

KEEPING AMERICA ON THE GROW

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE & FFA

56th National FFA Convention/Kansas City, Missouri / November 12, 1983



FFA TIMES



56th NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

The 1983 National FFA Convention—so much packed into so short a time...on stage, so many awards presented, winners named, words spoken, history made; behind the scenes, so many deadlines met, schedules adjusted, props arranged, encouragement given and EVERYWHERE surrounding the convention center, so many hands shook, photos snapped, names exchanged, memories made.

And so, the energy of the convention spreads across the nation, influencing the lives of the nearly half-million FFA members and countless individuals of rural and urban communities.

This, the 56th National FFA Convention Proceedings records and salutes everyone involved in this convention, and since a photo speaks with a thousand words, the following cover essay speaks of a portion of it all...



Gathering Souvenirs

Carol Sobbe



A Full House

Lightfoot/Jim St. John



Agricultural Mechanics Contest

Louisa Krueber



Star Agri-Businessman Clint Albin

Marshall Poole



American Royal Parade

Cameron Dubbs



1983-84 NATIONAL OFFICERS



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Vice President Central Region—Rhonda Schuelen, P.O. Box 62 Loos Creek, Missouri 65054



Vice President Southern Region—Scott Duggar, 202 Hall St. Marianna, Florida 32446

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AL: Morris Lynn Baker, Eastav; AR: Steve Morrison, Marshall; AZ: Melody Lawson, Pecos; FL: Charles F. Duggar Jr., Marianna; IA: Wade A. McFee, Guthrie Center; IL: Rodney L. Morris, Champaign; IN: David A. Anderson, Darlington; KS: Ron Wineinger, Marion; MO: Carol Susan Ivett, Gathensburg; MI: Perry W. Storms, Centerville; MN: Steven R. Koziolek, Wells; MD: Rhonda M. Schuelen, Loos Creek; MS: Charles Harrell, Dowl, Mafstron; MT: Brian M. Cavey, Mossoula; NC: R. Marshall Stewart Jr., Greenville; NE: Sonia B. Vculek, Crete; NE:



Secretary—Bill Caraway, 1750 Glenam, Clovis, New Mexico 88101



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National FFA Band

Sponsored by Carnation Company.



The National FFA Band, featuring 96 musicians, was under the direction of Roger Heath, Pocatello, Idaho. The band arrived during the early part of the week to practice. This practice let them add to the air of pageantry and spirit of the convention with their numerous and varied band selections.

AR: Monte Womble, Prescott, Trombone; AZ: David Keys, Mesa, Trumpet; CA: Julie Fleming, Fairbrook, Baritone; Vice-Minor, Sebastopol, Clarinet; FL: Robert Bloodworth, Jr., Edgewater, Percussion; Anthony Chisholm, Hawthorne, Trumpet; IA: Alan Roster, Ackley, Percussion; John Jacob, Albia, Percussion; Lisa Gallagher, Dorchester; FL: Tony Fabrizio, Elsworth, Baritone; David Kruza, Fredericksburg, Trumpet; Mark Steffen, Greenfield, Tenor Sax; Bruce Borrett, Guntersburg, Trumpet; Paul Arton, La Porte City, Trumpet; Glen Biermann, Manchester, Trombone; Anita Turner, Postville, Horn; ID: Matt Hanzel, Burley, Trumpet; IL: Rodney Stoll, Chestnut, Bassoon; Matthew Pestle, Good Hope; AL: Sax, Kellie Maske, MI: Pulaski, Flute; Randy Campbell, Pittsfield, Percussion; Rob Ruppert, Pittsfield, Trombone; IN: Mandy Neitzel, Mooresville, Clarinet; Ron Rink, Washington, Tuba; KS: Melissa Garstner, Colby, Trumpet; Michael Nichols, Longford, Trumpet; Scott Neaderhiser, Millonvale, Bass Guitar; Patrick Spichol, Menden, Trumpet; William Curtis, Desage City, Tuba; KY: Samuel Phillips, Franklin, Tuba; Stacey Blackmon, Princeton, Trumpet; MD: Mar-

garet Flanagan, Rocky Ridge, Clarinet; MI: Todd Macrimmon, Charlotte, Tuba; Julie Funk, Walden, Clarinet; MN: Edson Pothoff, Dunnell, Trombone; Bernell Schleske, Fergus Falls, Percussion; Ken Thorson, Fergus Falls, Flute; Connie Netzel, Lamberton, Clarinet; MD: Keith Knight, Appleton City, Trumpet; Kevin Nisch, Jackson, Tenor Sax; Lynell Bunge, Marthasville, Bass Clarinet; John White, Pella, Tuba; John McCarthy, Republic, Trumpet; MT: Belinda Miller, Celstrip, Flute; Doug Standley Jr., Fairfield, Trombone; Bobbi Bailey, Forsyth, Clarinet; Michael Glaser, Pomperoy, Flute; Trumpet; NC: David Slade, Blaine, Trombone; Lisa Heister, Clarkson, Flute; ND: Deborah Stevick, Des Lacs, Clarinet; NE: Todd Fiescher, Bemmel, Bass Clarinet; Perry Wasy, Verdigris, Clarinet; NJ: Laura Lettenmaier, Annapolis, Clarinet; NM: Kay Williams, Longmont, Contra Bass Clarinet; NY: David Woodside, Heuvelton, Drums; David Smith, Lisbon, Baritone; OH: Mark Hanks, Bradford, Bassoon; OH: Bryan Kniffey, Franklin, Tuba; Tracy Walker, Greenwald, Trombone; Orrems, Julie Rines, Jeromesville, Flute; Michael Laughlin, Tippecanoe, Trumpet; Tony Kroil, Fairmont, Alto Sax; Lisa Oliver, Pur-

cell, Flute/Twirlar, Mark Stapp, Wetumka, Oboe; OH: Chris Kurtz, Elgin, Baritone; Tricia Miller, Forest Grove, Flute; PA: Ruth Zerby, Berrville, Clarinet; James Brady, Philadelphia, Clarinet; SC: Camilla Browne, Redbank, Percussion; SD: Mark Walter, Harrisburg, Trombone; TN: Craig Motter, Martin, Trumpet; TX: Reginald Frost, Big Sandy, Trombone; Kelli Bobbitt, Greenville, Horn; Linda Halliburton, Greenville, Horn; Pamela Polk, Katy, Clarinet; UT: Bill Wright, Heber, Baritone; VA: Bruce Welch, Stephens City, Trombone; WA: J. Monte Lucene, Bellingham, Tenor Sax; Scott Porter, Colfax, Sax; Brett La Mar, Mason, Trumpet; Mike Hill, Monroe, Tuba; Marie Ames, Oakville, Horn; Madison, Spokane, Oboe; WI: Christopher Roe, Belleville, Trombone; John Baeseman, Edgar, Baritone Sax; Dan Jacobson, Green Bay, Alto Sax; Richard Haugh, LaFarge, Trumpet; Karen Gilbert, Lomira, Percussion; Mary Franke, Mayville, Clarinet; Christine Payton, Plymouth, Horn; Monique Jewell, Redgranite, Clarinet; Mary Konop, Rice Lake, Trumpet; WY: James Greenwald, Lingle, Trumpet; David Anderson, Pine Bluffs, Horn

National FFA Chorus

Sponsored by Hallmark Cards, Incorporated and the FFA Foundation General Fund.



The National FFA Chorus, under the direction of Stan Kingma, Vineland, New Jersey, presented musical toasts, entertainment and atmosphere to this year's convention.

