packed day filled with exciting speakers and fun activities. The North Newton FFA even did a parliamentary procedure demonstration to show the other officer teams how to properly run a business meeting. This proved to be a highly effective day and a great learning experience. Congratulations North Newton on firing up the 80 students in attendance for a successful year as officers!



North Newton FFA Chapter Officers greet students at the registration table for the seminar.



District III Lock-in HUGE SUCCESS!

By: Karissa Hedrick

On January 13th the District III FFA held their annual district lock-in. They kicked-off the evening of fun with the District Basketball Tournament with twelve teams participating in the competition. During the basketball tourney, other members could either cheer on fellow teammates and friends or do some karaoke. Later that night over fifty FFA members had the opportunity to dance the night away, compete in the famous "Pillow Jousting" contest, eat as much pizza as wanted and do various other activities. Overall this proved to be a very worthwhile night for District III members. It gave them the opportunity to meet other members from all over their district and create friendships that will last a lifetime. Congratulations District III on a successful lock-in!



"The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people."

~Theodore Roosevelt, American President~

It's that time of year again - District Leadership Contests!!!

Keys to a Successful Contest

- * Practice Everyday
- * Ask for Help if Needed
- * Be Sure to Follow the Rules of the Contest
- * Use All Resources Such as Teachers, Internet, Past Winners, Librarians, Magazines, etc.
- * Make an Outline for Your Presentation
- * Compete in a Contest that Interests You
- * Review all Requirements
- * Practice and Receive Critique From Others
- * Have Fun!!



by: Kyle Kohlhausen

Indiana FFA Leadership Contests

Agricultural Issues Forum
 Agricultural Mechanics Demonstration
 Agricultural Production Demonstration
 Agricultural Sales Demonstration
 Chapter Meeting Contest
 Creed Speaking
 Essay
 Exhibit
 Extemporaneous Speaking
 Food Science Demonstration
 Freshman Extemporaneous Speaking
 Freshman Prepared Public Speaking
 Horticulture Demonstration
 Job Interview
 Leadership Ambassador
 Multimedia Scrapbook
 Natural Resources Demonstration
 Outstanding Achievement in P. R.
 Prepared Public Speaking
 Talent
 Traditional Scrapbook
 Quiz Bowl

Ten Commandments of Leadership

By: Kim Hall

Everyone has heard of the ten commandments in the Bible, but what about the ten commandments of being a great leader? Peter Lowe, a motivational speaker, gives us ten ways to improve our leadership skills and help develop others. The National FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of members by developing their potential for **Premier Leadership**, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Try to follow what these commandments say, and see the profound difference in your chapter! Check it out!

- **Learn the job before you manage it**
Before you pass a job out to younger members, you need to know the job yourself incase they might have questions.
- **Set and enforce an attainable standard of excellence**
Make sure you are always working for the best, and you set high goals for yourself, and those working with you. Make that activity the best one yet!
- **Lead by example**
You have to do what you want others to do eventually. Therefore, make sure you are doing the dirty work as well as the fun and exciting jobs. As older members, you are who they are going to follow, so make sure what you are doing is worth following.
- **Manage by Visibility**
Others will follow what they see you doing. Make sure they can see what you are doing!
- **Assign sole "ownership" to projects**
Give members the opportunity to take a project and run with it, giving them sole responsibility for the project.
- **Praise performers publicly**
Just like when you hit the three pointer and the crowd goes wild, you too will need to cheer on that member who has done an excellent job with the activity they have been in charge of.
- **Correct in private**
Don't yell at someone for their mistakes in front of others, set up a meeting to calmly discuss ways to improve upon the activity.
- **Help your team members develop their individual talents**
Each of your team members has a LOT of potential. Make sure you help them to develop that 100%. Help them get the most out of the FFA experience as well.
- **Use incentives to motivate your team**
Motivate members to get involved by offering end of year awards trips, cash prizes, or extra credit to get them excited about activities.



Alpha Gamma Rho can offer you..

- * **Life long friends**
- * **100% job placement**
- * **Networking with Ag Professionals**
- * **Unlimited leadership opportunities**
- * **Work hard play hard attitude**

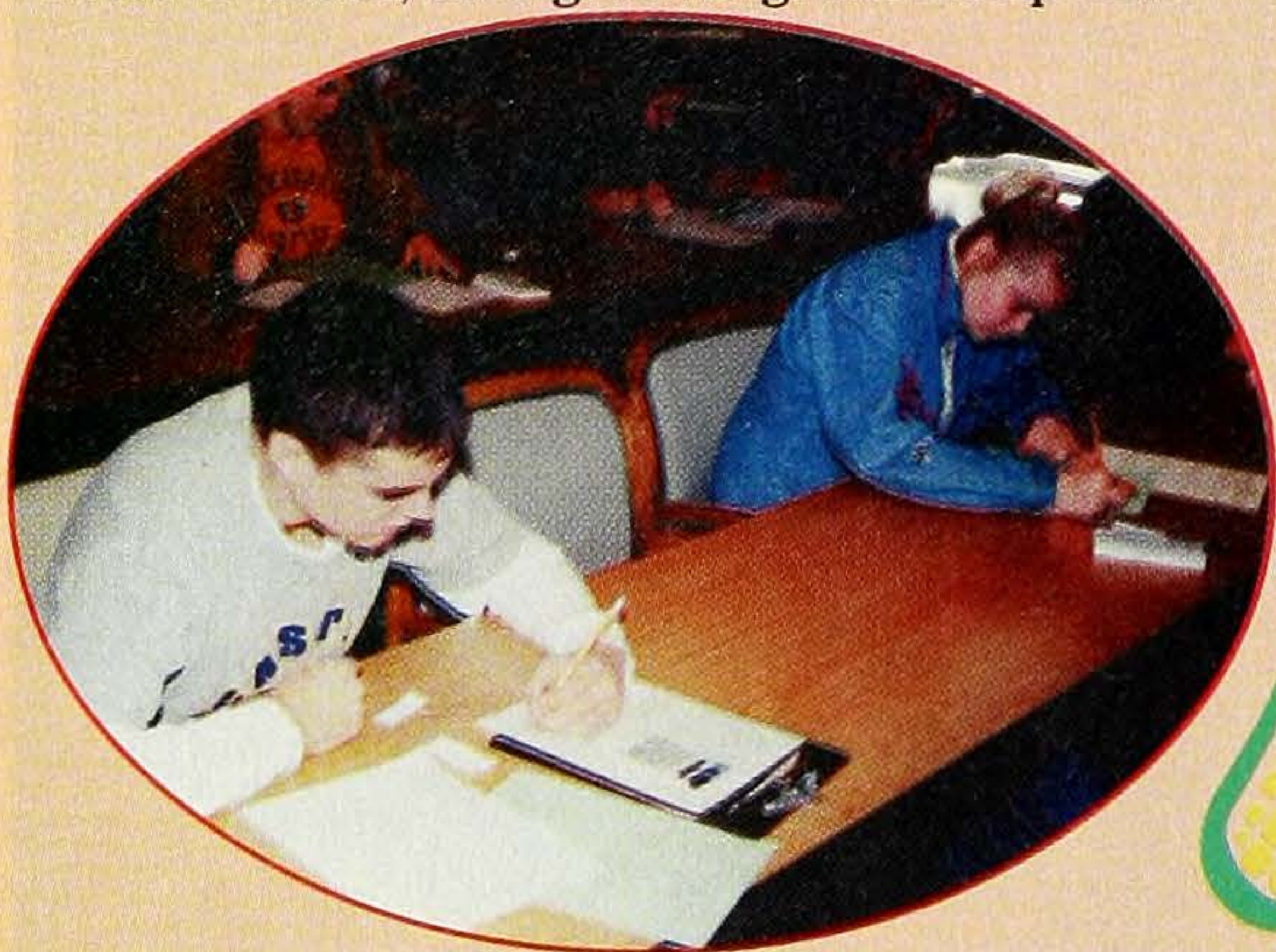


www.agr.west-lafayette.in.us

Career Develo

Harvesting a New Crop of Champions

The Crops Career Development, sponsored by **Dow AgroSciences**, allows the participants to learn a variety of crops and gain a knowledge of agriculture. Contestants identified 25 plant and 25 seed samples, identified grain damage, completed a written exam, and graded grain samples.



Members taking written test on basic crop and farm management.



First place Crops team, Southmont FFA.

Top 4 Teams:

- 1st - Southmont, Advisor Gary Mosbaugh
- 2nd - Huntington North, Advisor Robert Bowker
- 3rd - Southmont, Advisor Gary Mosbaugh
- 4th - Rensselaer, Advisor Brad Kohlhaugen

Top 4 Individuals:

- 1st - Aaron Royer, Southmont
- 2nd - Kyle Boots, Southmont
- 3rd - John Miller, Southmont
- 4th - Tami Neighbors, Southmont

These members are diligently working to identify trees.



Leafin' Through Success

Top 4 Teams:

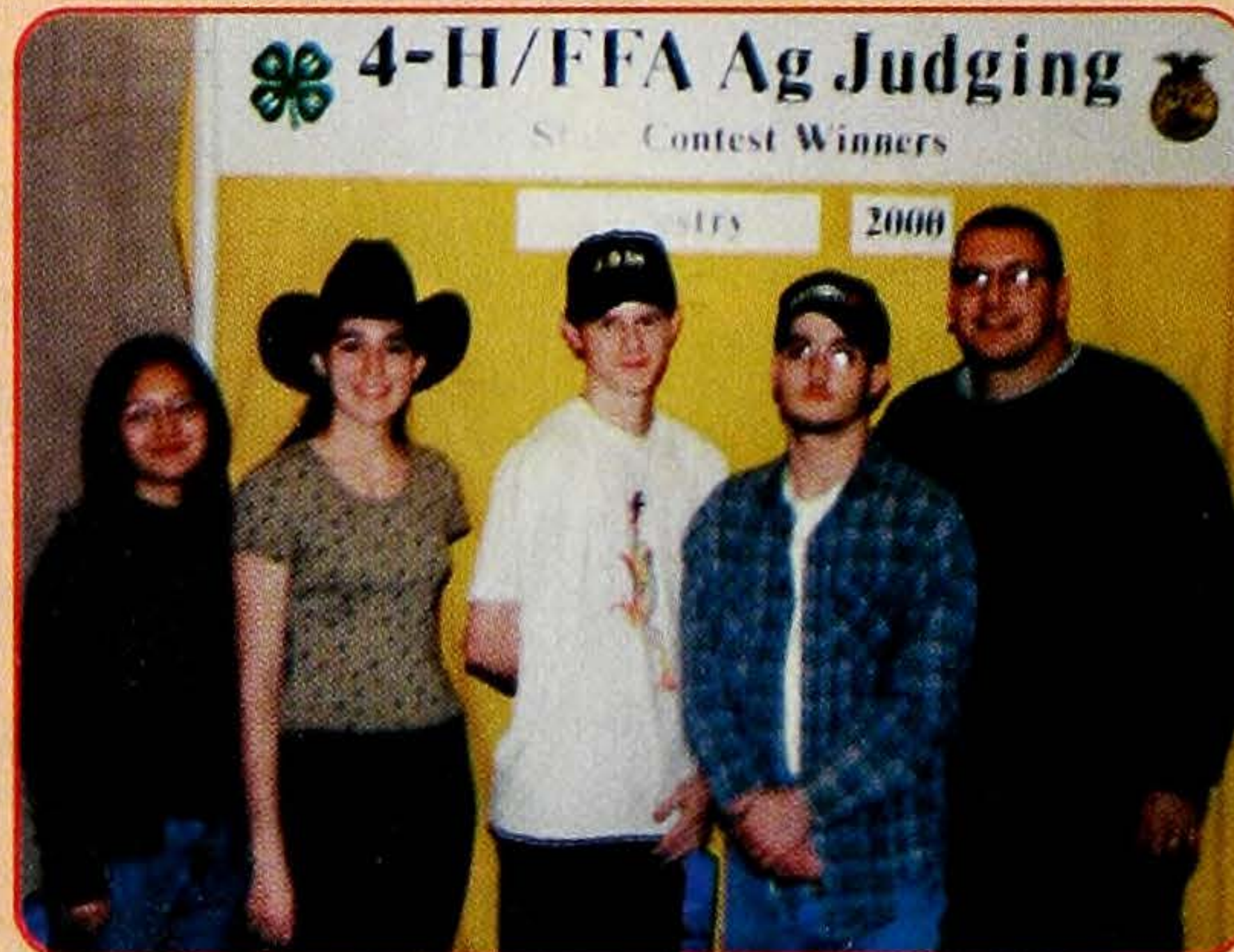
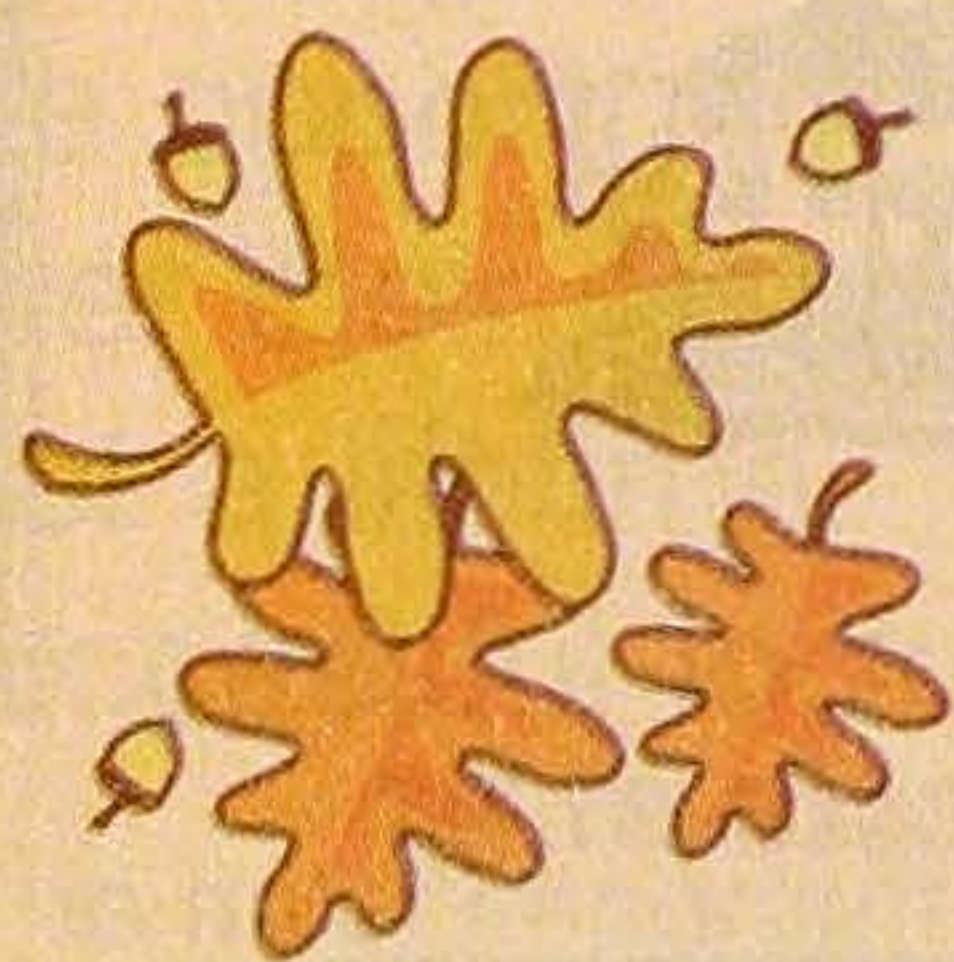
- 1st - Triton Central, Advisor Rich McGown
- 2nd - Crawford County, Advisor Gary Sheller
- 3rd - Rossville, Advisor Dale Griffin
- 4th - Kankakee Valley, Advisor Steve Inman



Top 4 Individuals:

- 1st - Kirk Schultz, Crawford County
- 2nd - Joey Carter, Crawford County
- 3rd - Nicole Retzner, Triton Central
- 4th - Brandon Herbor, Huntington North

The State Forestry Career Development Event, sponsored by **Cole Hardwood, Inc.**, was held at Purdue University in West Lafayette. FFA members identified leaf, seed, and wood samples and took a written quiz on forest ecosystems and forestry skills used in forest management.