AL: May Pace, Scottsboro; Angie Williams, Scottsboro; Tony Wallingford, Scottsboro; AK: Ken Perry, Hot Springs; CA: Dea Reed, Glen Elgin; FL: Julie Brown, Lake Butler; Kathryn Gross, Wauchula; ID: Toni Denney, Malheur; Kathy Parker, Eagle; Ronald Ming, Clinton; IL: Tema Morland, Sparland; Susie Petelish, Ashland; Gayle Rankin, West Point; Christopher Carson, Washburn; Thomas Gallup, Springfield; Todd Harper, Chrisman; Timothy Sandrock, Prophets-town; IN: Connie Caldwell, Forest; Frances Jones, Hope; Susan Sarazine, New Haven; Scott Dend, Brook; Charles Johnson, Evansville; Herschel Riche, Rensselaer; IA: Bridget Biebler, Anamosa; Heidi Fatchett, Delkett; Todd Abeling, Monticello; Bryan Ewing, What Cheer; Todd Hanson, Northwood; Owane Koch, West Union; Rod Middleton, Clarion; KY: David Kall, Mayville; IA: Allen Broussard, Morse; MI: Larry Adams II, Waterliet; David Dietzel, Marlette; MN: Tamaran Hubeck, Worthington; Oaxin Essler, Harmony; Timothy Kray, Hancock; Michael Madry, Kasson; David Kval, Dawson, Larry Mahoney, Appleton; John Onstad, Ada; Patrick Peterson, Karlstad; RO: Power, Ramsey; MS: Penny Loft, Vicksburg; Timothy Beard, Vicksburg; MO: Terri Bray, Cameron; Suzie Hansen, Nevada; Becky McDonald, Alton; Deloris Morrison, Licking; Laura Sandridge, Fortuna; Cynthia Thompson, Mount Vernon; Sandra Yerber,

Galewood; Kevin Cherry, West Plains; Wayne Gimin, Bادهville; Allen Henry, Excelsior; William McCormick, Hardin; Brent Miller, Osborn; Stuart Noel, Bronaugh; David Stebbins, Milan; Becky Ingalls, Liberty; John Williams, Morton; MT: Hanswester, Steen; NE: Karla Anderson, Blair; Sheila Otte, Gordon; James Nygren, Bend; Ronald Diman, Filley; NY: Timothy Friesner, Alamo; NM: Victoria Anaya, Moriarty; WY: Beth Combe, Grahamsmills; Marion Starr, Holland Patent; Scott Rahmlow, Canisteo; NC: Tanya Solomon, Rosboro; Bradley Allen, Pineville; Cameron DeBrew, Shelby; Edie Turner, Shelby; Jan McSwain, Shelby; ND: Ken Enocksen, Washburn; JD: James Dyrkin, Mansfield; Shirley Schaefer, Edison; Gary Baldosser, Green Springs; Keith Abrams, Fort Laramie; Rod Mercer, Walhonding; Bradue Fullerton, Bucyrus; Brian Snavely, Republic; DK: Michelle Bright, Saulters; OR: Kreg Kenton, Boardman; Stanley Sullivan, Madras; PA: Beth Snyder, Washington; Charles Hess, Robersonia; TN: Tracy Barbra, Walland; Carrie Demons, Amfioch; John Fugate, Tazewell; TX: Steven Orr, Panhandle; UT: Sandy Pelt, Mountain Green; WA: Jolen Kohn, Chney; WY: Rhea Kahlois; Mary McP., Cashmere; Troy Kohn, Chney; WY: Darrel McDaniel, Grafton; WI: Monica Hennes, Hubertus; Jean Smith, Augusta; Tammy Tenney, Whitewater; Steven Orzowski, Fountain City; Reginald Rudsiner, Blanchardville





ENERGY CHALLENGE



The final Energy Challenge award was presented to the West Dubuque FFA Chapter of Epworth, Iowa. Adviser Alan Carlson's students sponsored a school and community energy-saving contest, a corn grower's conservation

tilage contest, and a solar and wind-power display at their high school's career day, to capture this award. The chapter also was involved in a local media campaign on conservation and built a model alcohol still.

VIP Citations

The VIP Citation recognizes individuals who continually and faithfully serve the FFA. This year the six recipients were:

C.M. Brewer of Jackson, Mississippi, dedicated 37 years of loyal service as a vocational teacher, FFA Camp director, FFA Executive Secretary and State Supervisor of Agriculture Education. He organized the Mississippi State FFA Board of Directors, is a past member of National FFA Board of Directors and the National FFA Board of Trustees. Brewer is a life member of the National FFA Alumni Association and has received the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Julian Campbell of Rockville, Virginia, spent 24 years as Virginia's Associate Director of Agricultural Education, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education and State FFA Advisor. Campbell served as National FFA Treasurer and FFA Foundation Treasurer for 22 years. A life member of the National FFA Alumni Association, Campbell, has been awarded the Honorary State Farmer, Honorary American Farmer and the Distinguished Service Awards by the Virginia State Association and the National FFA Organizations.

Arnold B. Cordes of Madison, Wisconsin, is retiring after 41 years of service to vocational agricultural and the FFA. Cordes retired this July after serving as State FFA Association Executive Secretary for 16 years. He has served on the National FFA Board of Trustees and implemented such FFA programs as Creed Speaking and Parliamentary Procedure while Executive Secretary. Cordes served as Superintendent of the National FFA Dairy Cattle Judging Contest (12 years) and has received both the Honorary State and American Farmer Degrees.

NEW COMPUTERS IN AGRICULTURE

Award Program

Sponsored by AgriData Resources, Inc. The convention introduction audio-visual was sponsored by Harris Technical System.

The new Computers in Agriculture award program was introduced at the 56th convention and materials were distributed following the convention to chapters nationwide with the FFA TIMES newspaper. The major objective of the new award program is to recognize FFA members who have made the greatest progress in utilizing computers in agriculture and agribusiness.

Chapter advisors may select a chapter member to receive the award on the local level. Chapter winners then apply for the state award. The state winner will then attend a National FFA Seminar on Computers in Agriculture in Alexandria, Virginia during August of 1984.

1983-84 FFA Theme

The theme audio-visual is sponsored by The Wrangler Brand and the National FFA Week theme materials were developed, designed and promoted through the sponsorship of Estech, Inc.



The new theme introduced during the 56th convention will be used until the next convention to promote and support vocational agriculture and the FFA. The theme audio-visual shown during the convention is available for chapters to use for their chapter banquets. The show is also ideal for showing at other community activities to gain support for the total program. Numerous items are available to promote the new theme during National FFA Week, February 18-25, 1984. All of the items are available through the National FFA Supply Service for use throughout the year.

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Layton Peters, Past President, NVATA, New Ulm, MN

Walt Schuch, Vice President, NVATA, Bow, WA

Edgar P. Yoder, Asst. Prot., Ag. Ed., The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Distinguished Service Citations

This citation recognizes those organizations which exceptionally serve the FFA by contributing time, money and personnel. This year the following three organizations were shown our appreciation:

The American Angus Association, St. Joseph, Missouri, represented by Executive Vice President Richard L. Spader, was recognized for their support of the FFA. Celebrating their 100th anniversary, this National FFA Foundation General Fund sponsor has provided awards, teaching materials, audio-visual materials, technical information to v-o-g leaders and students.

Butler Manufacturing Company, Kansas City, Missouri, represented by Warner R. Eggleston, President, Agri-Products Division, was recognized for their years of sponsoring FFA activities and support of the FFA. For 35 years Butler has sponsored the National Convention annual award winners breakfast. This breakfast is traditionally attended by over 1,000 American Farmers and other award winners. This breakfast also recognizes and introduces the eight Stars (American Farmers and American Agribusinessmen) for their outstanding accomplishments. For 34 years Butler has continuously contributed to the FFA making them a Gold sponsor.

Creswell, Munsell, Fultz, & Zirkel, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, represented by Executive Vice President, William Munsell, was recognized for their varied support of the FFA. They have provided contacts for numerous agribusinesses which are now supporting FFA through the FFA Foundation, personally made presentations to clients for FFA support, provided free creative work to the FFA Foundation and provided representation to the FFA Foundation Sponsors' Advisory Board. They also sponsor FFA Washington Conference Program (WCPS) Scholarships.

EDITORS BOX

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Future Farmers of America is the national organization of students preparing for careers in production agriculture and agribusiness. The FFA is in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

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Additional copies of the FFA TIMES 56th Convention Proceedings are available through the National FFA Supply Service.

The FFA TIMES 56th Convention Proceedings Staff is headquartered in the FFA Newsroom in the Little Theatre of the Municipal Auditorium.



shared with me. Someone once told me, "If you don't have the best of everything, it's the best of everything you have." No one has the best of everything. To me that is why we are thankful to have each other. I know that is what we look at and we are always willing to make the best of it.

Earlier this summer, the six of us were involved in a project that I will never be able to shake from my memory. We were at Arlington National Cemetery in our nation's capital. We were to place a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I will never forget looking out over the serene hillsides at the beautiful buildings of our nation's government and then seeing in front of me a huge marble tomb with these words on it, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God." As I laid my hands on the wreath and listened to the playing of flags, thoughts were running through my mind about what that soldier had made the choice to fight for his country and to preserve his beliefs in America. He died so that we may live in a country where freedom exists.

Then my thoughts turned to how I had the opportunity to have the best of everything that they had. I asked myself a question that I'm going to ask you to ask yourself, "Am I committed to helping others so that they may have the opportunity I didn't have?"

Sometimes we have to make that choice. Many of these days would rather look out for themselves. If they have time after their personal interests to help others, then they may help out. Many people have a live and let live attitude. Maybe each of us decides not to get into the live and let live attitude. We help live. We will find more people returning the favor.

People who are willing to help certainly are not rare in the Future Farmers of America. I know that we are all here to help. There are many people who are committed to making our futures brighter.

From young to old alike I have been able to meet people and become affiliated with people who give much more of themselves than they receive in return. But interestingly enough, there are some people who give more to receive in return. Their satisfaction comes in helping others and seeing other people get help. There have been many times when people have asked me for advice. I have given it. I was flattered when asked but at the same time I really found that I caught myself feeling like I was being asked to help. After all, these are the times when I realized that committing myself to what I believed in was another way that choice that came about because of this grand organization.

I have seen myself change over the past six years because of my involvement in the FFA. The opportunities to learn, meet new friends and challenge myself have been endless. My heights have changed this one shy freshman into a person who has the utmost respect for himself and is willing to change the world for the better. We should, "seek not to be better than our neighbors but better than ourselves." Humility is a virtue which is difficult to have, but many times we have to become a person that all say yes or no!

All of us dream of someday being great or doing magnificent things. I can remember how several years ago, after attending the convention, I was more excited than ever about the thought of someone walking across this stage to receive an Americanism Award. I was told that it would take a great deal of dedication and work to achieve that goal. But I was not aware that there were so many things that went into such an honor. It was then that I realized that true greatness consists in being great in little things. It does not take grandiose gestures or complicated plans of events to achieve all you want to achieve. If you are willing to work, set some goals and maintain your humility, you will find yourself reaching great things. You will discover that the greatest truths are the simplest; and so are the greatest men. I guess that is why I gained so much and enjoyed every one of the experiences of this year. It was because I realized that I couldn't have asked for greater people to be around me. Whether you were hosting me in your home, sharing your experiences or asking me where there is no listening on the back of my jacket, you showed me that we were true friends.

I feel that one is one who helps to make our noblest thoughts, put forth

our best efforts and be our best selves.

Life really is made up of a series of choices. Sometimes we limit our selections and become unaware of what is really being offered to us and FFA gives us the opportunity to choose. I can truly say that through this organization I have been given a virtue which I hope will benefit you as much as it has me. That virtue is belief. Believing that my God-given talents will be used. Believing in myself. Believing in my fellow members. If used too tough to face reality

To accomplish great things we must not only act, but also dream.

Not only plan but also believe.

You can accomplish great things if you will allow of them and believe that they are. It is going to take a great deal of hard work, dedication and maybe even one or two unsuccessful attempts. But when you allow yourself to believe in your ability and test it over and over again, it becomes easier to accomplish what you want. I did not have the attitude that, "Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well." I soon found out that putting a lot of effort into any task, great or small, was quite rewarding. Not only was it quite rewarding, but it built my self-confidence level to the point where I finally began to challenge my abilities. As a matter of fact, challenges now can be quite fun and exciting compared to how I once viewed them.

The strength of your belief in yourself will determine your successes. But remember that whether you win, lose, or draw you will always be a better person for trying it. It has been an honor to serve you and the Future Farmers of America. I can only thank you and the Good Lord for the opportunity and strength to do so. That is why I am going to ask the National FFA Chapter to sing a benediction as my wish to each of you faced with a "series of choices."

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.

Lift up your eyes and see His face. And His grace forever.

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

May you accomplish all that is worthy to you, be humble in your actions, help others and above all, believe in you! Thank you for a great year and may God bless all.

"This is My Quest"

Many Goals, National Secretary

"My quest seems almost impossible that a year has gone by and I have realized a dream come true. Now it seems even more impossible that here I am today, on stage before 22,000 FFA members sharing my final address. What would this address contain, what would say as a tribute to my fellow members, family, friends and God?"

A couple months ago as the summer season drew to a close, I realized that November and the convention were near, it seemed almost impossible to avoid thoughts of this last address to you. At that time, I began to re-evaluate my year as National FFA Secretary, a year of tremendous and varied opportunities and experiences, which seemed vast and needed doing — a year when friendships began and maturity was inevitable. These words represent my thoughts, which give you only a vague description of what this year and my career in FFA has really been.

As I pondered these thoughts I sat down and began to write this address, which I will share with you today.

I can imagine that about 25 years ago it seemed impossible that a few settlers in this area would be able to prosper. They had no army, adverse weather conditions, disease and starvation, in search of their dream — a free, open society in which to live. However, it didn't seem so impossible on July 4th, 1776, as Thomas Jefferson, John Hancock and 55 other original patrons of the American Revolution signed their names.

In 1907, when Onville and Wilbur Wright put man in flight one windy day at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, another impossible dream came true.

Their flight sparked the imagination of millions of Americans exploring the possibilities of this

invention. The quest to improve man's use of air has developed into a fascinating world of transportation, which can take us around the world, to the moon and other points in the universe. Impossible?

It seemed impossible to millions of Americans in 1907 that the hostages in Iran would ever return home. Negotiations failed. An attempted rescue failed. Even prayers seemed to be in vain. However, it did seem so impossible when the hostages returned home, alive and well.

For years, there was only a slight possibility that NASA could ever develop, build and put into operation a space shuttle that could transport men and women into outer space on a regular basis.

The doubt diminished, however, on Palm Sunday 1981 when the space shuttle, Columbia was launched into orbit. That flight has been repeated many times now — a promising opportunity for science.

Many things have presented themselves as impossibilities over the course of history. However, these impossibilities have turned into possibilities, when many positive people found opportunity in impossibility. These positive people, determined to accomplish their task, asked for success when they said, "This is my quest, this is my chance to reach my goal, I am determined to realize this dream, no matter how impossible it seems."

Just as I prepared for the interview, I would undergo here in Kansas City, I often found myself unsure as to the actual success of this, another dream in the FFA — the dream to become a national officer. One day my classmate at college, I returned home, checked my mailbox and found a letter from a friend. Within the letter, I found a poem which would inspire me to continue in quest of my dreams. The words of Rod Stewart share an important message:

"If there's doubt and you're cold, Don't you worry what the future holds We gotta have hopes,

To teach us all To never give up on a dream

Time that we can't turn back

Touch the sun

No force on earth could stop your run

When your heart,

Bursts like the sun,

Never, never give up on a dream.

Shadows fall,

Deal the dice

You feel ya never got a place you can run.

Search forever,

For a finish line

But never give up on a dream.

Raging oceans

Fill your head

You push break all records set

Push yourself

Until the end,

But don't you give up on a dream.

No listen to me, . . .

You don't need restrictions,

You can't live on sympathy,

You just need to go the distance.

You need to need to be free.

Aspiring on,

To never lose

It'll take a long, long time

Till they can fill your shoes,

It'll take somebody whose a lot like you

Who will never give up on a dream

YOU MUST NEVER GIVE UP ON A DREAM."

I found in that poem — just enough to keep me going.

This year we have traversed this country visiting with you. I have been inspired as you have shared your many dreams with me. Many late nights were spent in homes, bus and trucks sharing with you about the possibilities can become realities if you dare. The members of the Future Farmers of America in this organization and successful members in life are much like that symbol of our organization.

FFA TIMES

Saturday, November 12, 1983

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zation's scope and unity — the eagle.