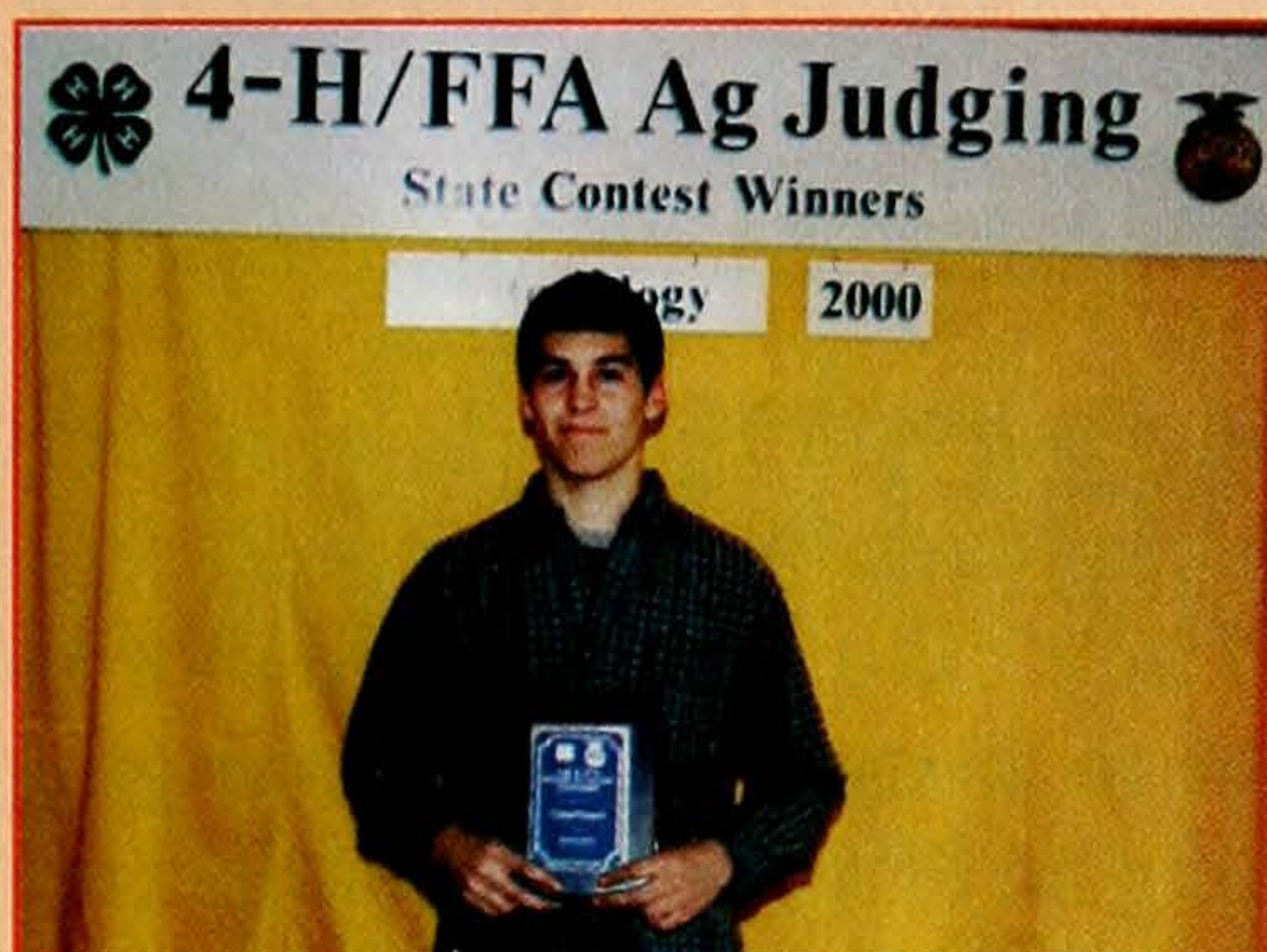
Triton Central FFA, first place Forestry team.

plement Events

by: Erin Menchhofer

Flying into the Future

The State FFA Entomology Career Development Event was held at Purdue University in West Lafayette. Members identified 50 insect or insect related specimens by common name and order/class, and a written quiz. We would like to thank **FMC Corporation** for sponsoring this Career Development Event.



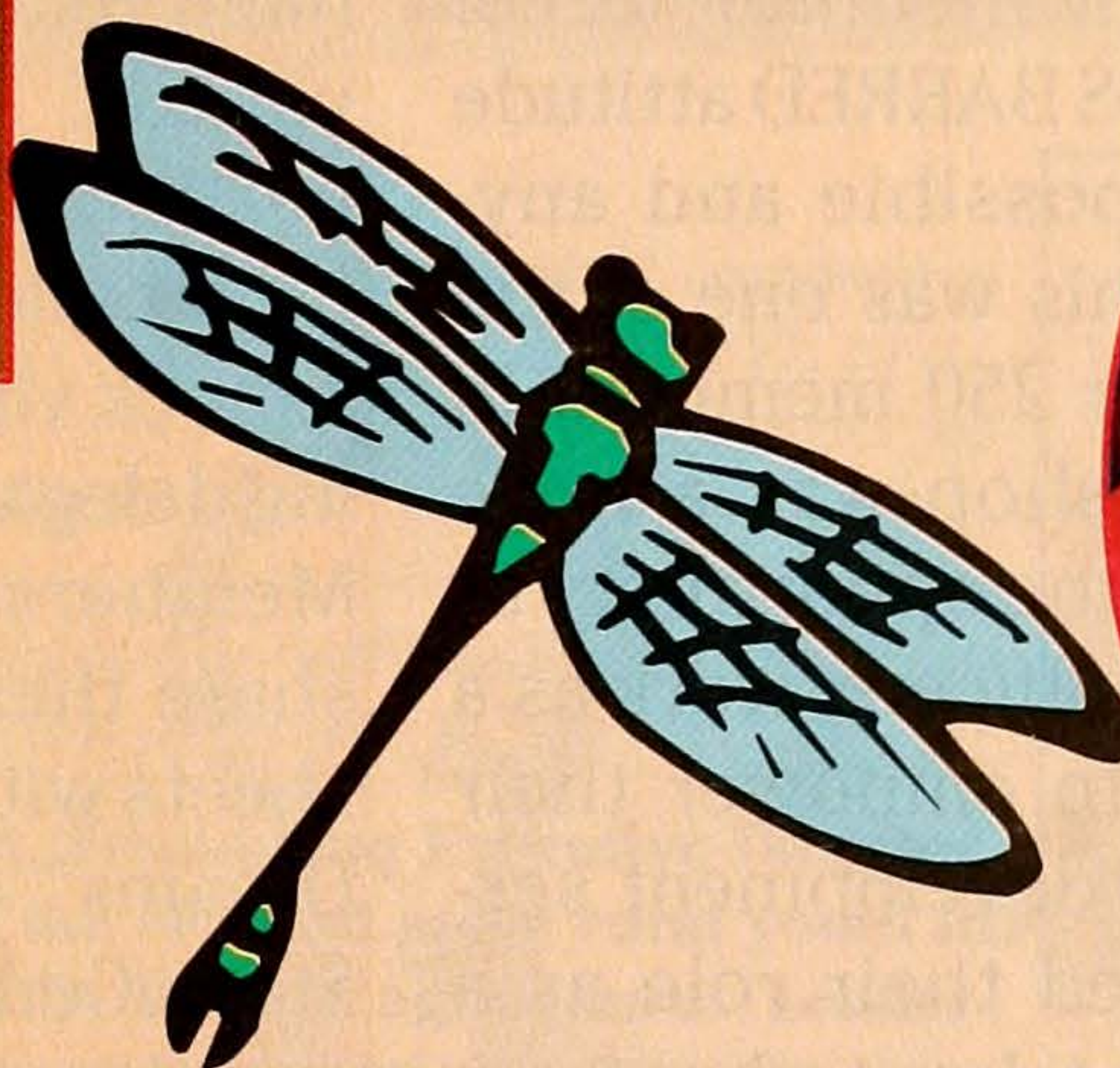
Jared Stitz, first place Entomology individual.

Top 4 Teams:

- 1st - Oak Hill, Coach Marvin Green
- 2nd - John Glenn, Advisor Leon Verhaeghe
- 3rd - Huntington North, Advisor Robert Bowker
- 4th - Batesville, Advisor Steve Shaw

Top 4 Individuals:

- 1st - Jared Stitz, Oak Hill
- 2nd - Clayton Thomas, John Glenn
- 3rd - Ryan Hovermale, Oak Hill
- 4th - Nick Gresslev, Huntington North



FFA members studying insects for proper identification.

Healthy Lifestyles

by: Rajean Robertson

Health is defined as the physical, mental, social, and emotional well being of an individual. It is not defined solely as the absence of disease. A person's health status is based on their level of health and disease in that individual. Nearly 60% of a person's health status is determined by their lifestyle, health beliefs, and personal decisions. Their genetic make-up determines 20% and their environment determines the other 20%. This shows that a person's health status is predominately a personal responsibility.

Eating a balanced diet is essential and also a major part in maintaining a good health status. A balanced diet with a variety of nutritious foods is necessary for growth and energy to help us do well in school. Students who do not get the right amounts of healthy foods are more susceptible to illness, which causes them to miss school frequently. These students also have trouble staying awake in school and concentrating on their work.

Our bodies need many different kinds of food because each food has specific nutrients. For example: Bread = energy, B Vitamins, and Minerals; Fruits and Vegetables = Vitamins A and C; Milk = Calcium; and, Meats = Protein and Minerals. Also remember that calories are actually good for a person in certain amounts. Often times calories are confused for being fattening. A calorie is actually a unit of measure; it measures the energy in food. The more active a person is, the more calories he consumes.

Here is a chart to give you a guideline on the amount of calories in some foods. (All the amounts equal 100 calories)

Green Beans	3 cups	Vegetable Soup	1 1/4 cup
Celery Sticks	33 sticks	Egg	1 (large, fried)
Baked Potato	1 (small)	Peanut Butter	1 Tablespoon
Oreos	2 cookies	Cola	8 oz.
Butter	1 Tablespoon	Bacon	3 strips
Apple	1 (large)	Sugar	2 Tablespoons

Amount of time required to burn 100 Calories (all times are in minutes)

Talking	20	Resting in Bed	100
Bicycling	10	Walking up stairs	4
Swimming	8	Standing	50
Gymnastics	5	Playing Basketball	10

If you have an idea that you would like to see in the next *Healthy Lifestyle* article, please contact the State Officer house via phone, (317)878-5367, or email: inffaso@aol.com.

Premier Leaders Developed During Weekend Workshop

Leadership Development Workshop 2001

By: Karissa Hedrick

At the 2001 Leadership Development Workshop, each member developed a NO HOLDS BARRED attitude meaning anything is possible and anything could happen. This was one of the largest LDWs with over 250 members in attendance. The workshop was a huge success! Members had the opportunity to develop themselves as officers, work as a team, and learn how to empower their chapter. In the officer development sessions, members learned their role as a chapter leader, what it takes to be an effective leader, how to set goals for themselves, and how to recruit and motivate their chapter members. After the team development sessions ended, members knew how to effectively work as a team, communicate among themselves, and resolve conflict. And finally the chapter empowerment sessions allowed the students to communicate the FFA Story,

promote diversity in their chapter, and build relations with businesses and individuals. They also had the chance to participate in many activities ranging from building an FFA alien, to conducting a mock visit with a business and to learning delegation through the chicken dance. Members also had the opportunity to share their goals and dreams by signing sheets with the state theme "Dancing with Dreams" on it that will be displayed at State Convention. Finally the weekend was drawn to a close with a "Leadership Luau" banquet.



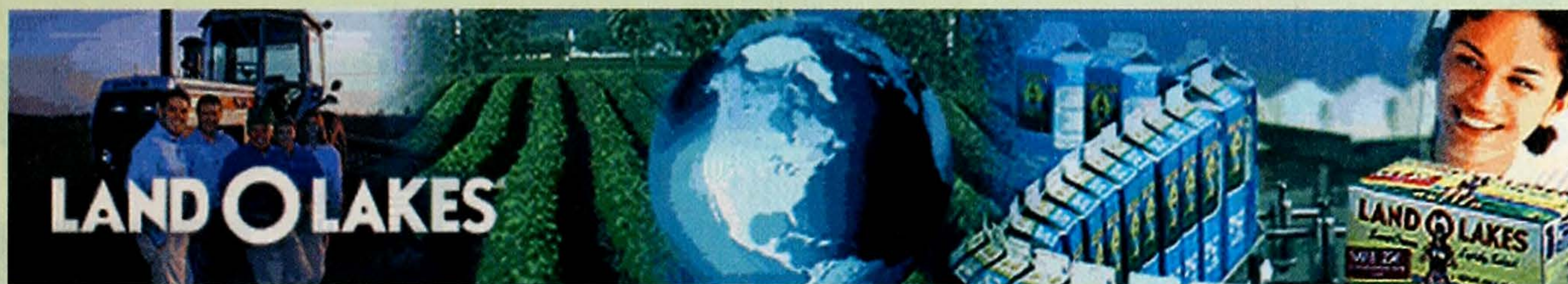
Members had the opportunity to sign a sheet sharing their dreams and goals to be displayed again at State Convention with the state theme.



The most Unified team of the weekend was the Hamilton Southeastern FFA Chapter.



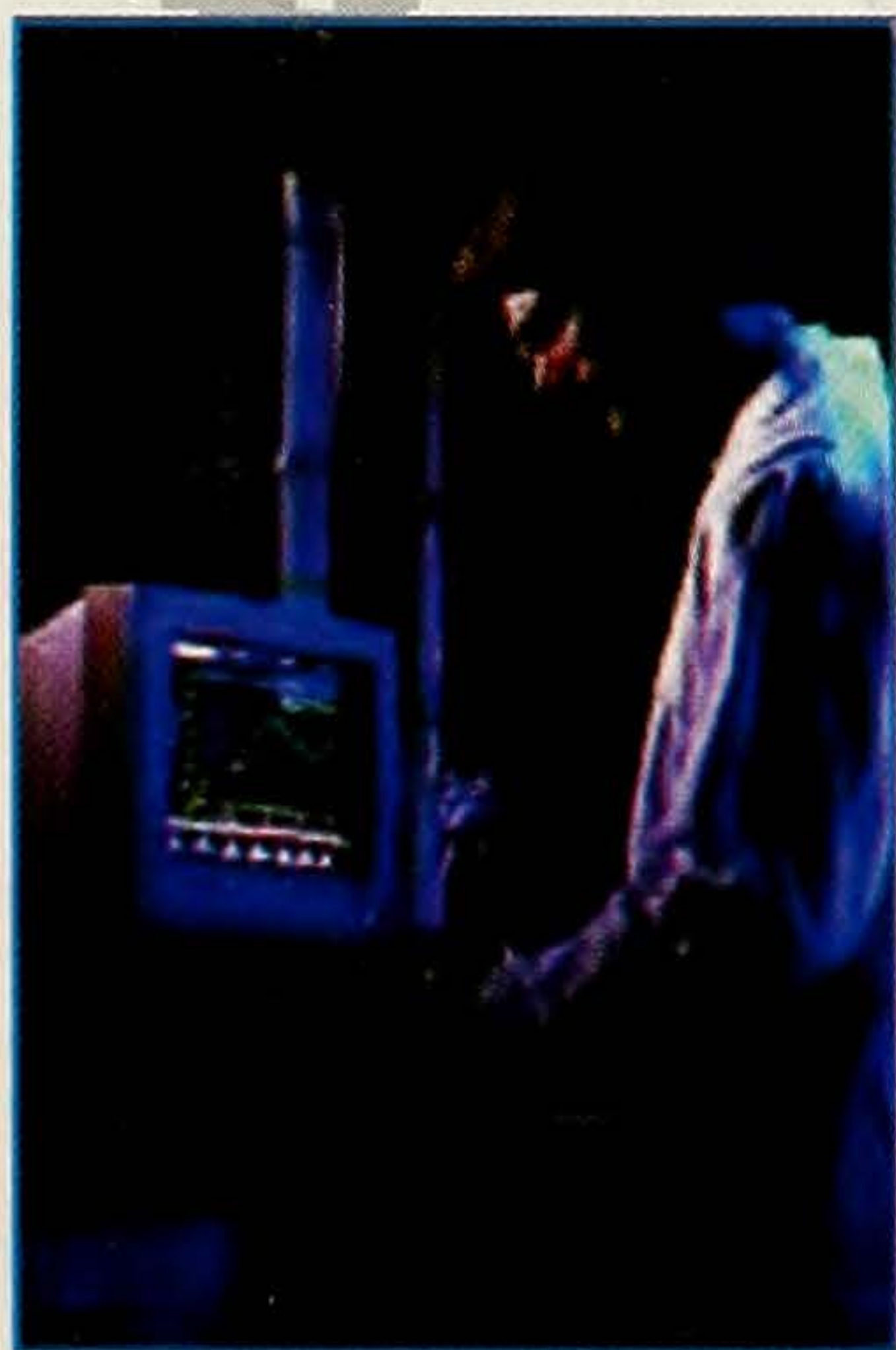
The most Enthusiastic team of the weekend was the Seeger Memorial FFA Chapter.



Partner in Leadership

Indiana FFA's success depends on the valued support of companies like Land O Lakes. Proudly, Land O Lakes partners with FFA to develop leadership in rural youth right here in Indiana, as well as across the nation. As partial sponsors of the Agricultural Leadership Academy, Land O Lakes assists the FFA in offering international experiences to Indiana youth. With their continued support, our organization will continue to allow students to reach their full potential.

In the words of Mrs. Bonnie Bassett, Foundation Executive Director, "Land O Lakes is proud to support the FFA and assist rural youth in developing their potential to lead the field of agriculture. Leadership development, the focus of our company's giving programs, goes hand in hand with the principles of the FFA. Together, our partnership will open doors of opportunity to thousands of young people." Mrs. Bassett, who has a degree in Journalism and English Literature from Bemidji State University in Minnesota, worked her way up through the company to her current position within the foundation. Instrumental in the development of the FFA partnership, Mrs. Bassett received her Honorary American FFA Degree onstage last October at National FFA Convention. She advised members to get involved in as many activities as possible. "From Washington Leadership Conference to Career Development Events, active members in the FFA receive a broader view of our world which will give them extra opportunities in the future." Extra opportunities that might include the chance to work at Land O Lakes.