The eagle and you are always soaring higher together. You are committed to the future, but the eagle must reach far beyond its own limit to attain peaks yet unimagined. Such have been the attitudes of the many thousands of you I've visited with this year. Often times this year I have found myself down, because of the work load or situations surrounding the convention. But I have found that your dreams in the FFA has made my year wonderful.

This year represents not only a year in which a dream came true, but it represents an opportunity to share with others. Just four years ago this dream became a goal as I attended the National FFA Convention. I heard a man tell how a person can make his dreams come true if he is determined to move ahead positively. This goal of becoming a national officer seemed impossible to a minister's son, who four years ago had a work project which was extremely limited. My visit to this convention in 1979 began my journey of exploration into new avenues in the SDE program. Today I own my own business. All because someone said, "You can have a plan." I realized I could succeed as long as I could set and make a course toward attaining my goal. I can say, today, that my days in the FFA have been challenging but rewarding, tough but pleasurable. They have presented opportunities which seem limitless and have offered moments of gratification as success was experienced. One such moment, I feel right now, I am gratified in the moment as I realize the conclusion of a successful year and career in FFA.

In this gratification I must share my thanks with those folks who have helped me in my numerous thanks in the FFA.

To my family, I say thanks for the constant inspiration each of you has always given me. I think I might say that together everyone achieves more. The spirit of teamwork and love from you have secured me in this moment.

To my advisors and chapter, I can never say enough thanks for allowing me to explore the various avenues of the FFA with you. Your support has been invaluable over the years. To my five friends on the national officer list, I say thanks to you for your challenging, supportive and loving comrades that you have shared with me this year. The true quest of forming a team to work toward the betterment of FFA is conquered in this moment and I share it with you.

To each of you, my fellow FFA members, thank you for what each of you by name, I thank you for what you represent and mean to me. You represent the todays and tomorrows. You represent the todays and tomorrows. You represent the todays, new goals and challenging quests.

A state officer in Alabama last year said, "When I began this year, I thought I'll be leaving soon and beginning a journey. Well, I realize today that I've been at home all the while and today I begin the journey." This other best summary of my thoughts today is that before I leave on this journey of new quests, let me leave you, the members of the greatest youth organization in the country, the best of me. I find brighter tomorrow in the field of agriculture.

In closing, my final quest in the FFA is to share with you all the love and a song, my hope that each of you will continue to be a quest of reaching your dreams.

"The Impossible Dream"

I love you all, God Bless.

That, my friends, applies to you whoever you are, whatever you are and wherever you are. Oh, I can assure you there will be those who will not love you, telling you it can't be done — and even you, you will tell me that. But it's during those times of failure and disappointment, that we've got to remember all the good things that have come out of our life.

"It's All Up to You"

Wendell Jefferys, National Vice President

Western Region

It's been over seven years since I sat in that small oval classroom for the first time — and even then, I knew I had a very special friend that would be a part of my life for many years to come. But what I didn't know, was this new friend companion would literally influence me to thousands of people, take me to places I never dreamed of going, ultimately change the way I viewed life and would be one of the most selfless gifts that I have ever known.

Who is this unbelievable friend that I'm speaking of? Well, you could say I'm looking

at a part of that friend right now, as I look at you. Because, you see, this friend is best known as the Future Farmers of America and within the next day and a half a young man that has grown to love and cherish this organization will be formally inducted into the gold jacket for the first time. Although, it's because of having had the opportunity to wear this jacket that I know I will always have a special place in my life for the friend and have a deeper appreciation for my fellow man.

Serving as a national officer for this year has truly opened my eyes for the need to live life to the fullest — for if we don't, it will surely pass by us without even a second glance.

I've also learned this year that to get the most out of life you must be willing to use all of your God-given talents and potential.

As I've traveled across this country to camps, conferences and conventions, I've been amazed over time after time by people who have shown me the great potential that lies within every human being. The potential to go forth and accomplish things that many people think are simply impossible. You probably think I'm talking about people with unheard of I.Q.s and that's the reason I've been so impressed with the ordinary people — just like you and me.

I saw God-given talent and potential used to overcome what was said to be impossible, as I watched Bruce, a young FFA member who had been physically handicapped since birth. But that didn't stop Bruce, for today he's one of the main speakers in the closing and our parliamentary procedure team.

I witnessed the impossible conquered, as I watched Wes, a former FFA member, who as a member of the FFA, was able to give the closing because of a speech deck so bad that he could hardly be understood in the classroom. Today, Wes debates issues as a U.S. Congressman.

Now I'm not saying that handicapped people are the only ones who can meet a challenge and overcome it — but I am saying that each of us has the ability to do something great with our life, if we only make the decision to go to work and do it.

Even the most modest acts that we should be consistently reaching for to a new and unlimited challenge. Paul spoke of this in Phil. 4:14, when he said, "I press toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ. I am convinced that I will be those people who are constantly searching for opportunities to build their lives. These three things are the answer to many of the problems the world faces today. It is to be those people, in agriculture and all other fields, that are striving forward with God's guidance, that reach their ultimate goals in life.

Many of you will remember the impossible being conquered in 1979. It was during that year on August 11th, I was in a place called Isle, Maine, that three Algonquian Indians climbed left up into the sky and started giving us a lesson in how to survive. I was told that they were to survive. So, six days later, on August 17th, Larry Newman, Maxie Anderson and Ben Alonzo landed just 60 miles outside of Portland, Maine. These three men and their Double Eagle II, an estimated 3,123 miles in what is known as a historic crossing of the Atlantic. Newsweek reported Anderson as saying, "I feel the impossible, that's a feeling you can't find in too many places." Anderson went on to say, "I believe that unless frontiers are challenged, we are not growing as a society. I then we are not moving toward as a society."

What I'm truly trying to tell you this morning, FFA members, is not to settle with mediocrity — but instead, to reach for the stars and have the perseverance that only God Himself can give you. Realize that with your faith trusted firmly in Him, you can handle the toughest and the most challenging problem that life has to offer.

That, my friends, applies to you whoever you are, whatever you are and wherever you are. Oh, I can assure you there will be those who will not love you, telling you it can't be done — and even you, you will tell me that. But it's during those times of failure and disappointment, that we've got to remember all the good things that have come out of our life.

I've dreamed many dreams that never came true

I've seen them vanish at dawn

But I've realized enough of my dreams, thank God

To make me want to dream no more

I've traveled many a road that failed,

I've left me to weep alone,

But I've found enough of my dreams, true blue

I've found me keep trusting on

I've sown many seeds that fell by the way

For the birds to feed upon

But I've heard enough golden sheaves

**in my hand.
To make me keep sowing on.
I've drained the cup of
disappointment and pain
I've gone many days without sleep,
But I've sipped enough nectar from
the roses of life
To make me want to live on.**

Yes, my friends, indeed I do want to keep living on, because I want you to know that there's a life before us today and tomorrow that's worth living. It's worth making the most of each and every day.

Sure, I'll agree the newspapers and television screens across this land paint a mighty grim picture for a person wanting to succeed in this day and age. But this country has overcome problems in the past—and it will in the future, mainly because in the past this country has reared young men and women who realized it was their responsibility to make the decision of whether this country failed or prospered. Today we should be realizing the same, not only for ourselves, but for the generations that will follow us in this country and in this organization.

I've learned this year that no matter how much we give of ourselves, our time, our labor and our love, we will always receive more in return. There's no limit to the feeling of joy when you see a friend reap the rewards of success that you have made possible.

Today as Americans and as members of this organization, we have to remember that this country and this membership will only last as long as we help make it last. It's going to require that we pave a few roads and build some new bridges.

The following poem by Will Allen Orsolum expresses his feelings.

**An old man traveling a lone highway,
Came at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast, deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen-
tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream held no tears for him.
But he turned when safe on the other
And built a bridge to span the tide.
"Old man," cried a fellow pilgrim near,
"You're wasting your time in building here
Your journey will end with the closing
day."
You never again will pass this way.
You have crossed the chasm deep
and wide.
Why build you this bridge at the
even-ide?"
The builder lifted his old gray head:
"Good friend, in the path I have
come," he said,
"There falloweth after me today,
A youth whose feet must pass this
way."**

This stream which has been as a
naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth it may fulfil be.
He too, must cross in the twilight dim

**Good friend, I am building this bridge
for him."**

Fellow FFA members, the six of us have experienced a year that was made possible because of members that build bridges—so that we could cross life's many chasms and we have done anything during our year of service. I pray that we also have constructed a few bridges for young men and women to cross upon in the years to come.

At a moment like this, when someone has given you so much, it's very hard not to be a little sad, but we will not be sad, for we know that with every ending there's a new beginning. A beginning that will lead us to many more challenges in our life and in the days of those around us.

This morning, as I look around this auditorium, I see that my old friend has changed during the last seven years. My old friend has grown into someone who must also face many new challenges—and that someone is each one of you.

As we leave, I hope you will join us in a very simple challenge that we'll carry from this day on. It's a challenge of decision, the decision to not only make the most of the life God has given you, but to also help others make the most of their lives.

The great poet, Edgar Quast tells it best . . .

**"You are the fellow who has to
decide,
Whether you'll do it or toss it aside.
You are the one who makes up your
mind,
Whether you'll lead or linger behind.
Whether you'll try for the goal that's
 afar."**

**Use it or content to stay where you are.
Take it or leave it, here's something
to do,
Just think it over, it's all up to you."**

Today, if you'll meet this challenge, what a tremendous difference it could make for you, for this country and for this organization. Yes, friends, there is something to do and IT'S ALL UP TO YOU.

"The Greatest"
Bryan Stamps, National Vice President
Southern Region

It seems a very long time ago, and then not so long ago, that I was just beginning my tenure as an FFA member. That excitement and extreme interest level that has carried me through much and brought me to today, has all stemmed from one thought that filled my entire being with anticipation. As I sat in the small classroom with a handful of other tenth grade students, I listened to a lecture given by a gentleman, who had taught all of my seven brothers, and the thought of the great lesson I was to learn captivated my mind.

I had no idea that the lesson was to last until today and follow me hopefully, through a lifetime. I had no idea that this great lesson would have more than one or two teachers, but literally hundreds of thousands. I had no idea that the great lesson would encompass much dismay, disgust and disappointment.

I had no idea that the great lesson would be as a treasure chest filled with happiness, excitement and accomplishment.

I am sure that you are asking yourselves what is this great lesson that I have referred to so frequently. The lesson that has transformed a self-doubting, withdrawn, introverted teen into an aspiring, trusting, capable, understanding young man.

This lesson is quite simple and is composed of three major parts. These three modules have been disclosed to me very well, especially this year. The three parts to this lesson are time, place and people. Three nouns that at first glance are very denotative but to me, in my tenure as a member of the greatest youth organization, have taken on a more full, more clear connotation.

Time for us is a most valuable commodity. Because of the rarity and elemental qualities of this measure of duration, most of us have come to feel that we are subject to it. We feel that it dictates our tasks for each day. The great lesson I learned when investing time traveling over three hundred days this year, investing time with home and family and sharing experiences with the many members I met, is that time is ours to do with what we please. The great lesson teaches us that we cannot destroy time, but it not can be lost. We can insure our own destruction. The great lesson has taught, for any desires we have, for any goals we want to achieve, for any dreams we possess, that now is the best time to begin to work at them.

Certainly this year has been filled with things. I have seen the majestic sides of our great country and of our countries. I have enjoyed the beauty and comfort of many homes of FFA members and friends. I have learned much from the many projects I have seen and read about. All of these places have opened my eyes to many things I never knew existed. The greatest lesson has revealed that at all the places, of all the places one could wishfully dream to be, there is no place like the place you are in. The greatest lesson has taught, for any desires we have, for any goals we want to achieve, for any dreams we possess, that now is the best time to begin to work at them.

• those blue jackets as instructors, state staff, sponsors, friends and others who have been instrumental in my success because of their support. Of course family is special to each of us. It is with their concern, effort and care that we are able to dream some of those dreams that someday become realized achievements. I thank my family for allowing me that privilege.

An extended family of five others, this year, has given much of itself. Each member has provided a unique perspective and together we have epitomized the word "team." All of you will forever be a part of me. The great lesson has made me see that each of these groups of individuals is different, thanklessly. Each is deserving of respect and equal consideration. Each must appreciate others and be appreciated.

The greatest lesson has taught that all people are equally beautiful, and that for any desires we have, for any goals we want to achieve, for any dreams we possess, the best place to start is with, bear it with, and care with are those around you.

These three modules are all a part of a great lesson. A lesson I have learned as a member of the Future Farmers of America. It has been greatly intensified and magnified this year. The greatest lesson is learning to love yourself. Simply loving yourself is realizing that with your life and subsequently those around you, and you God can accomplish anything if you see that now is the best time, here is the best place and the best people who are those around you.

The greatest lesson is a simple one. It is a lesson I would love to experience and learn.

Honorary American Farmer Degree

Motivation for many FFA members, especially those members who achieve high honors in the organization, comes from their local advisors. Due to the outstanding efforts of these individuals in their service and guidance to young men and women preparing for careers in agriculture, the FFA annually recognizes less than one percent of them, the nation's chapter advisors.

The FFA also awards the Honorary American Farmer Degree to parents of the Stars Over America, the parents of the 1982-83 National FFA Officers, and other businesses and individuals who have helped advance agriculture and the FFA through their outstanding service on the national level.



Alabama: Joe Leonard Brown, Wetumpka; Lavonia W. Crook, Montgomery; Wesley Grant, Bay Minniette; Alton Farfard, Jackson; Turner Porter, Edgett; George L. White, Auburn University; Joseph A. White, Salem; Arizona: Harold G. Kibb, Scottsdale; Bob Moore, Phoenix; Leo C. Peterson, Mesa; Lloyd Anthony Ashlock, Yuma; Spriggs; Donald E. Voth, Fayetteville; California: Eddie Abert, Pacific Palisades; Karen C. Bachman, San Francisco; Jerry Fresno, Jack Chappell, Selma; Dennis Clement, Los Angeles; Claudine Eberly, Fallbrook; Howard Eberly, Fallbrook; Dennis Ervin, Altaville; Lloyd McCabe, Chowchilla; Clayton Drier, Covadine; Colorado: Robert Tuttle, Eckert; Connecticut: Betty Williams, Glastonbury; Delaware: William Dannenhausen, Dover; Georgia: Clyde Brannen, Atlanta; W. O. (Bill) Brink, Atlanta; Robert Brown, Athens; H.E. Clifton, Swainsboro; Fred W. Greer, Jr., Atlanta; Lloyd Herbert Hargett, Oswego; J. P. Henry, Merrill; Bluff; Eleanor C. Hilsman, Upper Marlboro; Cecil Massey, Sr., College Park; Gene L. Swackhamer, Baltimore; Massachusetts: Bruce G. Britton, Seekonk; Michigan: Donald McDonalds, East Lansing; Jack Sanderson, Fremont; Elton R. Smith, Lansing; Robert Tention, Deckerstown; Robert Wohlford, Middleville; Minnesota: Al Brudille, Truman; Michael Outlin, Wilmar; Rollin M. Demmon, St. Paul; Arnold Hikke, St. Paul; Charles Funk, Meloy; John Robert, Carson; Richard J. Johnson, St. Paul; Virgil Knudson, St. Paul; Layton Peters, Grand Rapids; Robert Schaefer, Lehi; Verne Springer, River River Falls; Russell V. Stansfield, Minneapolis; Richard O. Westrum, Albert; Luis, Mississippi: Howard Lemping, Jackson; Charles F. Lindley, Starkeville; Jimmy Donald, Jr., Grenada; Charles Stamps, Edwards; Arne Stamps, Edwards; Massachusetts: J. Gary Coleman, Jesse Flonors, Troy; Johnnie Day, Excello; Everett Fenton, Richards; Mary Hackman, Kansas City; G.W. Hanley, Mt. Vernon; Nebraska: Alene Blizsek, Lincoln; Duane Dunning, St. Paul; Mark Jorgenson, Omaha; Duane Lienemann, Blue Hill; Ernest Martin, Jewell; Pauline Martin, Lamar; Vivian Turley, Lincoln; Tom Turley, Lincoln; Robert G. Volk,

again and again. A lesson learned well need only to be acquired once and then reviewed from time to time. Thanks to you, I have learned your life lessons, the best people to know, how to live, how to think and breathe, and hopefully afterwards. Gifts of concern, memories, and love of and from you will make future successes easier.