As a nationwide leader in the agricultural industry, Land O Lakes is the #1 animal feed manufacturer in the United States, with annual sales of feed and dairy products totaling over \$5.6 billion. With an unyielding commitment to quality, Land O Lakes continues to be on the cutting edge of technology within the dairy and feed industry. Over 100 scientists work at the Answer Farm, a research facility located in the Midwest, to develop new products such as Power Pro Whey Proteins or Kosher Dairy Ingredients. Starting off as a midwestern dairy cooperative in the early 1920's, the company is now owned by more than 12,000 family farmers in 30 states. As a result of the increased diversity, job opportunities abound in areas ranging from sales and marketing, to agronomy, to even animal and plant research scientists. FFA members would have an upper hand on other job applicants because of their experience in these areas through proficiencies and Career Development Events.

As FFA members continue to progress towards future leadership in agriculture, Land O Lakes will remain a vital partner in our success. Their company will challenge us to work with them "with determination and pride to continue our commitment to serve farmers, rural America, and our customers."

By: Liza Moore

Building Leaders

Agricultural Leaders
Challenge FFA Members
to Fulfill Their Potential



Heartland Growers

Sponsor of State Fair Plant Sale Representative:
Nick Gapinski

"Take advantage of life's opportunities and develop yourself by attending college. You all possess a wealth of ideas and innovations to share with the business world. Put your personal touch on anything you do with pride."

~Nick Gapinski



Dow Agrosciences

Sponsor of Diversified Environmental Science Technologies Proficiency Executive Committee Funds, Summer Leadership Project Impact, and Saturday Evening Session Representative

"Adjust to change and learn to welcome it. Remain open to new ideas, but be prepared to defend your own ideals. Those who are prepared to work hard and communicate their ideas will succeed in the business world of the future."

~Doug Vawter

"As a company, we seek out individuals with character and work ethic, as well as leadership. Through your involvement in the FFA, you are developing the persistence to compete in the workplace."

~Robert Kalton



Pioneer Hi-Bred International

Sponsor of State Convention Thursday Morning Session, Top 30 Chapters, and Fall Orientation Camp
Representatives of Pioneer Hi-Bred International

Key Qualities

Agriculture Leaders seek

Leadership

Communication

Character

Willingness

Involvement

Persistence

Honesty

Open to

Teamwork

Efficiency

Goal

Partnership for the Future

By: Liza
Moore



Sciences

Top Entrepreneur, Emerging Agriculture
es; State Convention
cheon, Lily Matching
ip Camp, Crops CDE,
Convention Wednes-

Doug Vawter

"It's not what you know, but your willingness to learn. If you remain willing to discover new ideas, you will continue to grow as a person. The FFA allows you to lay a foundation of learning and experience to build upon."

~Bruce Bye



ELANCO Animal Health

Sponsor of Premier Leadership Training
Retreat and State Stars Video
Representatives of Elanco Animal Health

THANK YOU for your support of FFA

"When we first began work on the Fellowship Center, I knew little about the FFA and its membership. As I witnessed the hard work and positive attitude displayed by all the members as they worked on this project, I grew to love the organization. You all have special opportunities within this great organization. Stay involved and let the FFA impact your life."

~Chuck Johnson

Qualities

Successful employees

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Integrity

Creative

Work Ethic

Dependable

Responsible



First American Enterprises

Sponsor of the Fellowship Center
Representatives: Chuch and Diane Johnson, and Brett Wolfe

Animal Science - What's in it for me?

by: Kyle Kohlhausen

Welcome to yet another NEW section to the Indiana FFA Newsletter, "Agricultural Careers Today - What's in it for me?" This article features agricultural career opportunities and the educational requirements, which are connected to them. The first issue is a personal interview with Purdue University Department of Animal Sciences in West Lafayette, Indiana.

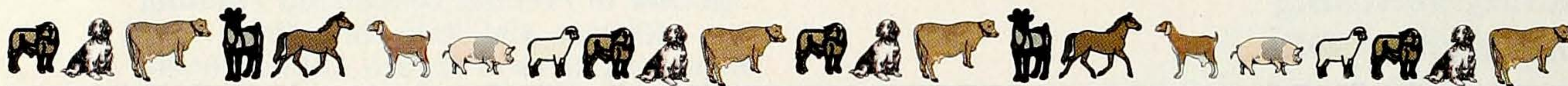
"Agriculture... a world of opportunity." The industry ranges from Food Science to Agricultural Systems Management. And yet another growing area of agriculture is Animal Sciences. Careers in Animal Sciences include veterinary medicine, product research, business managers, and livestock production.



Dr. Diane Moody, a researcher at Purdue, measuring RNA samples of pig muscle.

"Animal Science seems to have extreme diversity in not only its objectives, but in the type of people it attracts," says Trent Fredenburg, 1996-97 State FFA President & current Animal Sciences student at Purdue. "Their backgrounds range from downtown Indianapolis & Chicago to those raised on a family farm. Surprisingly, a large percentage of animal science graduates come from urban backgrounds."

Students have several options they can choose from within the Department of Animal Sciences. The first area would be *Animal Sciences*. Students research nutrition, growth, development, genetics, reproduction, and management of animals. It has two specialty areas, *Biotechnology* and *Pre-Veterinary Medicine*. *Biotechnology* deals with such areas as pharmaceutical industries and molecular biology or biochemistry. *Pre-Veterinary Medicine* is the science that deals with the recognition, treatment, control, and prevention of diseases. It prepares students for Purdue's School of Veterinary Medicine. Another area is *Animal Agribusiness*, which allows a student to go into careers such as sales and services, business management, economics, livestock representatives, insurance companies, and public relations. If you enjoy meeting people and possess good communication skills, then this is the career for you. *Animal Products*, still another area of Animal Sciences, includes possible jobs such as product research and development, quality control technicians, process supervisors and sales, and graders and inspectors of products. And finally, the area of *Animal Production* is the production and management of beef, dairy, fish, horse, poultry, sheep, and swine production enterprises. This includes employment as field or service representatives, livestock salesman or buyers, and extension educators. All these study options have several requirements in common, such as animal nutrition, physiology, genetics, animal management and animal products courses. You can see that Animal Sciences is for you!



Purdue University Department of Animal Sciences

Do you wish to start a career in Animal Sciences? Well, Purdue University is the key to your door. It has several options of study and gives its students hands-on experiences beyond the classroom.

One example of a hands-on training at Purdue is the laboratory. "Research is a very large part of Animal Sciences," says Dr. Diane Moody, a genetic researcher at Purdue University. "I spend about 80% of my time in research, most in the laboratory. Computers allow us to gain precise data on hundreds of genes." David Morris, a past FFA member, also loves to work in the lab. "Much of my work deals with genetics and muscle gene expressions in different animals. I enjoy it. It is very necessary to go into a field that you will enjoy."

Sarah Stewart, an Animal Science Ambassador, stated one of the reasons she went into the Department of Animal Sciences, "This department really cares about its students. If Animal Sciences is something you are not interested in, they will be sure to put you into the right department."

Another opportunity for hands-on learning is The Animal Sciences Research and Education Center (ASREC). It provides animals, facilities, and labor to conduct research, provide instruction, and assist in extension education activities. It also helps students experience what they are learning in real-life situations as well as hosts nearly 100 tours annually for other groups. It has six units, including aquaculture, beef, dairy, poultry, sheep, and swine. Many students work part-time in these units, doing jobs such as shearing sheep or analyzing hen eggs. Other areas of the ASREC include the USDA Livestock Behavior Lab, Farm Operations, Feed Mill, Little Pine Watershed Project, and the Wetlands Study.

"In addition to working at ASREC, many students complete internships and student employment opportunities in the summer," explained Mr. Barry Delks, Coordinator of Career Services of the Department of Animal Sciences. "The students graduating in Animal Sciences had nearly 100% job placement in 2000 and earned an average of \$30,000 as a beginning salary."

For more information about the Purdue University Department of Animal Sciences, contact:

Dr. Jeff D. Armstrong
Department Head of Animal Sciences
1151 Lilly Hall, Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1151
Phone: (765)-494-4808
Fax: (765) 494-9346
E-mail: jarmstr5@purdue.edu

Dr. Mark A. Diekman
Undergraduate Program Coordinator
1151 Lilly Hall, Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1151
Phone: (765) 494-4829
Fax: (765) 494-9346
E-mail: mdiekman@purdue.edu



Exchangin' notes with Erin

Meet Your 2000-2001
State Southern Region
Vice President

**** How has your family influenced your life?**

My family has influenced every inch of my life. They are my source of strength and support me in all that I do. Whether it was learning how to share toys with my sister or appreciating what I have, my parents have instilled the values I need to be a responsible young adult. I have also been greatly influenced by my family's ardent Catholic beliefs. I love my family and thank them for all of the encouragement provided throughout the years.



**** What are sources that you draw from for inspiration?**

There are many places that I turn to for inspiration. I draw from past experiences the most. I have grown stronger through the adversities that I have faced in my life. Another source of inspiration is music. I have always enjoyed listening to and making music - it stemmed from watching my mom play the piano throughout my childhood. Music has a way of saying what you are feeling...



The Menchhofer Family Grandkids

**** What FFA memory stands out most in your mind?**

I have numerous memories from my years in FFA. One experience that stands out the most in my mind is our chapter retreat to Gatlinburg, Tennessee during my Senior year. It allowed me the opportunity to share hopes and concerns with fellow members for the upcoming years. I would like to take this time to thank my chapter for their support and friendship. I love you guys!



Purdue

SCHS

Fast Facts:

Full Name: Erin Mary Menchhofer

Age: 18

Birthdate: July 29, 1982

Parents: Glen and Joan

Nicknames: E, Ern, and Mench

Sibling: Jenna, age 16

Hometown: Osgood

Chapter: Switzerland County

Advisors: Greg Curlin and Kyle Weaver

Favorite Hobbies: Reading and singing
(I drive my 'lil sis crazy with my singing!)

Favorite Musical Group:

It's a Tie!! BBMak and SheDaisy

SAE: Diversified Livestock Production

Little Known Fact: Co-owner of

Double M Farms with younger sister

College Intentions: Purdue University

(Go Boilers!!!)

Major: Agricultural Economics

Up Coming Events in Indiana FFA

March

- 1 Chapter Award Applications due to State FFA Office
- 12 Section Chapter Meeting Contest, Sites TBA
- 15 District Proficiency Winners Applications (including 2000 and all previous district winners who are still eligible to apply) Due Postmarked to State FFA Office
- 20 American FFA Degree Applications Due Post marked to State FFA Office

April

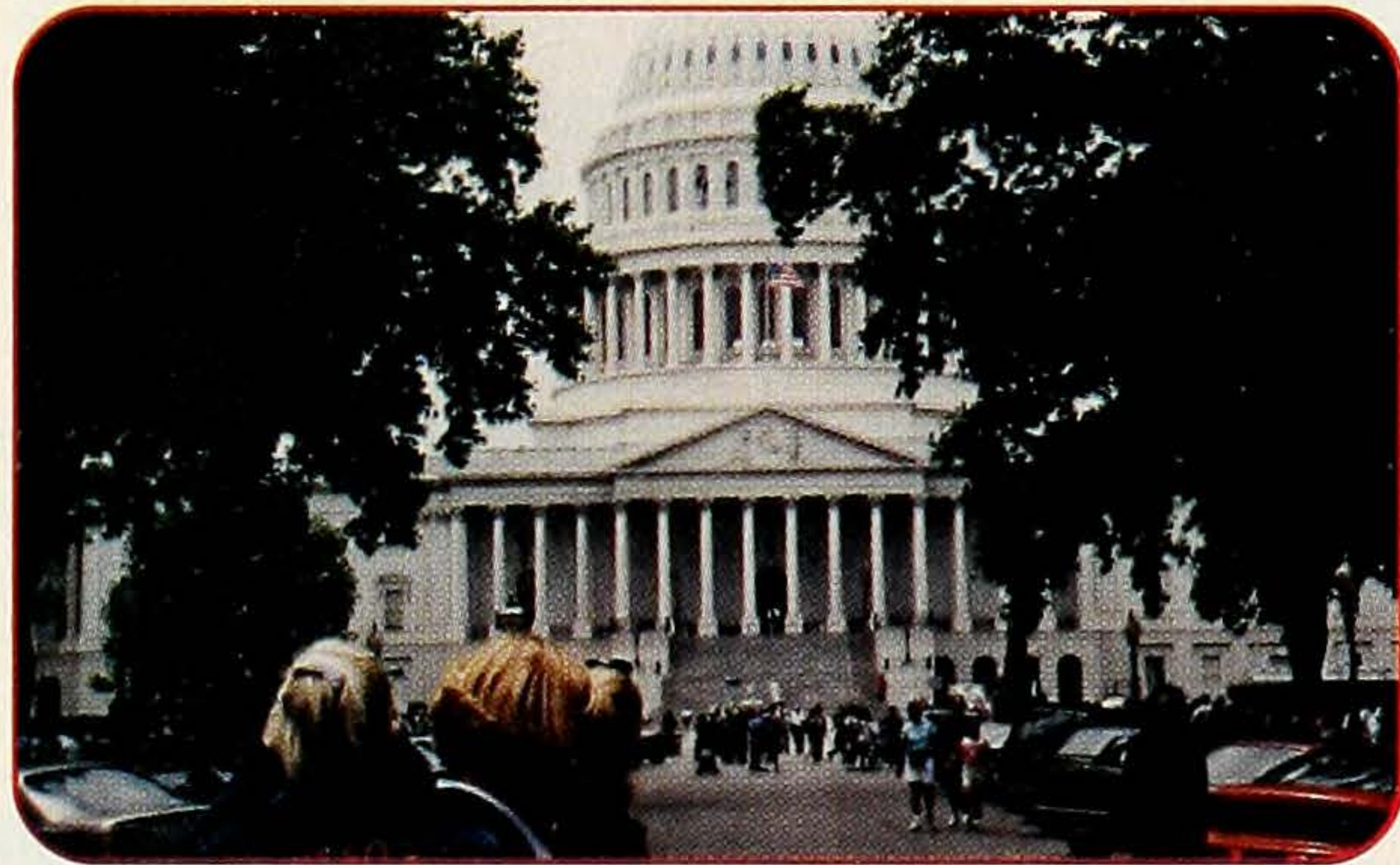
- 7 Wildlife Habitat Contest
- 9 State Farm Business Management CDE, Site TBA
- State Welding CDE, Sites TBA
- 21 Indiana FFA Foundation Monster Rec Day, Indiana FFA Leadership Center
- 22 State FFA Executive Committee Meeting @ FFA Leadership Center, 9 am State Officer Candidates & Guest Open House @ FFA Leadership Center, 3 pm

MARCH/APRIL

Why WLC?

By: Justin Moneyheffer

Why Washington Leadership Conference? The question to you is why not? This is no ordinary leadership experience. You will spend a week putting leadership, teamwork, and communication skills into practice as you make new friends from across the United States, tour our nation's capital, and visit with members of Congress. This action-packed week will help you gain self-confidence and leadership skills to take back to your FFA chapter and share with other members! If you are interested in all FFA has to offer, then don't miss this best conference ever. This year's trip will be June 24-July 1 with room for fifty members. So remember to ask your advisor how you can attend this outstanding conference. Applications need be postmarked May 1, 2001. One thing is for sure, you WILL HAVE A BLAST!



"To see all the sights that you always hear about along with the leadership skills gained is just undescrivable. It really motivates you to get others involved in FFA."

Doug Kingseed
Oak Hill FFA

"I enjoyed the opportunity to leave home and make new friends all over the country to whom I still keep in contact."

Ryan Upchurch
Shenandoah FFA



FarmHouse Fraternity

Where will you live at Purdue?

FarmHouse is a fraternity dedicated to the building of men. It's a college home where a man can succeed in academics, express creativity, share responsibilities, make lasting friendships, and make a positive impact on the lives of his brothers. **Rush FarmHouse today!**

Spring Rush will be March 2nd and 3rd and 24th and 25th.

For more information, contact FH Recruitment Chairmen Robert Johnson and Matt Schaefer:
johnso50@purdue.edu, and hero@purdue.edu

FarmHouse Fraternity
1028 State Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906
765-743-4681

www.farmhouse.west-lafayette.in.us

FH

FFA and FarmHouse - a winning tradition!



Fast Facts:

Full Name: Rajean Michelle Robertson

Nicknames: Jean, U-Genie, Raba, and Bean

Age: 18

Birthday: July 30, 1982

Parents: Jim and Teresa

Siblings: Lisa ~ 21; Katie ~ 19

Advisor: Mrs. Pam Meyer

Chapter: Southwestern Shelby County

Hometown: Shelbyville, IN

Favorite Food: Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich

Favorite Music: Country

Hobbies: I love to get my clarinet out and play songs from high school.

Meet Your 2000-2001 State FFA Treasurer



"Smile ~ It's the first thing people like about you!"

What was your Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program?

My SAE program was developed with the help of my sisters. We began raising and showing registered Dorset sheep ten years ago in the 4-H program, so naturally that's where my SAE started. We have 10 breeding ewes, and raise an average of 20 lambs each year.

What are your plans after you complete your state officer term?

I have always enjoyed working with younger children and that has helped me decide on my future plans. I will be attending Indiana State University located in Terre Haute, IN, in the fall of 2001. I will major in Elementary Education with an endorsement in Special Education. I then plan to teach on the third grade level in a small school corporation.



What is one of the most important things in your life?

My family is definitely the most important thing in my life. From the time I took my first step to the time I walked across the state convention stage, my parents have been there for me every step I have taken. I also have two older sisters that have been some of my biggest supporters and my best friends. (They have also been my partners in crime!)



Indiana FFA License Plates



Have you bought your license plate this year?? The plates are incredibly easy to purchase. They are available at your local BMV at any time. There are always FFA plates in stock, so there is no forms to fill out or time to wait!



The plate costs 27 dollars (in addition to your regular plate fees), and the Indiana FFA Foundation will receive 25 dollars back. By purchasing your very own FFA license plate, you will be supporting one of the greatest youth organizations in high schools today!

Investing in the Leadership of Tomorrow

Each year, the Indiana FFA Association is fortunate to have a long list of agricultural businesses and individuals that support our programs. We would like to take this opportunity to thank these partners for helping to better prepare students for the future, and develop their premier leadership, personal growth and career success skills. Below is a list of partners who have made a contribution from July 1, 2000 through January 1, 2001.

Blue & Gold 3-Star

\$10,000 - 24,999

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Blue & Gold 2-Star

\$5,000-9,999

Dow AgroSciences

Commissioner of Agriculture- Value Added Grant

Indiana Soybean Board

License Plate Sales

Marion County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Valerie James Memorial

Blue & Gold 1-Star

\$2,500-4,999

Agri Business Group

Battersby & Associates

Doug Vawter

Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc

Steve Hageman

Executive Gold

\$1,000-2,499

Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity

Berne Apparel Co.

Dean Foods

Farm Credit Services Mid America

Foremost Farms USA

Indiana Horse Council Association

Larry Davis

Lincoln FFA Chapter

Merrill Fence & Company

National FFA Organization

Parke County Natural Stone

Shenandoah FFA Chapter

Swanson Excavating

Weldy Enterprises

Gold

\$500-999

Agri America Network

Alltrista Consumer Products

Beck's Superior Hybrids

Mary Becher (In memory of Ambrose Becher)

Central Soya Company Inc.

Citizens Bank

Consolidated Grain and Barge Co.

Dave's Painting

Thomas and Amy Dougherty

Forest Park FFA Chapter

Gary Geswein

Helena Chemical Co.

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.

Hy-Line International

Indiana Association of SWCD

Indiana Beef Cattle Association

Indiana Packers Corporation

Kosciusko County Foundation

Reynolds Farm Equipment

Rick Nagel (In memory of Jerry Nagel)

Rita Nagel (In memory of Jerry Nagel)

Tyson Foods

United Feeds

Wood-Mizer

Silver

\$250-499

Brown Land & Hog

Farm Bureau Insurance

Halderman Farm M

IAAE

Indiana Christmas

North Miami FFA C

Don Orr

Indiana State Poultry

Robert and Francen

Kent Feeds

Midwest Poultry Se

Ramsey Popcorn

Matt & Melissa Re

River View Farms

Ron Sheldon and Fa

Rose Acres Farms

Southmont FFA Cha

Triton Central FFA

Tuthill Transport T

Bronze

\$50-249

Agra Placements In

Anthony Bailey

Bartholomew Cou

Baxter Communica

Benton Central FFA

Beverly Hankenhof

Bill & Marilyn McVa

Bill Ruppel

Bittersweet Baughn

Brian and Judy Ega

Nagel)

Buchanan Hauling &

Briggs Equipment, I

Investing in the Leadership of Tomorrow

Would you like to add your name to this list? If you are interested in making a contribution to the Indiana FFA Foundation, please call Mr. Rick Nagel, Indiana FFA Foundation Executive Director, at 317-878-5464, or send monetary donations to PO Box 9, Trafalgar, IN, 46181. What better way to invest in the future of agriculture than through the Indiana FFA?

Chris Geswein
 Carroll @ Ft. Wayne FFA Chapter
 Catherine & Robert Hanna (In memory of
 Jerry Nagel)
 Cindy Hoye
 Damon Allen
 David and Gwen Dougherty
 David and Janet Esteb
 David and Susan Sheets
 David BechmanDennis and Rebecca Caffee
 Denny and Millie Mathew (In memory of
 Valerie James)
 Donald Cummings, LLP
 Dorothy Winchester
 Ed & Joan Heckman
 Elanco Animal Health
 Gerald Runyan
 Harold James (In memory of Valerie James)
 Indian Creek FFA Chapter
 Jackson Township Farm Bureau
 Jeff Wise
 Jerry Peters
 Jodee Ruppel
 John & Sheila Heidenreich (In memory of
 Carrie Clayburn)
 Kenneth Meyers
 Kristina and Sydney Dobson (In memory of
 Jerry Nagel)
 Linda Eller (In memory of Jeff Eller)
 Linda Maxie
 Lonnie Mason
 Mark Timm
 Maxine Montgomery
 Norval & Jean Poyser
 Pam Geswein
 Paul & Kathie Donaldson
 Peace Learning Center

Richard and Melody Warner (In memory of
 Trevin Warner)
 Robert and Eileen Meyerholtz
 Roger Knight
 Ruth James (In memory of Valerie James)
 Seyferts
 Smith Implements, Inc.
 Specialty Hybrids
 Springs Valley FFA Chapter
 Steve & Lori Atkinson
 Stevenson's Point (In memory of Jeff Eller)
 Tony and Barb Carrell Family
 US Marine Corps
 Wayne Williams

Contributors

\$149

Abby Dougherty
 Anonymous (In memory of Valerie James)
 B. Charles Kerkhove, Jr.
 Benton Central FFA Chapter
 Clinton Prairie FFA Chapter
 Debbie Harling
 District 1 FFA
 Eric Steiner
 George Harrell
 Jennifer Maruszewski
 Jody Brinker
 Kankakee Valley FFA Chapter
 Lakeland FFA Chapter
 Leon Gray
 Marlin Morris
 Prairie Heights FFA Chapter
 Robert & Norma Lou Pfledderer
 Ryan West
 Thomas and Joy Atkinson
 Westview High School

Still **WANTED!** All Past State Officers

The Indiana FFA is still in search of these PSOs. We wish to stay in contact with 100% of all PSOs and update them with the newest information about the Indiana FFA. Your help is appreciated!

Victor Stine, 1936-38	Eugene Penn, 1952-53
William Prather, 1941-43	Ray Brewer, 1953-54
Herbert Dillon, 1941-43	Norman Miller, 1957-58
Raymond Smith, 1941-42	David Davis, 1958-59
Paul Appel, 1942-44	Melvin Mathias, 1958-59
Donald Conrad, 1944-45	Jim Lane, 1961-62
Gene Prather, 1944-45	Doyle Palmer, 1961-62
Charles Wilson, 1945-46	Scott Crouch, 1987-88
Delbert Kracht, 1946-47	Herschel Richie, 1987-88
William Woods, 1949-51	Krista Fritz-Schuman, 1989-90
George Shunk, 1952-53	Bill Hall, 1990-91

Know ANY information about these PSOs?
Then please contact:

Rick Nagel, Indiana FFA Foundation Director
P.O. Box 9
Trafalgar, IN 46181
(317) 878-5464
ricknagel@mindspring.com

**THANK
YOU!**

"A Legacy of Leaders"

Indiana FFA Past State Officers - Where are they now?

Irvin Schenck, 1939-40

*State President and
1940-41 State Vice*

President, serves in

several governmental

*positions and served as Indiana's first National
President in 1941-42.*

Richard Hanna, 1939-40 State Vice President,
still is actively involved in the production of
corn, soybeans, and wheat in Martinsville,
Indiana.

Mac Martin, 1956-57 State Vice President, has a
career as an agronomist and a sales person in
Walton, Indiana.

Stan Metzger, 1966-67 State President, today
owns a large garden and works as a mail carrier
in Murtaugh, Idaho.

**David Kesler, 1966-
67 State Treasurer,**
now has a career in
the floral design
industry in Seattle,
Washington.

*John and George King were
brothers serving on the same
officer team in 1957-58.*

*"The FFA teaches its members
to do their best in all aspects
of their lives."*

*- Robert Roupp,
1939-41 State Secretary*

MONSANTO

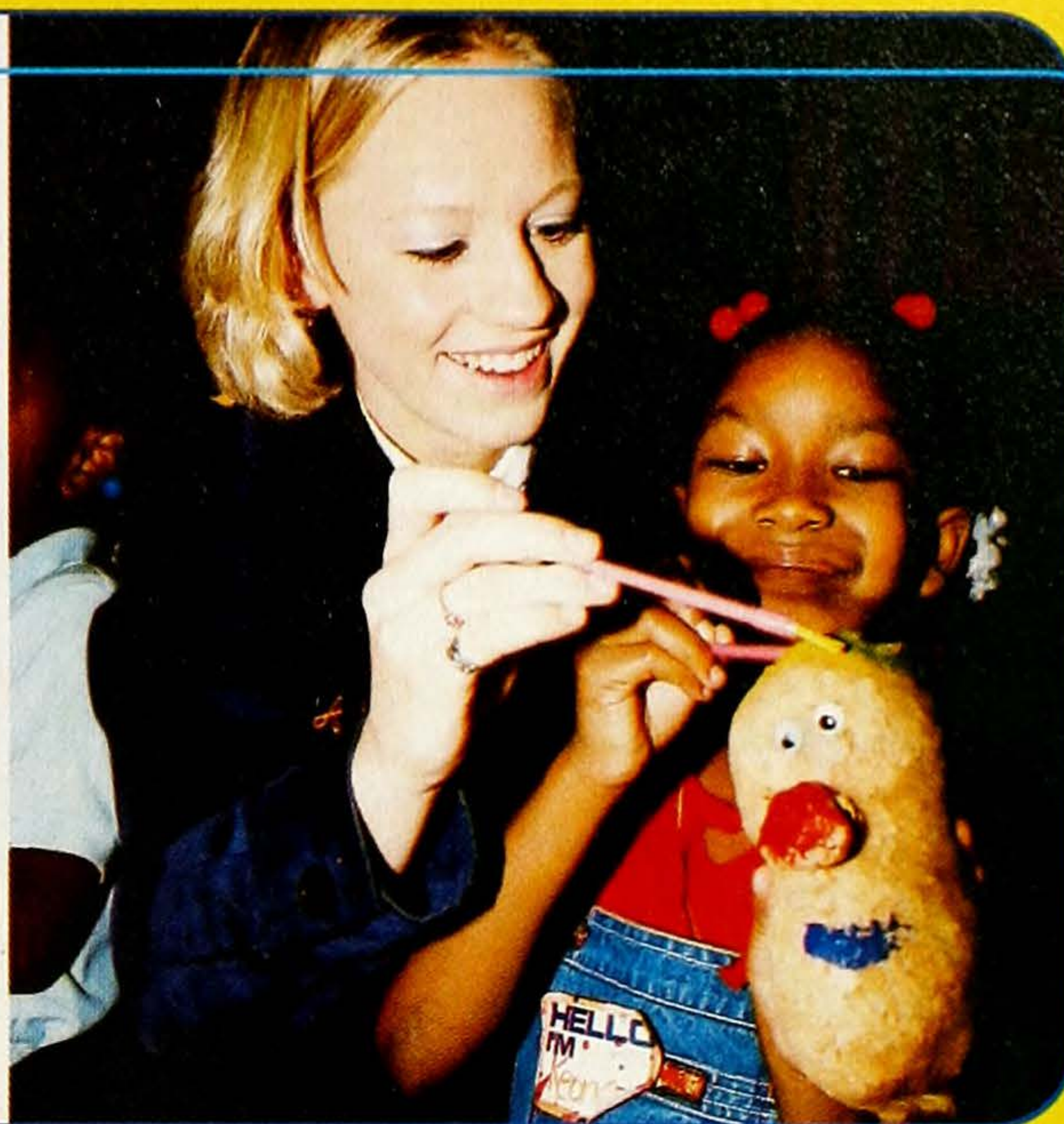


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be a pal!

You can make a positive difference in the life a child



As many of you already know, FFA members involved in Partners in Active Learning Support (Project PALS) have one thing in common—a commitment to serving others. PALS is a mentoring program in which high school agriculture students partner with elementary school students to promote self-esteem, agriculture literacy and human development.

Since its kickoff by the National FFA Organization in 1991, PALS has grown from a small pilot program with 167 mentors in two pilot states to more than 10,000 mentors representing 1,000 FFA chapters in rural, suburban and metropolitan areas nationwide.

“PALS is one of the best things we do because it makes a positive and noticeable difference in the

lives of students, schools and communities,” says Becky Meyer, a teacher services specialist at the National FFA Center in Indianapolis.

PALS mentors are encouraged to meet with their “little” PAL weekly, and hands-on mentoring activities center on building trust and self-confidence. Chapters can use activities provided by the FFA or



PHOTOS BY JIM DI ANGELO

"It's a wonderful experience because you are helping and learning from each other."

design their own, and lesson topics range from agricultural awareness and animal science to plant science and technology.

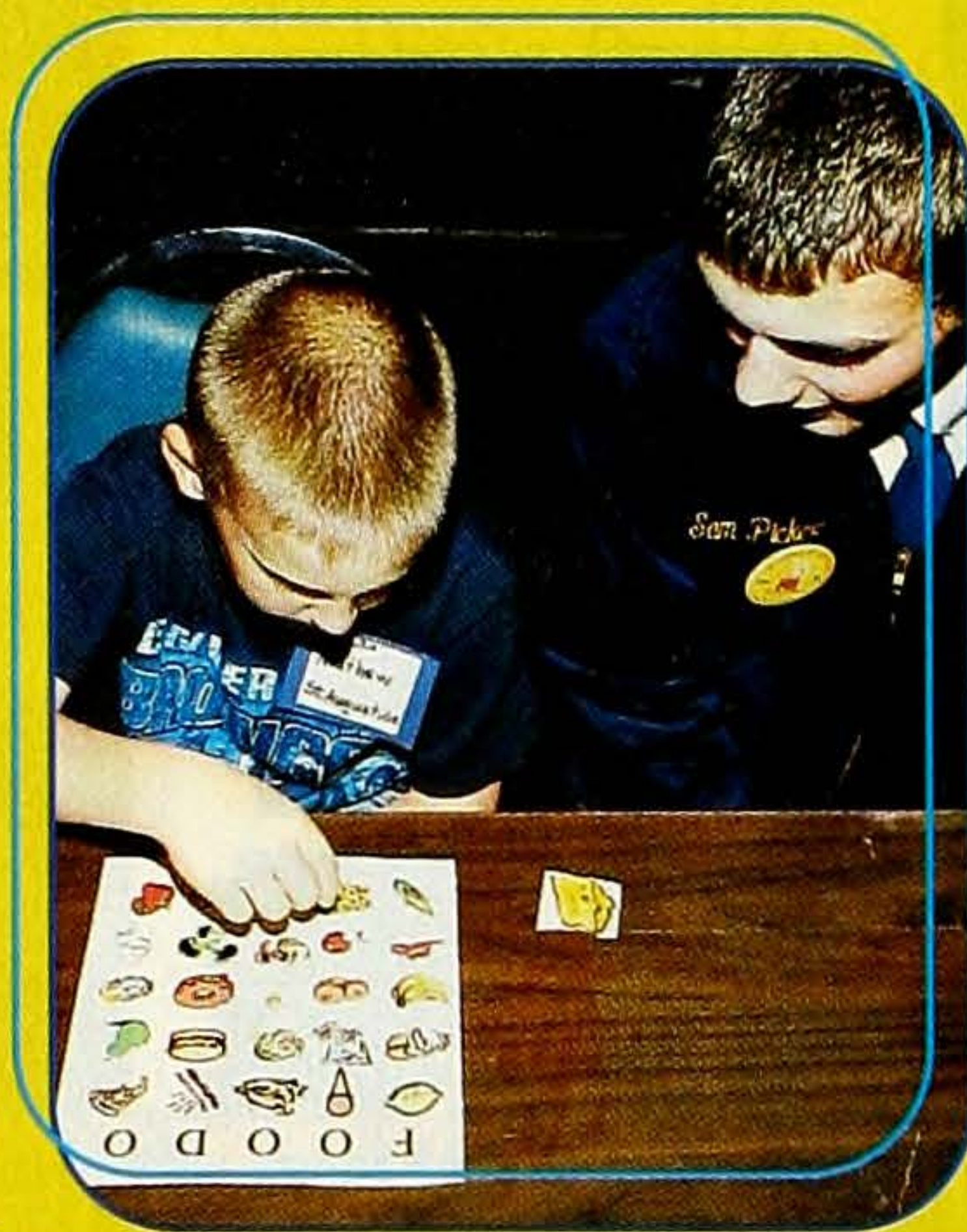
At the Triton Central FFA Chapter in Fairland, Indiana, PALS mentors develop lessons as part of their agricultural leadership class. The Aiken FFA Chapter in Aiken, South Carolina, conducts learn-and-serve activities such as planting a garden with the children and then donating the harvest to a local food bank.