In return for all that you have given me, I share the knowledge of the lesson and challenge you to adopt the three parts of the lesson in your life. I wish you joy, I wish you to "Love Yourself." Thanks much and God will bless.

Johnson, Barnbridge; W.B. Land, Atlanta; Charles Newton McGee, Sardis; W. Jack Moore, Swansboro; Gordon Sawyer, Gainesville, Hawaii; Theodore Kawamura, Hana; Idaho: Forrest Hyman, Jerome; Perry L. Robinson, Rexburg; Richard C. Watley, Meridian; Illinois: Walter Baysinger, Sikeston; Thomas J. Daley, Orangeville; Leslie Dierck, Margee; Louis Hathaway, Moline; Carol Hedrick, O'Neill; Harold Heidrich, Danville; Larry McSwaine, Avon; Maurice G. Meyer, Witt; William B. Schreck, Springfield; Richard Thomas, Carbondale; Robert R. Yorgier, Urbana; Indiana: Robert M. Book, Indianapolis; Iowa: Jerry Biernbaum, Manchester; James R. Howell, Medford; Irvin Meier, Oystart; W. W. W. Miller, Ames; Kansas: William A. Manhaton, Betty Baker, Kansas City; Kentucky: Robert Wayne Ezell, Paducah; James L. Hamner, Hammer; William Glen Lursh, Richmond; Korea: Ha Kyun Song, Sawston; Louisiana: Mary Lou Abin, Bush; Willis J. Abin, Bush; Robert V. Arceneaux, Thibodaux; Nevada: Jim Corneau, Eiko; New Jersey: Hilmer L. Jones, Rahway; Roger R. Locandro, New Brunswick; Grant Miller, Hackelstown; New Mexico: Harold Matson, Las Cruces; Dan Ware, Las Cruces; North Carolina: Bill Cable, Durham; Clyde Gosses, Clark; Bessie Coates, Clayton; Les Crues, Dan Ware, Las Cruces; Ohio: Gordon Ray Clevenger, Defiance; James E. Cummins, Columbus; Buddy B. Foster, Lima; Roland Kiefer, Anna; Beverly Kettler, Anna; Jerry Koverman, Anna; Donald R. Mercer, Covington; L. H. Newberry, Jackson; Robert Scott, Tontogany; Richard L. Tugend, Jeromesville; Myrene S. Tugend, Jeromesville, Oklahoma: Bill Berkenhoff, Morrison; Ross W. Chitwood, Sulphur; Helen C. Chitwood, Sulphur; Ferdie J. O'neal, Oklahoma City; Larry Eyer, Ocoee; Bill Forgy, Wellston; Kathleen M. Jones, Wellston; Mary Johns, Beckjord; Jack Jeffreys, Beckjord; Fred Ringer, Binger; Robert Taylor, Thomas; Avelta Taylor, Thomas; Oregon: William Jocky, Terner; John Bates, Portland; Pennsylvania: Samuel M. Curtis, University Park; Henry G. Gwiler, Allentown; Edward E. Heyler, Westfield; Gerald Chard, Wayneboro; David O. Stamans, State College; Edgar P. Yoder, University Park; Rhode Island: David K. Shontz, Peace Dale; South Dakota: Gary W. Hanson, Brookings; David G. Van Laarhoven, Wilm; Jim Galloway, Sioux Falls; Tennessee: Frank W. Williams, Paris; James E. Byrd, Murfreesboro; Texas: Finis Brannam, Lubbock; Charles Edwards, Fort Smith; Henry Hammack, Fergus; Raymond Hall, Austin; Glen Moore, Henrietta; Kenneth Lubbock, Lubbock; Gary Moore, Walter Oncken, Van Vleet, William Owsen; California: Keith Park, Bayshore; Leroy W. Smith, San Antonio; Ed Wagner, Lubbock; Jason Watson, Panhandle; Wade Fred M. Christensen, Garland, Virginia; G. McGraw, Hildreth; Cleveland: Jesse Winchester; Washington: Gary E. Marjan, Tacoma; Richard G. Rigmire, Fendville; California: William E. Williams, Kern; Oregon: Nathan Kepley, Washington; Virginia Smith, Washington; New Virginia: Curtis J. Kell, Park; Virginia: William Morgan; Max E. Park, Bark; Wisconsin: Carl Barend, Hartland; Marguerite Doyle, Green Bay; Gerald R. Wallsten, Beaver Falls; Gary Ralph, Beaver Falls; Gary Schrock, Hillsboro; Wyoming: James Wilson, Glendo

David George Ullrich, Jr., Burton; John Valdes, Georgetown; John Vanders, Wadswa; William Ward, Bogata; Debbie Wellmann, Washington; James Wilde, San Angelo; Richard Williams, Leedsville; William Woody, Jr., Lorena; Jeffrey Wright, Goldthreave; Eric Mabe, Cumbly; Johnny Mink, Amarillo; Robert Nadsen, Minola; Richard Miller, Garwood; Barry Whitmore, Lubin; Urv. Kevin Cummings, Filmore; Myron Cason, Layton; Keith Jensen, Crenshaw; Gerald Jeffrey Koye, Rockledge; Janet Stanton, Vernon; R. Brent Halls, Odgen; Scott Waukey, Aurora; VA Thomas Tabor, Hillsdale; George Lowe, Dale Dalton Campell, Mechanicsville; Kenneth Curtis, Spotylvania; Francis Harris, III, Hanover; Samuel Kirby, Mechanicsville; Ashley Kuykendall, Mechanicsville; William Weaver, Richard; Richard Paul, Mechanicsville; William Snodds, Nokesville; John Shiffert, Van Horn; John Smith, Jr., Granger; Michael Robblee, Rees; M. Solon; David Leavelle, Reed House; William Park, Spixwith; Wilbur Moore, Nokesville; Joseph Minshew, IV, Timberlake; John Luffell, Kilmorock; VA David Hughes, Timberville; VA Samuel Hezer, Jr., Middlebrook; Allen Herschman, Mt. Jackson; Kenneth Dalton, Meadows of Dan; Keith Croweay, Wytheville; James Bennett, Reid House; Bobby Leamer, Fancy Gap; Kent Anderson, Haysdenburg; VT Ben Dykema, N. Ferrisburg; Robert Judd, Jr., North Troy; Charles Purser, Montgomery CT; W. Kyle Shinn, Grandview; Jeff Alden, Reid; Robert Naberman, Ellensburg; Harvey Hamilton, Daxville; David Hauge, Satop; Jeff Roesser, Starvation; Tommie Spence, Clarkson; Lisa Yarbrow, Ellensburg; KY Al Zippo, Elm Hill Kerr; E. Williams, Tam Gap; Tonasket; James Jamerson, Sumner; Jeffrey Thompson, Vanover; Ted Tschirny, Mesa; Jim Morford; Wapato; WI Gary Burman, Sun Prairie; Michael Berger, Elk Mound; Colleen Brooks, Kewaunee; Jose Brusca, Delavan; Nancy Chack, Green Bay; Dale Dransinger, Granton; Wendy Felt, Wausau; Elm Gashed, Alma; Jennifer Smith, Jeff Heeg, Marshfield; Ken Kilgus, Madison; Steven Leberman, Rogers; Ode Luppke, Bondville; Greg Lund, Broadhead; Jerry May, Gray House; Darlene Anderson, Madison; Linda May, Oneida; Thomas Dibs, Horsholme; Edward Drethomas Dibs, Horsholme Falls; Melrose; Fern Porter, Fernmore; Jan Radcliffe, Minnetonka; Joseph R. Rasmussen, Wisconsin Rapids; WV C. Mark Barkley, Coxs Mills; Lorraine Babb, Hobbsford; James Schumacher, Fair Creek; Mark Spinger, Monroe; James Stensen, Auston; John Towner, Trempealeau; Roger Goeke, Monroe; Rick Geske, Effertz; Jeffrey Palmer, Madison; Jerry Sigg, Mineral Point; Kathleen Woodcock, Wisconsin Rapids; WV C. Mark Barkley, Coxs Mills; Lorraine Babb, Summit Point; Stephen Butler, Buchanan; Steven Elyson, Coxs Mills; Daniel Fozzlemon, Coxs Mills; Lorraine Babb, Buchanan; Raymond Randall Pops, Coxs Mills; Robert Harris, Sandoville; Chris Rapp, Fairview, NY; Tom Hager, Saratoga; John Keller, Buchanan; George Echeverry, Lost Springs; Wayne Wilson, Ala.