Janette Sanders of the McKean FFA Chapter in Wilmington, Delaware,

is developing a one-day training to certify 400 Boy Scouts in forestry by working with the state forester and other community leaders. The Erie FFA Chapter in Erie, Kansas, has made PALS a top priority with all 65 chapter members participating.

Nicole Retzner, a member of the Triton Central FFA, puts it this way: "It's fun interacting with students, helping them with their lessons and building their self-esteem. It's a wonderful experience because you are helping and learning from each other." ★

Learn more about PALS by visiting www.ffa.org/activities/pals/index.html or contacting Becky Meyer at (317) 802-4262 or bmeyer@ffa.org



Your chapter can start a PALS program by using the following 10-step process:

1. Organize a PALS committee.
2. Create a mission statement to outline goals and objectives.
3. Identify and train FFA members (big PALS).
4. Work with elementary teachers to identify little PALS.
5. Develop a calendar of activities for the PALS program.
6. Obtain resources necessary for activities.
7. Carefully plan and follow through with each activity.
8. Evaluate each activity.
9. Publicize program.
10. Assess program's success and provide opportunities for improvement.

FFA Launches Pilot Program in Agricultural Communications

The National FFA Organization is offering a pilot program experience to FFA members planning on careers in the agricultural communications field. This pilot program is an effort to investigate potential in the provision of pre-professional experiences to FFA members and is sponsored by Rhea & Kaiser Marketing Communications as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The FFA is seeking interested applicants, particularly current high school seniors planning to major in agricultural communications and current college freshman majoring in agricultural communications. Both seniors and college freshman should be active FFA members.

The program experience, June 3-9, 2001, will be a three-day on-site experience working with agricultural communications professionals at the Rhea & Kaiser offices in Naperville, Illinois. The purpose of the experience is to provide participants with a hands-on understanding of the work and skills necessary for success in this exciting career. Participants' travel, room and meal expenses are covered by the pilot project.

The National FFA Organization encourages any qualified FFA member to request a copy of the "Application for the Agricultural Communications Pre-Professional Experience." Requests may be sent to kkeith@ffa.org. Or, a copy may be downloaded by visiting www.ffa.org, accessing the "site index" and looking for "Agricultural Communications Pre-Professional Experience."

Applications are due no later than March 16, 2001. Selections should be completed in early April 2001.

For more information, please contact Kevin Keith, National FFA Organization, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960, (317) 802-4254 or kkeith@ffa.org

what's hot

Female actor _____
Male actor _____
Female singer _____
Male singer _____
TV sitcom _____
TV soap opera _____
Movie (now in theaters) _____
Movie (on video) _____
Baseball team _____
Website _____
Book _____
CD _____

what's not

Female actor _____
Male actor _____
Female singer _____
Male singer _____
TV sitcom _____
TV soap opera _____
Movie (now in theaters) _____
Movie (on video) _____
Baseball team _____
Website _____
Book _____
CD _____

send your
picks to:

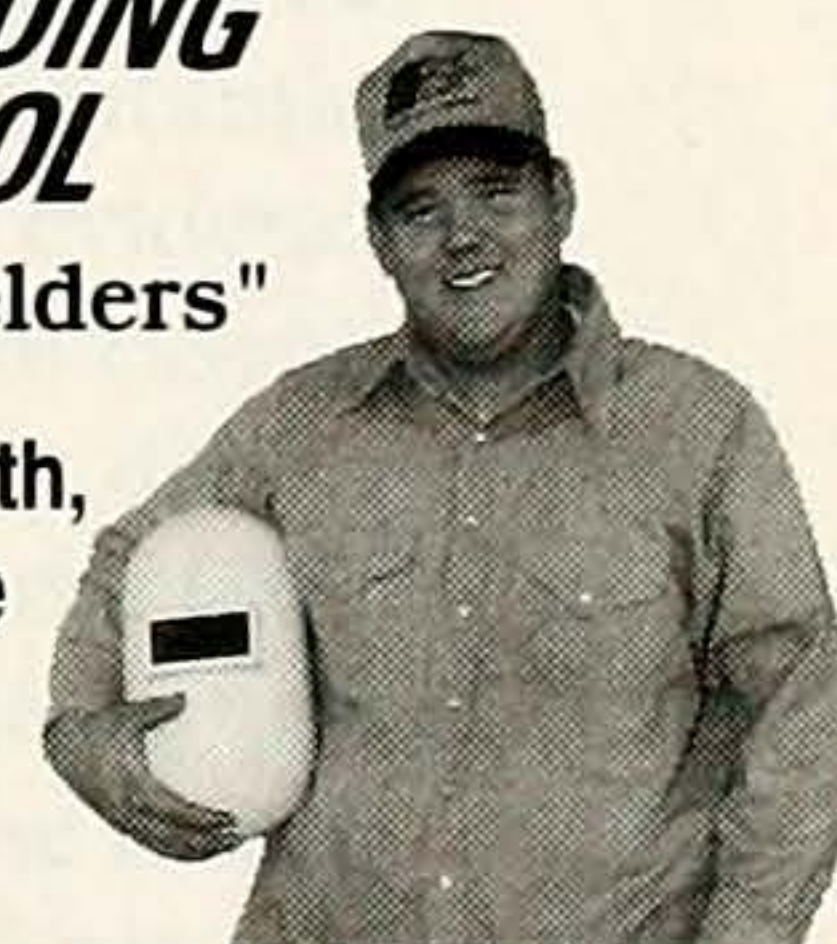
FFA New Horizons
What's Hot
P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN
46268-0960
egaukel@mindspring.com

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Chapter _____
Address _____
City/Town _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

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A snapshot of the U.S. fruit industry

By Chris Hayhurst

apples and oranges

The common tomato is a world-class food.

A native to the Americas, *Lycopersicon lycopersicum*, as it's known to scientists, was first cultivated as early as 700 A.D. by members of the South American Aztec and Inca tribes. Eventually the tomato proved a popular food in countries across the globe, as hungry diners learned to smash it into their sauces, slice it into their salads and use it as a topping on everything from rice to hamburgers to pizza.





Recently, nutritionists and other experts have found that tomatoes deliver a potent supply of vitamins A and C, and, when eaten on a regular basis, can even reduce the risk of developing certain types of cancer.

Yes, much is known about the tomato, but one simple fact—one often overlooked, regularly ignored, typically undisclosed tidbit of trivia—makes this “superfood” all the more intriguing: Along with oranges, peaches, apples and countless other tasty edibles, the tomato is a fruit.

It's a big business

Fruit plays an incredibly important role in the U.S. agriculture industry. In fact, the United States is among the world's biggest fruit producers (some of the others are the European Union, Mexico, Chile, Argentina and Brazil). According to a recent report by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), in 1999 the total value of the U.S. fruit crop tipped the scales at \$10.8 billion. Most of what's grown is consumed here in

the states, but a significant portion (nearly 3.4 million tons in 1999) is exported to countries like Canada, Japan, China and Mexico.

Apples, oranges, grapes and peaches account for most of the annual crop, but other fruits, including grapefruit, strawberries, blueberries, lemons, pears, plums and prunes, are also big. “When it comes to the fruit industry,” says Susan Pollack, an agricultural economist with the USDA, “the United States is a major player. We're very well respected around the world.”

Where the fruit comes from and how much is produced during any given year depends on many factors, but the most important variable is the weather. In December of 1998, for example, a major freeze in California devastated the state's orange crop. To compensate for the resulting shortage of domestic oranges, the U.S. was forced to increase its imports from other countries.

Consumer demand can also play a role in production. If shoppers stop buying prunes because they don't like how they taste, then prune output will eventually slow down.

Juice, juice and more juice

The majority of fruit, at least here in the U.S., is consumed as juice. Americans drank the equivalent of 121 pounds of fruit per person in 1999, most of that (60 percent) thanks to our love for orange juice. Grapefruit and apple juice are also very popular, and juiced lemons, limes and grapes are not far behind.

Juice, however, is not the only fruit product. When consumers aren't munching fresh apples or topping their ice-cream sundaes with fresh, ripe cherries, they're slurping canned peaches and pears, blending frozen strawberries into summer smoothies and snacking on dried raisins and apricots.

Fruit leftovers and scraps from the food-processing industry—an industry that incorporates tons of fruit into jams, jellies, breads, cereals, desserts

and other food products—are often used for animal feed. Oils and essences get their unique scents and flavors from fruits. The wood from fruit trees can be used to make musical instruments, furniture and houses.

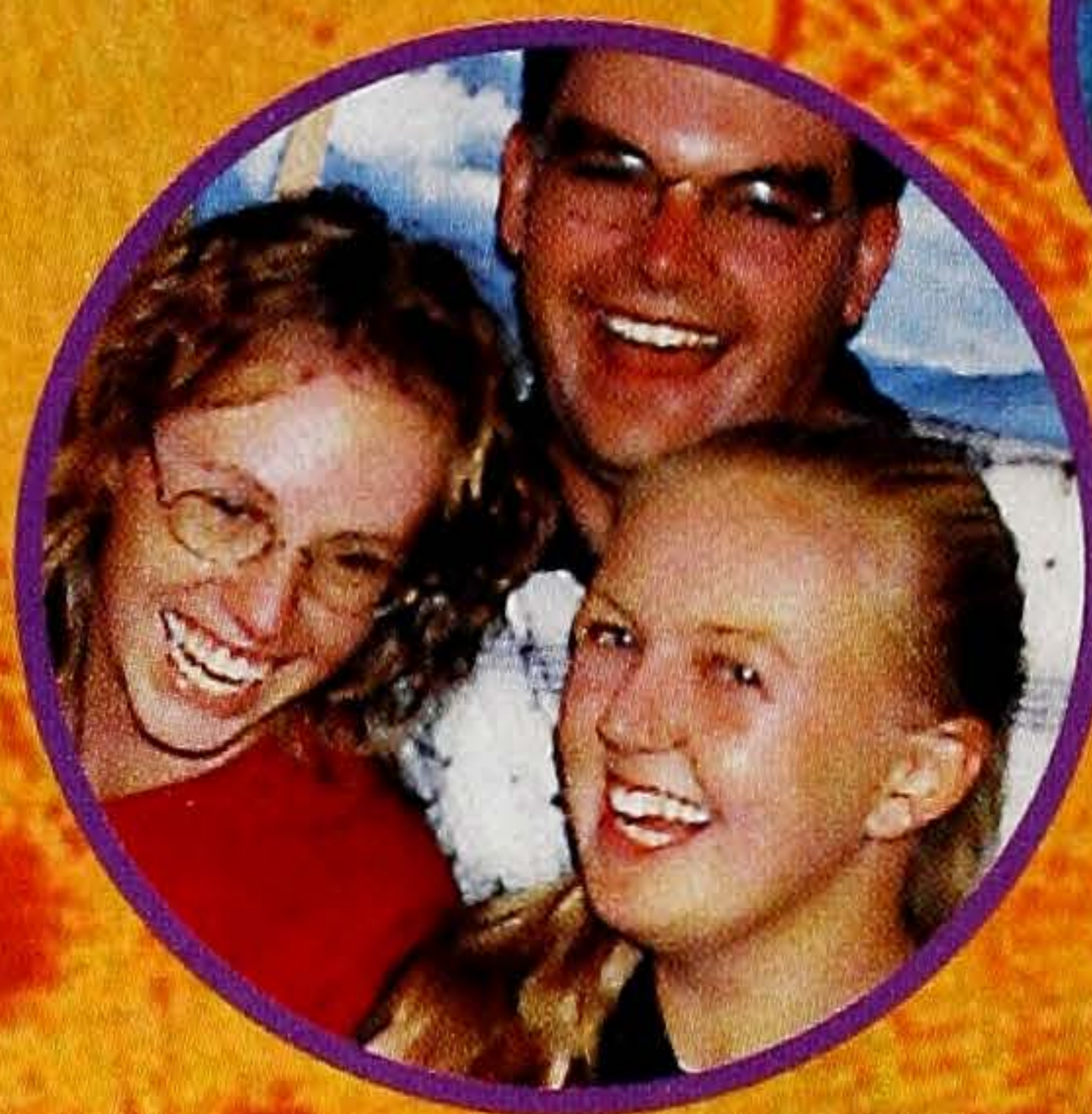
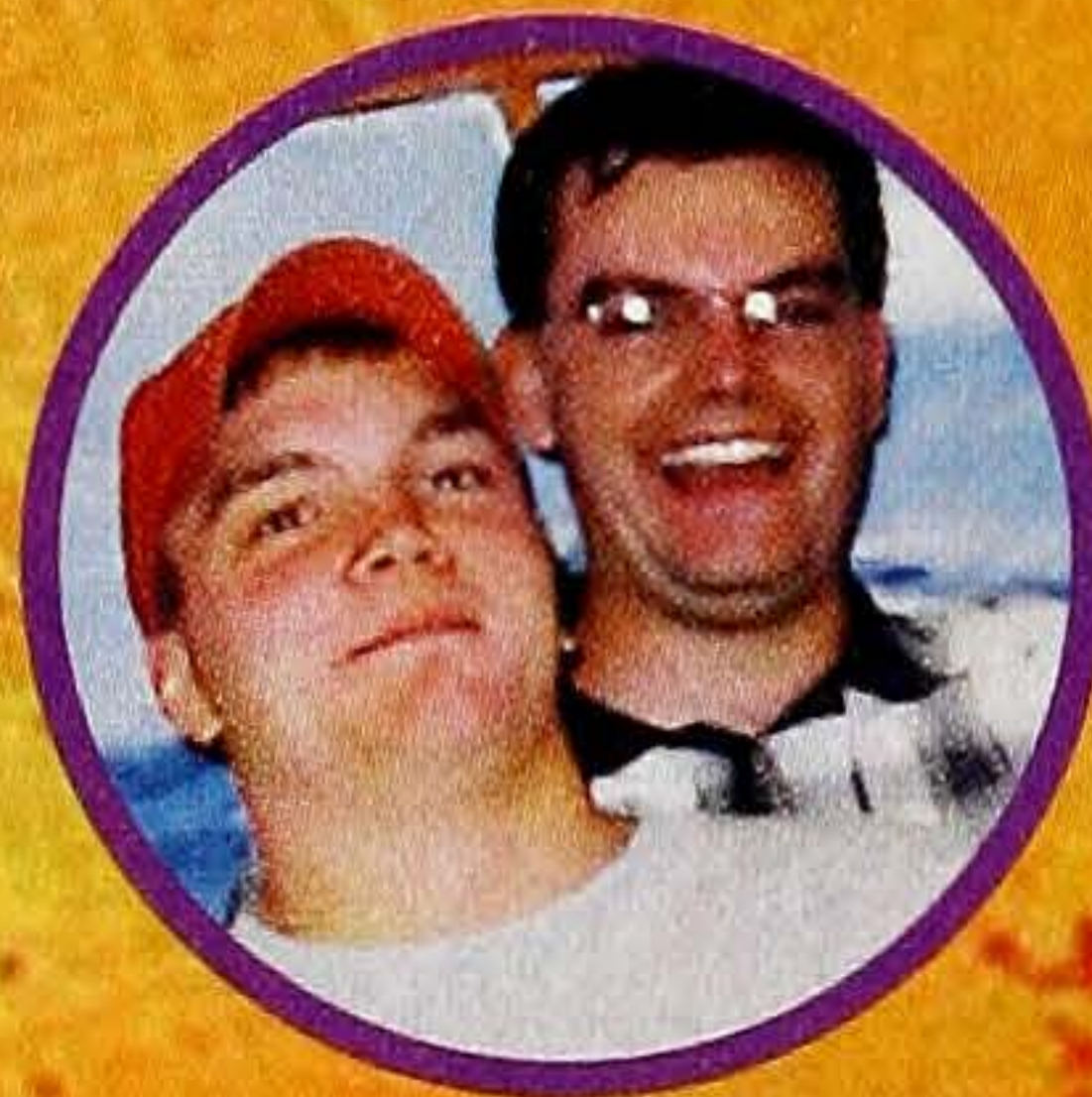
You need it

No matter how you like your fruit, there's no denying its most important role—nutrition. As nutritional experts learn more and more about various kinds of fruits and how they combat cancer and other ailments and act as vital sources of vitamins and minerals, the evidence mounts: Fruit is an essential part of any healthy diet.

And that, says the USDA's Pollack, is great news for the fruit industry. “The future looks promising,” says Pollack. “As the word gets out on the health benefits, demand will only go up.” For fruit growers around the country, harvest time has never looked so good. ★

Did you know?

- Dozens of common household products, including cleaning solutions, deodorants, air fresheners, natural pesticides and special spices, contain citrus.
- In Florida, most oranges bloom in March and April, but varieties bloom as early as October and as late as June.
- More than half of the U.S. blueberry crop is produced in Michigan and New Jersey.
- In 1999, U.S. consumers ate an average of 4.5 pounds of strawberries and 18.7 pounds of apples per person.
- The most often consumed fruit in the United States is the banana, but almost all bananas are imported. Other popular tropical imports include pineapples, mangoes and papayas.
- If you'd like to get involved in fruit production, talk to your FFA advisor about starting a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE).



Members of the Colorado State University FFA Chapter have a blast at their barbecue last September

the
next

FFA involvement doesn't stop
when you leave for college

chapter

Story and photos by Chris Hayhurst

Years ago, as a graduating high school student and a member of the North Lake FFA Chapter in Silver Lake, Oregon, Marlene Mensch was certain her FFA days were numbered. After all, she would soon be attending college at Oregon State University. FFA meetings, elections, conventions and competitions would soon be things of the past. Mensch, with a full load of university-level classes, figured she wouldn't have time for anything like it in college.

Or so she thought. By her sophomore year she was a full-fledged member of the Oregon State University Collegiate FFA Chapter. By the time she took her diploma last year, she had made

some of her closest friends and had even served as chapter president. As it turns out, recalls Mensch, taking FFA with her to the next level—to college—was one of the best moves she's ever made.

Moving on

The National Collegiate FFA Organization, as it's officially known, consists of local chapters within two- and four-year colleges that offer programs in the food, fiber and natural resources. Its sole purpose upon its establishment in the 1930s was to train future teachers in agricultural education. But today the organization's goals are expanded. "We have pretty much the same

mission as the FFA," explains agricultural education professor Greg Thompson, the chapter advisor at Oregon State University. "We're open to any students that want to develop their leadership abilities."

There are many similarities between collegiate chapters and their high school counterparts. Professional development—often entailing preparation for careers in agriculture—tops the list of priorities, but leadership, social events and community service are still important. Barbecues, bowling nights, school dances, career fairs—you name it, collegiate FFA members are out there organizing it, running it and having a whole lot of fun doing it.

For a list of schools
with Collegiate
FFA chapters
or details on
how to charter
a new chapter
in a school without one,
contact Anna Melodia

at the National FFA Organization

317/802-4224

amelodia@ffa.org



Washington Leadership Conference

Ultimate adventures ahead at WLC



Are you ready to embark on an adventure that can change your life? Then Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) is for you!

This is no ordinary leadership experience. You will spend a week putting these skills into practice as you make new friends from across the United States, tour our nation's capital and visit with members of Congress. This action-packed week will help you gain self-confidence and leadership skills to take back to your FFA chapter and share with other members!

Everyone is a teacher and everyone is a learner at WLC, because we use highly interactive program methods rather than classroom lectures. You will sometimes learn in a large group, and at other times, you will work with your small

group. The small group work provides a supportive, safe environment that promotes learning and the development of new skills and attitudes.

Now, are you ready for an exciting experience? Seven, one-week premier leadership conferences are offered June through July. Just choose the week that fits your summer schedule. Conferences can fill up fast! Guarantee your week by registering today. It's simple—just fax or mail the registration form. And, pass one along to a friend! After your registration arrives at FFA, you will receive a confirmation card and additional information. **Sign up now for the WLC student or advisor programs. June 5-July 29.**

Washington Leadership Conference



2001 Registration Form (

Mail this completed form to the National FFA Organization: 6060 FFA Drive, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960 or fax (317) 802-5204.



Conference Dates

Please indicate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices.

- ☐ June 5-10
- ☐ June 12-17
- ☐ June 19-24
- ☐ June 26-July 1
- ☐ July 10-15
- ☐ July 17-22
- ☐ July 24-29

Notice to Students: Individual student registrations **must be accompanied by payment** or the registration will not be considered.

Payment Method:

- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
- Account # _____
- Expiration Date _____
- Cardholder's Name _____
- ☐ Check Enclosed Payable to: National FFA Organization
- ☐ School Purchase Order Fax or mail with registration form
- ☐ Bill to Chapter # _____

Package (Check One):

- ☐ Student Package (quad occupancy) \$495
- ☐ Advisor Package (double occupancy) \$525
- ☐ Advisor Package (single occupancy) \$700
- ☐ Advisor/Guest Package \$875

Prepaid*

Scholarship: include scholarship form with registration

- ☐ Scholarship amount \$ _____
- ☐ National FFA Foundation
- ☐ National FFA Alumni Association (National FFA Alumni form must be attached)
- ☐ Multiple student discount taken

Name _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Email Address _____

FFA Chapter _____

Advisor Name _____

School Phone _____

School Fax _____

Is an advisor or chaperone attending with you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Advisor/Chaperone Name _____

Do you have special needs? _____

Rules and Regulations: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

*Registration fee must be paid within 30 days after invoice to avoid a \$45 late fee. For chapters with four or more students attending, half the group may be registered at each hotel to ensure students receive the maximum benefits of a national experience, unless otherwise requested by the advisor. For general conference information, please call (317) 802-6080. For specific information regarding payments and registration, please contact Leslie Addis, (317) 802-4251 or Tina Paris, (317) 802-4309. **CANCELLATION POLICY:** There will be a \$225 cancellation fee for registered participants who do not attend.

the next chapter

Fun and games

At the University of Idaho, for example, chapter members gift-wrap presents at a local hospice and go caroling over the holidays. They also judge at the county fair and high school FFA career development events. Twice a year they spend time clearing debris and trash from a stretch of nearby highway.

According to Blaine Campbell, the chapter president (who, by the way, had no idea collegiate FFA existed before he arrived at school), the roadside cleanup is not as bad as it sounds. "We wear orange vests and use orange garbage bags," he explains. "Half of us take one side, half take the

other. It's one of our more work-intensive experiences, but we're always sure to go out for pizza afterward."

Collegiate FFA students at Oklahoma State University take a similar approach. Among a slew of other activities, they take high school FFA members to university football games, help out behind the scenes at local livestock shows and stage a huge bonfire party each November. "It's a great way to continue those nice, positive feelings that come with wearing a blue jacket," says chapter advisor Dr. Rob Terry, Jr.

Back to work

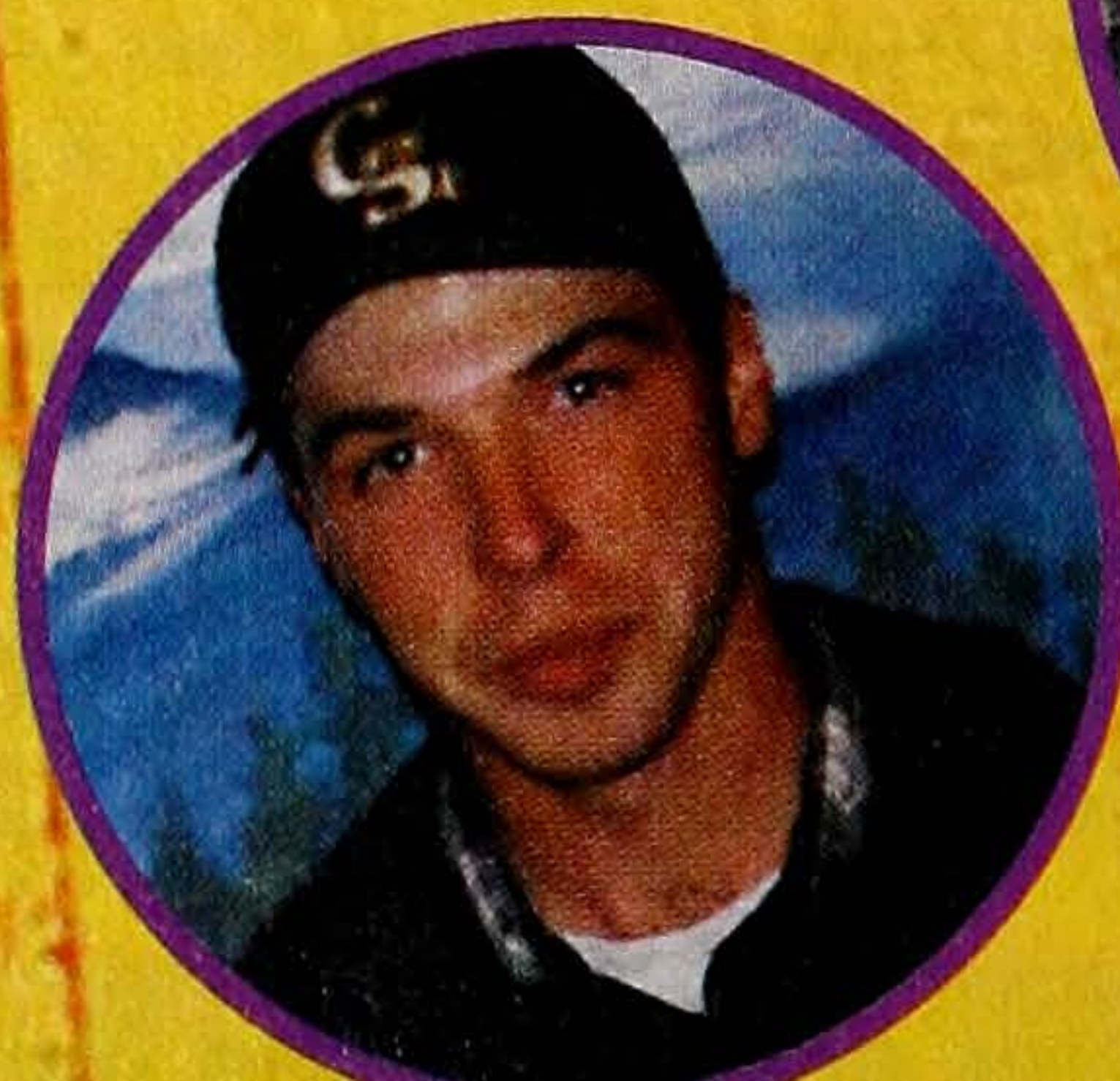
Despite all the fun and excitement that comes with being a part of Collegiate FFA, a good deal of work goes on behind the lines. After all, this is college, and the next step for most students is landing a real job. Collegiate FFA, says Terry, is not all fun and games.

"It's a chance to develop professionally and to learn skills that will be needed in the future." Toward that end, many students belong to agricultural honor societies, take part in leadership development activities, and compete with one another for valuable scholarships.

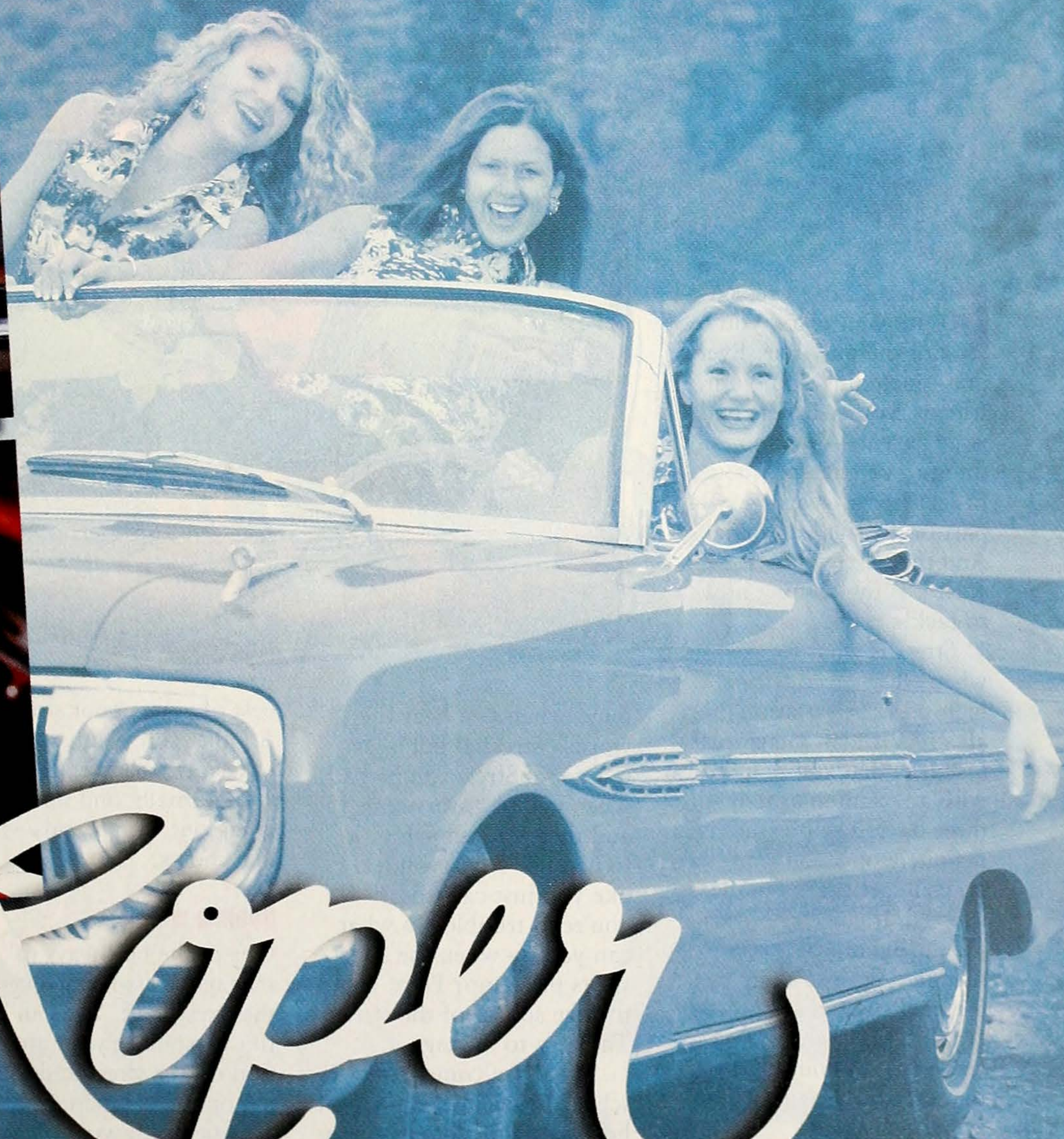
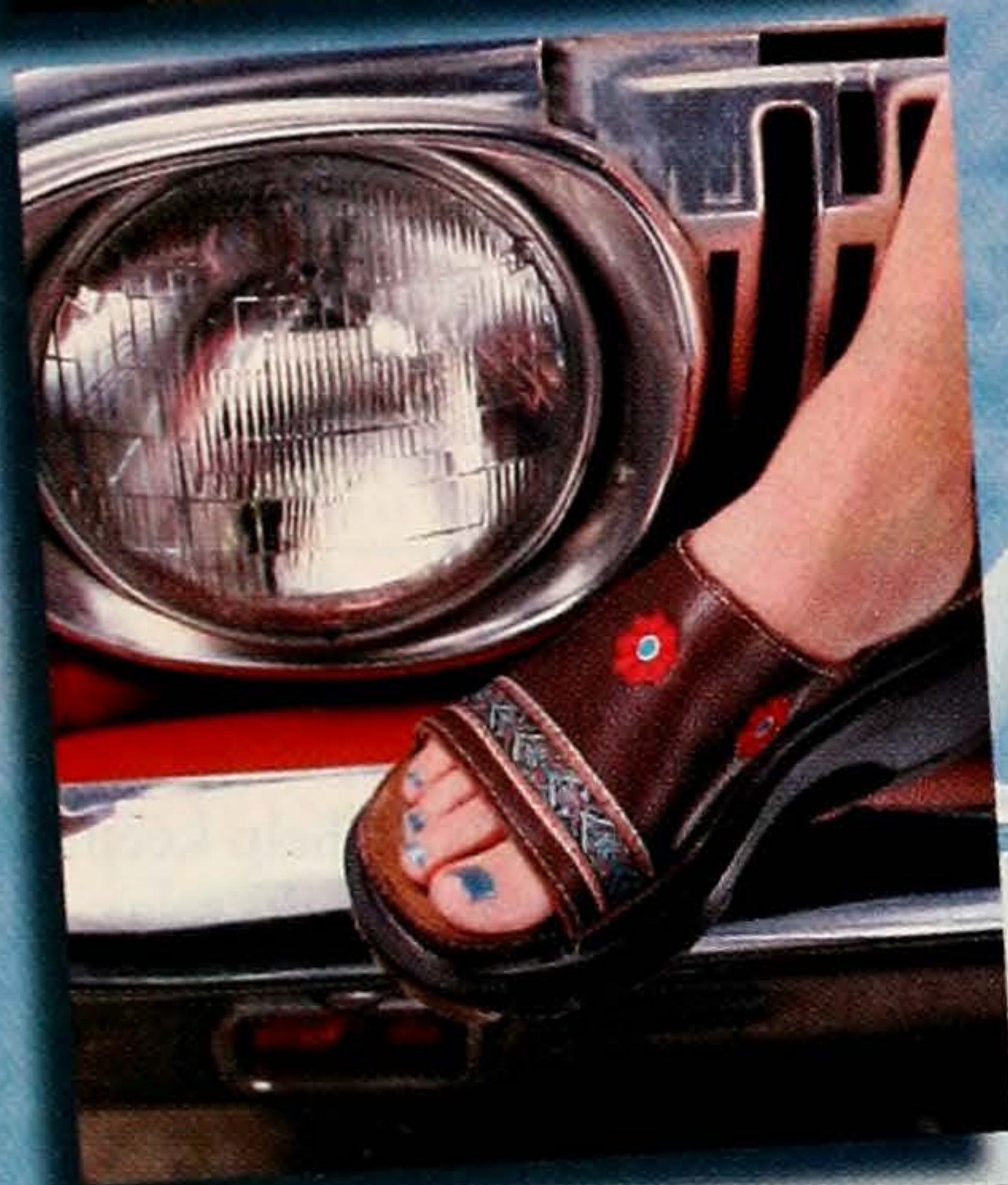
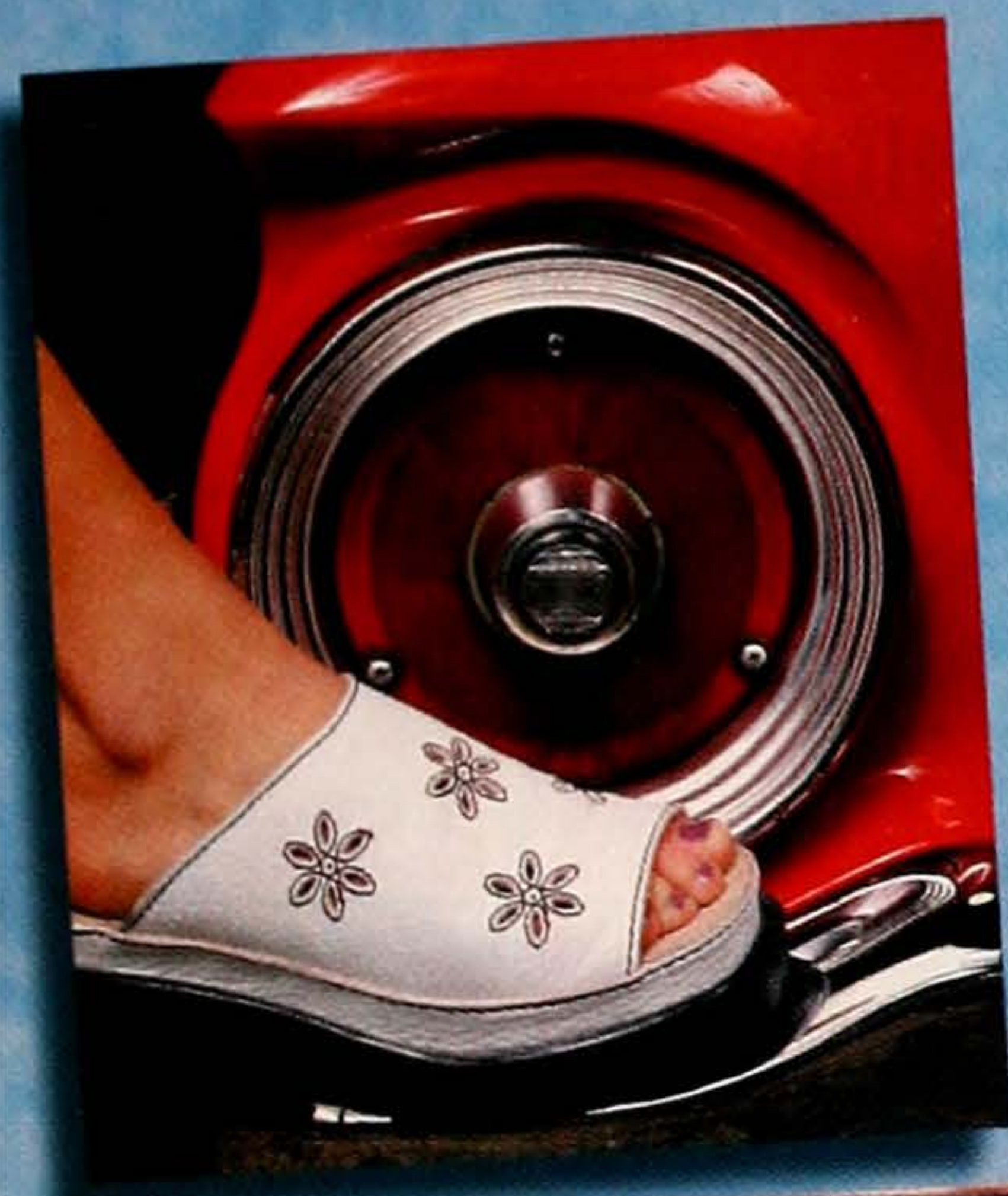
Fortunately, for most collegiate FFA members the future looks bright. Often with eight or more years of FFA experience under their belts, they're ready for just about anything come graduation. Mensch, for one, has her sights set on an eventual teaching job in her home state of Oregon. Currently enrolled in a one-year graduate program at Oregon State University, she's working hard to meet her goal. Still, despite the workload, she isn't about to say goodbye to the FFA. Not with chapter events and activities so near at hand. "I'll be busy with school," says Mensch. "But I'll find the time." ★