Agricultural Proficiency Awards



There are 22 different proficiency award areas. They vary from production agriculture and outdoor recreation to sales/service and processing. Of the applications received, 4 regional winners in each award area compete for the national title in their area. Each national winner receives a cash award, a plaque, and an all expense paid European travel seminar.

Agricultural Electrification

Sponsored by National Food and Energy Council, Inc. of Columbia, Missouri; Winpower Corporation of Newton, Iowa; and Klein Tools, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois.

Central—Brian Jones, Sheridan, Indiana
Eastern—Tony Smith, Milford Center, Ohio
Southern—David Moss, Readyville, Tennessee
Western—Bryan Tomlinson, Shawnee, Oklahoma

Agricultural Mechanics

Sponsored by International Harvester Company of Chicago, Illinois.

Central—Timothy Price, Bloomington, Wisconsin
Eastern—Kirk Palmer, Earlville, New York
Southern—Michael Swiley, Cantonment, Florida
Western—John Sousa, Jr., Madera, California

Agricultural Processing

Sponsored by Cargill Foundation of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Central—Bertan Strayer, Hudson, Iowa
Eastern—H. Lee McCartney, Hanoverton, Ohio
Southern—Steve Harris, Marlin, Tennessee
Western—Lyndell Fishback, Spring, Texas

Agricultural Sales and/or Service

Sponsored by Allis-Chalmers Corporation of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Central—Scott Robinson, Eskridge, Kansas
Eastern—Tracy Sloan Hitchner, Bridgeton, New Jersey
Southern—Rita Pate, Chipley, Florida
Western—Cody McDuffner, New Raymer, Colorado

Beef Production

Sponsored by Nasco International, Inc. of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin and Sperry New Holland of New Holland, Pennsylvania.

Central—Scott Vothauer, Barnes, Kansas
Eastern—Leroy Brilman, Oysterder, Ohio
Southern—John Cigar, Oyersburg, Tennessee
Western—Kerald Searcy, Gould, Oklahoma

Crop Production

Sponsored by Massey-Ferguson of Des Moines, Iowa.

Central—Michael Arends, Willmar, Minnesota
Eastern—Joan Shawhan, South Charleston, Ohio
Southern—James Tunnell, Rogersville, Tennessee
Western—Brent Stoker, Burley, Idaho

Dairy Production

Sponsored by AVCO New Idea of Coldwater, Ohio; The DeLaval Agricultural Division of Alfa-Laval, Inc. of Kansas City, Missouri; and American Breeders Service of DeForest, Wisconsin.

Central—Ken Kern, Dwelltown, Minnesota
Eastern—James Oster, Canastota, New York
Southern—Billy Moore, Cleveland, Tennessee
Western—Steve Nunley, Marlow, Oklahoma

Diversified Livestock Production

Sponsored by A. O. Smith Harvestore Products, Inc. of Arlington Heights, Illinois and Wayne Feeds Division/Continental Grain Company of Chicago, Illinois.

Central—Dan Fenoch, Evansville, Wisconsin
Eastern—Keith May, Bergton, Virginia
Southern—Dawn Anderson, Starr, South Carolina
Western—George Etchemendy, Lost Springs, Wyoming

Floriculture

Sponsored by The Lerio Corporation of Mobile, Alabama; Nursery Supplies, Inc. of Tustin, California, The Paul Ecke Poinsettia Ranch of Encinitas, California, and the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee, Inc. of Madison, Wisconsin.

Central—Miriam May, Oneida, Wisconsin
Eastern—Ronald Atkins, Raynham, Massachusetts
Southern—Stephanie Taylor, Cleveland, Tennessee
Western—Jane Martinez, Katy, Texas

Fish and Wildlife Management

Sponsored by Philip Morris Incorporated of New York, New York.

Central—Darin Smithson, Farina, Illinois
Eastern—Craig Dunaway, Weems, Virginia
Southern—Owen McCall, Jr., Mayo, Florida
Western—Chris Staudt, Lamesa, Texas

Forest Management

Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation of Tacoma, Washington.

Central—Rick Meyer, Kendallville, Indiana
Eastern—Donald Flood, Dillwyn, Virginia
Southern—Daniel Bond, Perkinson, Mississippi
Western—Jim Williams, Elma, Washington

Fruit and/or Vegetable Production

Sponsored by Briggs & Stratton Corporation Foundation, Inc. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Central—Bradley Wood, Reelsville, Indiana
Eastern—Robert Grantham, Jr., Goldsboro, North Carolina
Southern—Kevin Trail, Morrison, Tennessee
Western—Dean McKay, St. Paul, Oregon

Home and/or Farmstead Improvement

Sponsored by Upjohn, TUCO, Asgrow and Cobb, Agricultural Division of The Upjohn Company of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Central—Mitt Wineinger, Marion, Kansas
Eastern—William Allen, III, Jefferson, Maryland
Southern—Barry Watts, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Western—Dan Schmuck, Eaton, Colorado

Horse Proficiency

Sponsored by The American Quarter Horse Association of Amarillo, Texas.

Central—Annieque Cohen, Madison, Wisconsin
Eastern—Mark Snider, Liberty, North Carolina
Southern—Debra Jones, Abbeville, South Carolina
Western—Lonnie Scott, Halleck, Nevada

Nursery Operations

Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation of Tacoma, Washington.

Central—Lynn Granby, Verona, Illinois
Eastern—Rudiger Baumgaertel, Albany, Ohio
Southern—Mell Price, Northport, Alabama
Western—Melissa Sherman, Fallbrook, California

Outdoor Recreation

Sponsored by the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee, Inc., of Madison, Wisconsin.

Central—Jay Tescher, Beach, North Dakota
Eastern—Aaron Lehman, Newport, North Carolina
Southern—Michael Alexander, Woodbury, Tennessee
Western—Joe Crank, Cody, Wyoming



Placement in Agricultural Production

Sponsored by Hesston Corporation of Hesston, Kansas and The Shell Companies Foundation, Inc. of Houston, Texas.

Central—David Gafke, Belleville, Wisconsin
Eastern—Caryl Balmer, Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Southern—Ken Irwin, Cantonment, Florida
Western—Lyle Folter, Gervais, Oregon

Poultry Production

Sponsored by Kentucky Fried Chicken of Oklahoma; Red Brand fence/made by Keystone Steel & Wire Company of Peoria, Illinois, and the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation of Madison, Wisconsin.

Central—Scott Foss, Maddock, North Dakota

Eastern—Carlton Grady, Albertson, North Carolina

Southern—Keith McLaughlin, Oanville, Alabama

Western—Jon Thompson, Milburn, Oklahoma

Sheep Production

Sponsored by Carnation Company—Milling Division of Los Angeles, California and American Sheep Producers Council, Inc./Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc. of Denver, Colorado.

Central—Bryan Hoffman, Danvers, Illinois
Eastern—Irvin Armentrout, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Southern—David Hays, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Western—Robert Arndt, Buffalo, Wyoming

Soil and Water Management

Sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund of Troy, Michigan.

Central—Kevin Wetzel, Waterville, Minnesota

Eastern—Brian Thomas, Kenton, Ohio

Southern—Britt Parker, Perkinson, Mississippi

Western—Owen Lyles, Lakewood, New Mexico

Swine Production

Sponsored by Pfizer Inc. of New York, New York.