"It's a great way to continue those nice, positive feelings that come with wearing a blue jacket,"

—Dr. Rob Terry, Jr.



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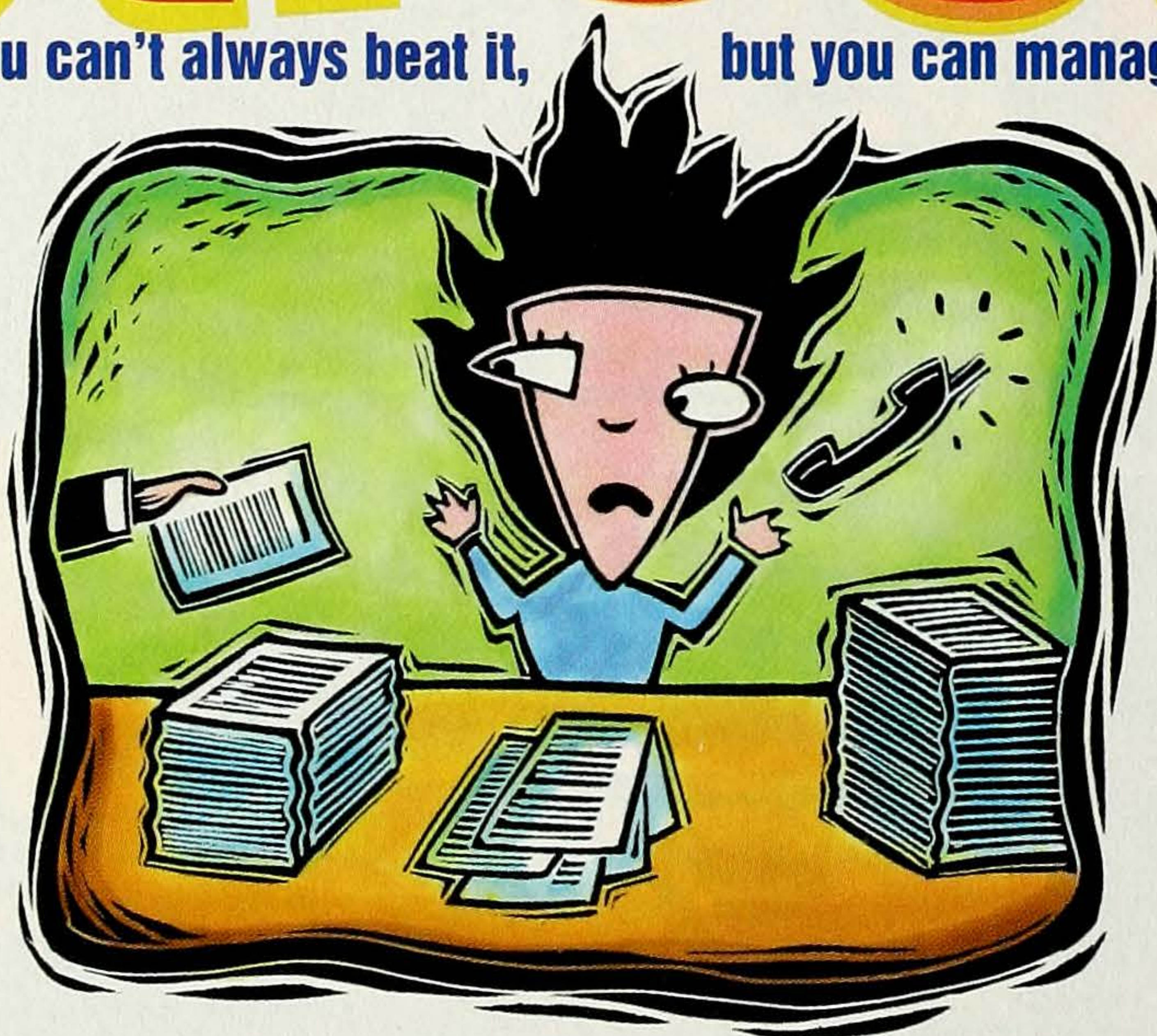
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body & soul

make the best of stress

By Chris Hayhurst

You can't always beat it, but you can manage it



Feeling a little stressed out? Well relax, you're not the only one. Everyone—including you, your friends, your teachers and your parents—has something to be stressed about. In fact, stress is an everyday part of life. It's unavoidable. And the best way to deal with it is by learning how to tackle it head-on.

Stress is what we feel when we're faced with a high-pressure situation. Not all stress is bad. Imagine, for instance, that you're faced with an exam in exactly three days. The pressure is definitely on—you want to do well, get a good grade, succeed. If you feel prepared for the exam, the stress is stimulating. You're up to the challenge, ready to crank. You might even feel excited about taking the test and proving you know your stuff.

Stress sources

But some stress—the type that probably comes to

mind when you hear the words “stressed out”—is not good. Stress can be bad when you're “overstressed” and there's too much of it to handle. When you feel like you just can't deal, you're in trouble. So what can you do when the stress starts piling up? First, identify the source of the stress. Then try to manage it.

Stress can come from school problems, conflicts at home with the family, financial pressures, peer pressure and countless other sources. One of the first indications that stress is getting the

best of you is poor sleep. Another sure sign is a lack of energy. Or when things you normally find fun—like going out with friends—feel like chores.

Dealing with it

One of the best ways to manage stress is by lowering the stress load. You can do this by shifting your attention off the stress and focusing on the big picture. After all, one exam won't make or break your life. Tackle each stressful situation one by one and keep your eyes on the future. Exercising and

eating regularly help keep you balanced, as do relaxation exercises like yoga.

Talking to friends and family and being open about your feelings also help make stress a little more bearable. In the worst situations—if you feel like you just can't go on anymore—it's important to speak to someone you trust like a teacher, school counselor or doctor. Most importantly, never ignore your stress. If you let stress accumulate without dealing with it, it could get serious.

“Everyone has at least ten things to be stressed about,” says Elizabeth Berger, M.D., an adolescent psychiatrist in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. “Life is full of stress. But if you're in the driver's seat with your life, you'll be able to cope with it.” In other words, just keep slugging away. When you realize stress is natural, it becomes that much easier to handle. ★

Here's what FFA members nationwide had to say about in the most recent What's Hot/What's Not survey. We tip our hats to the Hartley FFA Chapter in Texas—they sent in more surveys than any chapter in the land. See our new survey on page 17.

hot

sandra bullock

female actor

ellen degeneres

not

hot

adam sandler

male actor

leonardo dicaprio

not

hot

faith hill

female singer

britney spears

not

hot

george strait

male singer

ricky martin

not

hot

friends

tv sitcom

tom green

not

hot

er

tv drama

nypd blue

not

hot

charlie's angels

movie (in theaters)

blair witch 2

not

hot

where the heart is

movie (on video)

the big green

not

hot

titans

NFL team

cowboys

not

hot

harry potter books

book

books by r.l. stine

not

TO HAVE A DREAM IS GOOD...
MAKING IT COME TRUE
IS BETTER!



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your money



paying your
It's tax time — are you ready?

dues

By Steve Dinnen

The joy of receiving that first paycheck can be blunted in a hurry once you compare what you earned to what you're taking home. There can be a hefty gap and it's mostly the blame of taxes—income taxes collected by federal, state and local governments, plus added doses for Social Security and Medicare health insurance (FICA).

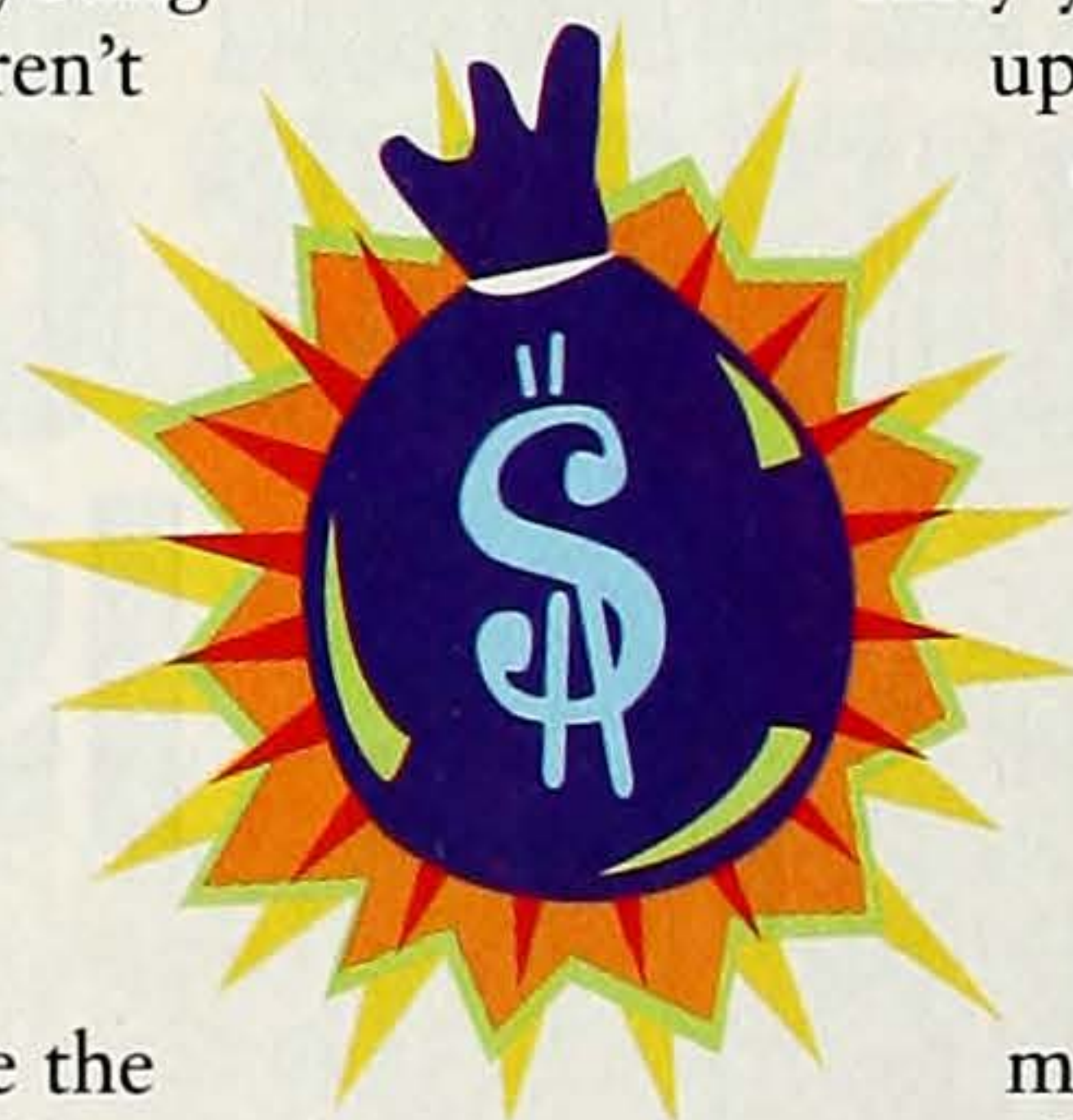
Welcome, taxpayer. Once you start earning money, whether from a regular job, odd jobs, your own enterprise, interest or even investing, you're liable for income taxes. Consider it your contribution to building roads and hiring police and launching space shuttles, all of which get paid for by taxpayers, young and old.

Should I file tax forms?

If you have money withheld from your paychecks for taxes, you should file federal and state tax returns. That's because you might have

overpaid your taxes and you could be in line for a refund. In some cases, the amount you've earned may fall beneath the level at which you're required to pay taxes. In this case, everything that was withheld will be refunded to you.

For most young people there aren't many "loop-holes" that allow you to avoid income taxes. When filling out your returns, there is one thing you can do to minimize the sting of taxes. You are allowed to reduce your taxable income by applying what's called a "standard" deduction. This applies even if you're a dependent on your parent's tax return. This could reduce by up to \$4,400 the amount of your income that's subject to taxes. That can save you some serious cash.



Steve Adami, an accountant in Buffalo, Wyoming, says a great bonus to working is that once you earn wages you can steer up to \$2,000 yearly into a Roth IRA. This is a retirement investment account that, if funded in early years, can build up a huge amount of money—all tax-free—by the time you retire in 40-50 years. Need the money earlier? Adam says early withdrawals can be made, with no penalty, to buy a house for the first time or—get this—pay for college!

Tax talk

The deadline for filing federal income tax returns is April 15 (deadlines for state tax returns are typically around the same time, but vary from state to state). Tax forms are normally

available at your library or can be downloaded at the IRS website listed at the end of this article.

If you earned money through self-employment or contract work, the tax rules are more complex than if you only receive a regular paycheck from an employer. If you run into problems filling out the forms, there are a few things you can do. First, ask your parents or others who are experienced in filling out the forms. Second, your library or community center may offer free tax workshops. Third, you can hire an accountant to fill out the forms and file the returns for you. This can be expensive, but for some, it's money well spent.

For the official low-down on taxes, check out the website run by the IRS: www.irs.ustreas.gov. It explains taxes in pretty understandable language. Good luck! ★

Imagine there's a drought in the Southwest.

Imagine FFA members in Oklahoma having trouble buying hay for their animals.

Imagine the Franklin Center FFA Chapter transporting free hay to their fellow members in need.

Imagine this is just one of the stories that makes us proud to sponsor organizations like the FFA.



GMAC is a sponsor of the National FFA Foundation.

GMAC

Last Laff

Q: What did the bird say when his new cage broke?

A: Cheap, cheap.

Jake Baker

Morrison, Oklahoma

Q: Why are broken clocks so quiet?

A: They don't tock.

Kevin Pham

Sacramento, California

Q: What gets wetter and wetter the more it dries?

A: A towel.

Miranda Hett

Vancouver, Washington

Q: Where should you put your TV?

A: In a remote area.

Bonnie Kinberger

Crestwood, Kentucky

Q: Where do fish keep their cash?

A: In the river bank.

Andrew Sollien

Mabel, Minnesota

Q: In what place does today come before yesterday?

A: In a dictionary.

Nathaniel Storm

Licking, Missouri

Q: What's the difference between an onion and an accordion?

A: No one cries when you cut up an accordion.

Guy Huskins

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Q: When is it bad to have a black cat follow you?

A: When you're a mouse.

Lanore Green

Homer, Michigan

Q: What is the difference between a dressmaker and the school nurse?

A: One cuts the dresses and one dresses the cuts.

Bonnie Gilder

DeLeon, Texas

Q: What is white when it's dirty and black when it's clean.

A: A blackboard.

Angela Oates

Camden, Alabama

Q: What did the letter say to the stamp?

A: Stick with me and we'll go places.

Chellsie Hicks

Licking, Missouri

Q: What did the sugar cube say to the sugar crystals?

A: Pull yourself together.

Emilio Carrillo

Peoria, Arizona

Q: What tool did the zookeeper's wife get him for Christmas?

A: A monkey wrench.

Carrie Zoschke

Thomas, Oklahoma

FFA Motto

Learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, living to serve.

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.

Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

FFA New Horizons will pay \$5 for each joke selected for Last Laff. In case we receive more than one of the same joke, payment will be for the first one received. Contributions cannot be acknowledged or returned.

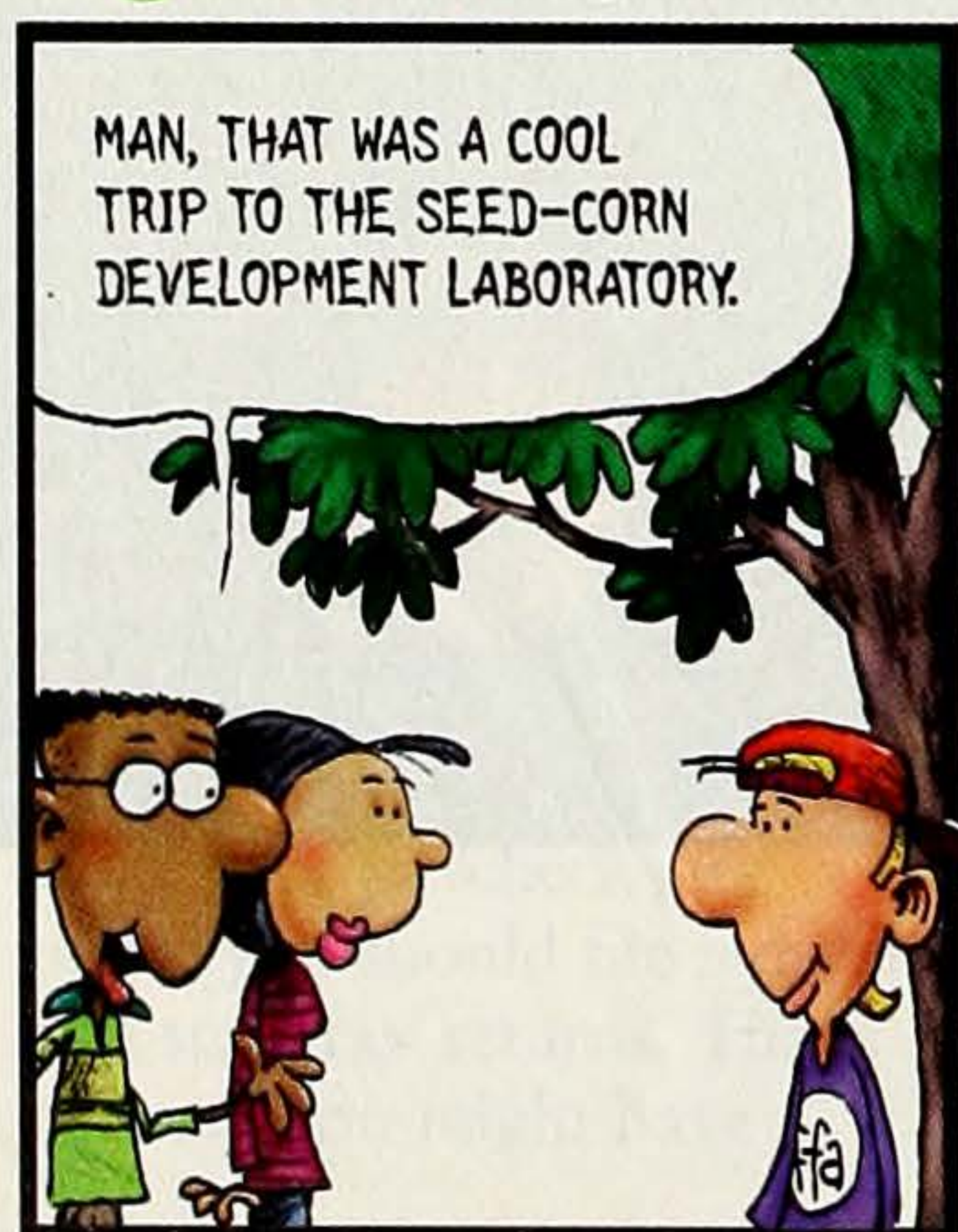
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Agrinuts by Jim Bradshaw and Michael Bettendorf



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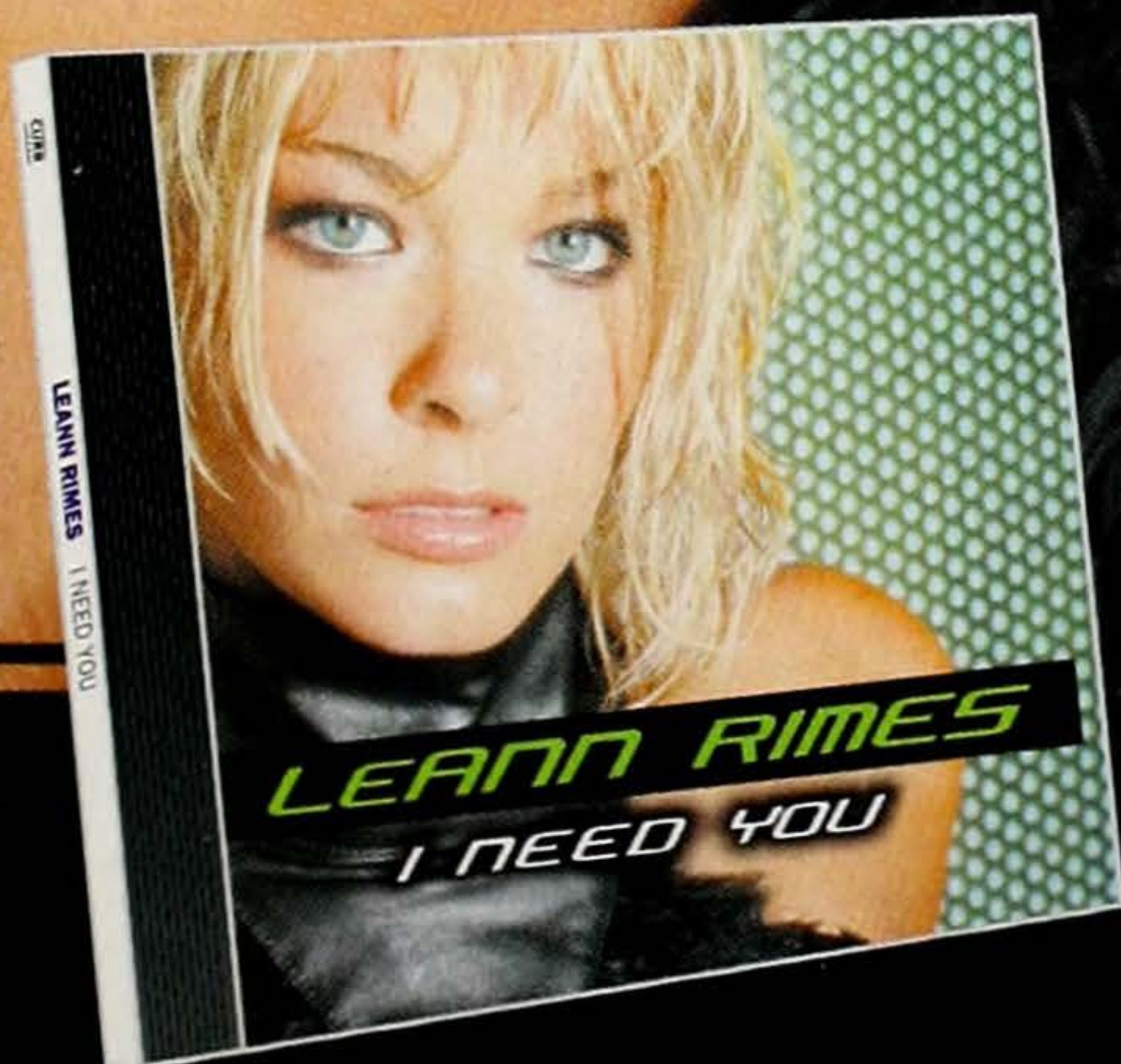
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Features the hits.

"But I Do Love You"

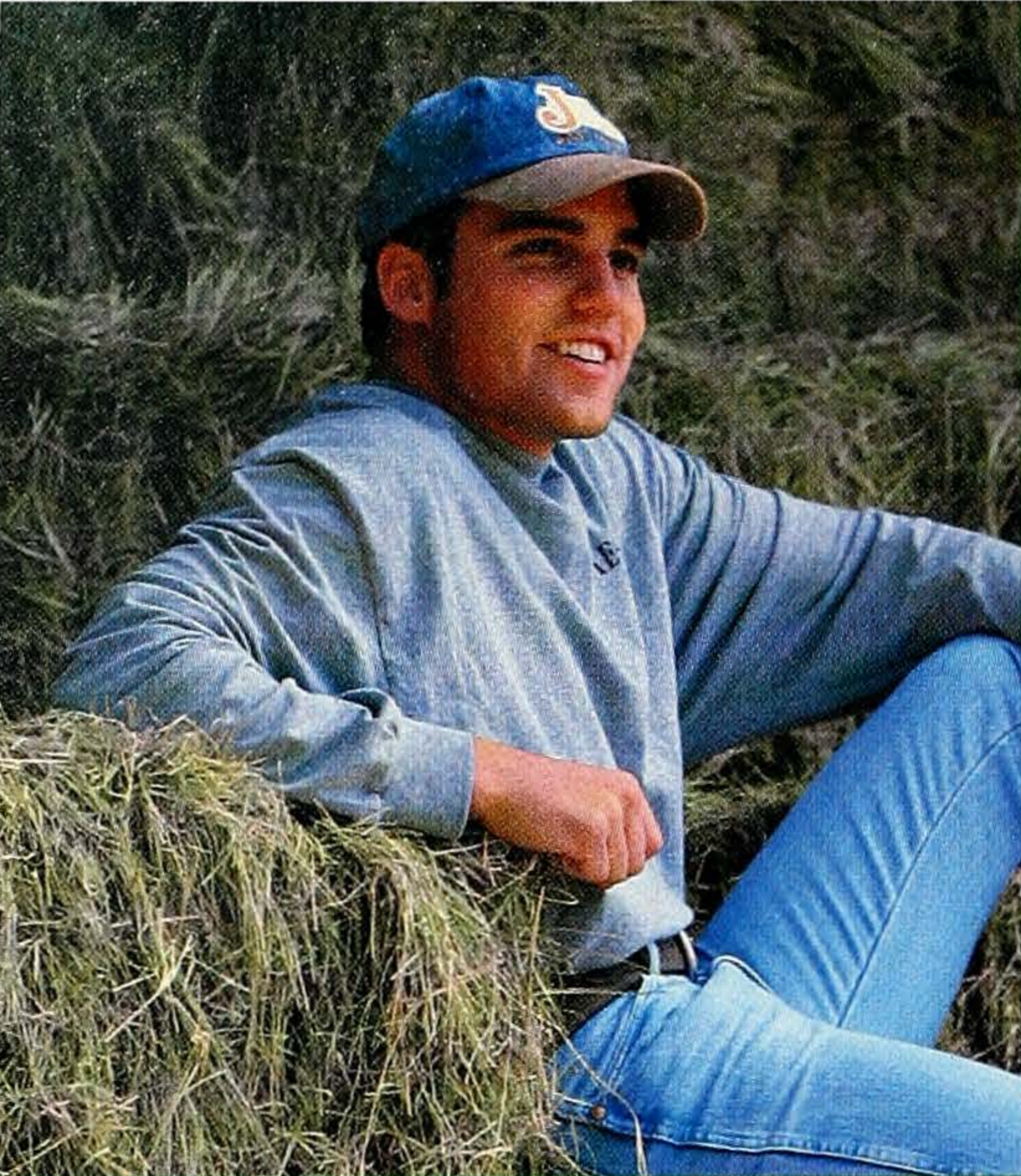
"Can't Fight
The Moonlight"

"I Need You"



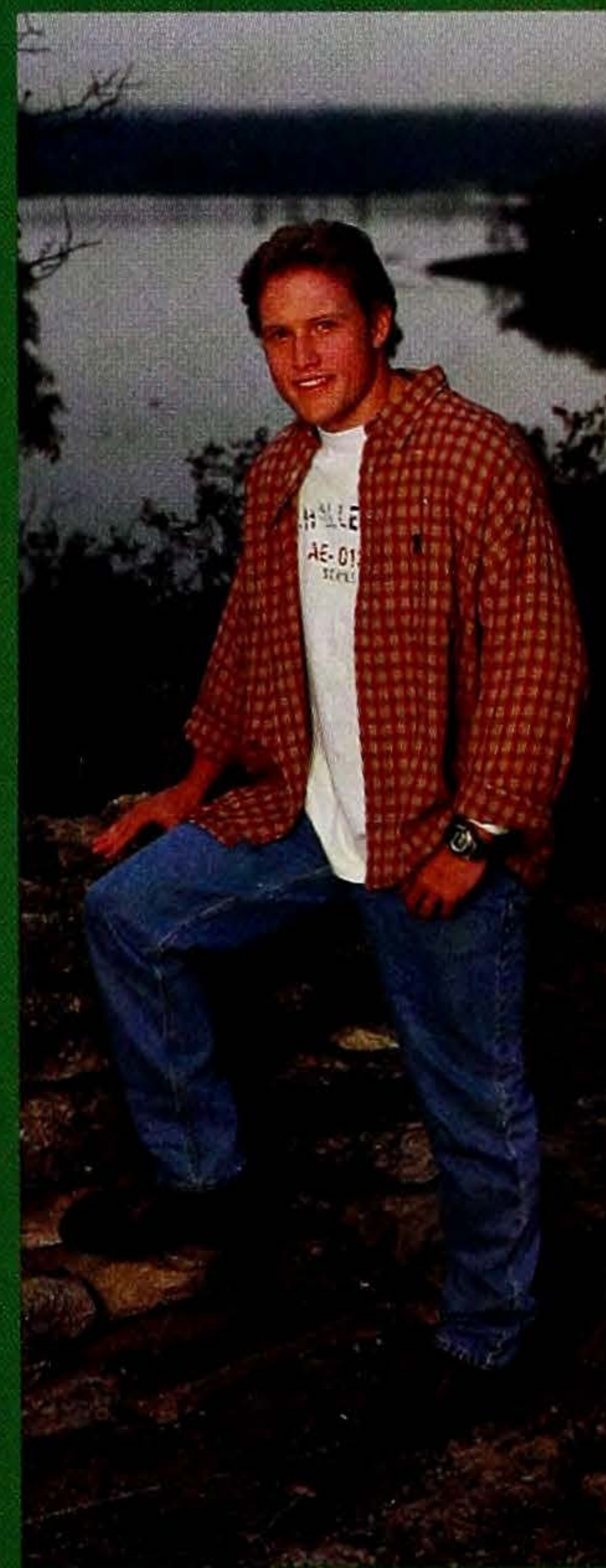
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