Central—Mike Westrich, Burtrum, Minnesota

Eastern—Paula Watson, Seven Springs, North Carolina

Southern—Thomas Rimmer, Cedar Grove, Tennessee

Western—Paul Schwartz, San Angelo, Texas

Turf and Landscape Management

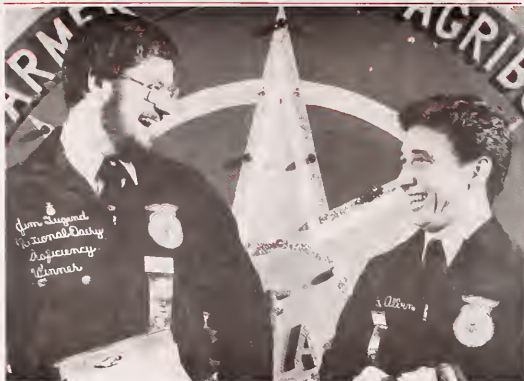
Sponsored by O. M. Scott & Sons of Marysville, Ohio.

Central—Randall Haine, St. Louis, Michigan
Eastern—Gordon Messingill, Four Oaks, North Carolina

Southern—Brian Fulkman, Jacksonville, Florida

Western—Arnold Deaguerro, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Stars Over America



Awards provided by Executive Sponsors of the FFA Foundation.

Audio-visuals sponsored by Levi Strauss & Company.

The Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman of America awards are the highest honors for the FFA members in production agriculture and agribusiness. The competition is tough, chosen from 730 American Farmers, each Star receives \$1000 and each regional star receives \$500.

Central Region Star Farmer—T. J. Martin, Lamar, Nebraska

Star Farmer of America—James Tugend, Jeromesville, Ohio

Southern Region Star Farmer—Charles Hiltman, Walkinsville, Georgia

Western Region Star Farmer—Robert Clitwood, Sulphur, Oklahoma

Central Region Star Agribusinessman—Jeff Heidrick, Durville, Illinois

Eastern Region Star Agribusinessman—Glenn Wenger, Myerstown, Pennsylvania

Star Agribusinessman of America—Clint Albin, Bush, Louisiana

Western Region Star Agribusinessman—R. Lyndon Taylor, Thomas, Oklahoma

NATIONAL CONTESTS

Agricultural Mechanics Contest

Sponsored by The Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.

First Place Team—Adams, Minnesota: Larry Oudakht, Chris Gerber, Dennis Vogt
High Individual—Larry Oudakht, Adams, Minnesota

Dairy Cattle Contest

Sponsored by Associated Milk Producers, Inc.

First Place Team—Cleveland, Tennessee: Glenn Calfee, Kevin Bishop, Alvin Bishop
High Individual—Jeff Sa, Tutors, California

Farm Business Management Contest

Sponsored by John Deere.

First Place Team—Osage, Iowa: Mike Hain, Devin Norby, Scott Pringnitz
High Individual—Troy Watson, Gilmer, Texas

Floriculture Contest

Sponsored by the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

First Place Team—Portland, Oregon: Cindi Smith, David Upfirth, Laura Evitt
High Individual—Stephanie O'Hara, Spokane, Washington

Livestock Contest

Sponsored by Ralston Purina Company.

First Place Team—Chattanooga, Illinois: Brett Bayston, Don Rich, Keith Wilkin
High Individual—Mike Craven, Stel, Missouri

Meats Contest

Sponsored by Farmland Foods, Inc., Geo. A. Hormel & Co., Jones Dairy Farm, Oscar Mayer & Co.

First Place Team—Hanford, California: Kathleen Loya, Jeff Toll, Ryan Champain
High Individual—Damon Sandlin, Williston, Florida

Milk Quality and Dairy Foods Contest

Sponsored by Mid-America Dairymen, Inc., Patz Company.

First Place Team—Hanford, California: Gina Giacomazzi, Tracy Flores, Robin Frye
High Individual—Joseph Richardson, Licking, Missouri

Nursery/Landscape Contest

Sponsored by American Association of Nurserymen, Wholesale Nursery Growers of America, Amfac Garden Products, Inc., Kubota Tractor Corporation.

First Place Team—Atlanta, Georgia: Allen Darden, Lisa Neldert, John Hatfield
High Individual—Jane Praska, Crasco, Iowa

Poultry Contest

Sponsored by Hubbard Farms, Victor F. Weaver, Inc.

First Place Team—Springdale, Arkansas: Patty Strub, Marina Riles, Wendy Fritz
High Individual—Wendy Fritz, Springdale, Arkansas



Saturday, November 12, 1983



National FFA Talent

Sponsored by Who's Who Among American High School Students and the FFA Foundation General Fund.



The National FFA Talent, directed by Don Erickson, Makoti, North Dakota, provided just that, a variety of talent for the convention.

Arkansas: Halfhead; Danny Fields	New York: John Browne; Lolly Grodner
California: Nevada Union; Lani Faulkner; Wendy Espino	North Dakota: Fargo; Theresa Harmon
Colorado: Windsor; Randall Propp	Wyndmere; Edmund Georger, Carl Wittenburg, Cory Fule
Florida: Plant City; Stephanie Parker, Shaylla Wetherington	Ohio: John Glenn; Brad Morrison
Kansas: Manhattan, Steve Riley	Benjamin Logan; Debbie Wiley
Indiana: Monrovia; John Schmitz, James Schmitz	Morrison; Frank Lynn
Northfield: Mike Lauer, Felicia Terrell, Todd Kellfaber, Amy Soules, Mikki Gidley, Tim Kellfaber, Toni Miller, Honda Tucker, Carla Yocum	South Dakota: Elktion; Charles Davis, Chuck Luze
Minnesota: Montevideo: Jeff Williamson, Timm Sachariason, Wade Tongen, Steve Weckwerth, Wyatt Weckwerth	Tennessee: Hohenwald; Brian Peery
Montgomery; Gary Korbel	Chester Co.; Jimmy Melton
Alpen; Ronette Losinski	Elgin; Sherry Rogers, Vicki Rogers, Jordan Goehring, Paula Stallon, Leslie Hudson, Elizabeth Chambers, Kati Martin
Missouri: Republic; Kevin Dunn	Texas: Elgin; Sherry Rogers, Vicki Rogers, Jordan Goehring, Paula Stallon, Leslie Hudson, Elizabeth Chambers, Kati Martin
Nebraska: Ord; Lynette Staab, Andy Bredthauer, Jeanine Staab, Brad Andresen, Scott Vancura, Jay Knapp	West Virginia: Moorefield; Jeff Keplingier, Eddie Keplingier, William E. Keplingier, Jr., Connie Keplingier
New Hampshire: Glicking; Richard Cole	Wisconsin: Belleville; Angela Corbin
	River Falls; Lisa Brusky
	Caesar Rodney; Angel Breakie, Heidi Mazz
	Idaho; Ken Sharpe



New National Alumni President

Kenneth G. Seering, Denmark, Wisconsin

Byron F. Rawls

Byron F. Rawls is a man who has shaped the lives of hundreds of thousands of young men and women all over the country. Whether he was teaching vocational agriculture in Alabama or serving in the FFA's highest office, Rawls always left those around him with a positive feeling about themselves and an excitement about vocational agriculture and the FFA.

Born in Florida and reared in Alabama, he was first associated with the FFA as a member of the Pleasant Home FFA Chapter in Andalusia, Alabama. "When my yo-ag teacher laid his hand on my shoulder, I was 20 feet tall," Rawls said. FFA was "the inspiration for me to pursue a professional career."

After high school, Rawls attended Auburn University and received his bachelor's degree in 1949. Rawls started his career in 1949 as a yo-ag teacher in Evergreen and Auburn, Alabama. He received his master's degree in



1955 from his undergraduate alma mater and, in 1959, joined the State Department of Education in Alabama FFA Executive Secretary. Starting in 1966, Rawls spent over 12 years at the Regional Office of the U.S. Office of Education in Kansas City, Missouri. Rawls became Program Specialist in Agricultural Education in the U.S. Office of Education in Washington, D.C. and National FFA Advisor in 1979.

In reflecting on his career in vocational agriculture and the FFA, Rawls said "I can think of no other career that has paralleled the one I've had working for the young people of America through the FFA."

National FFA Alumni



The FFA Alumni Association has over 23,000 members in approximately 750 local affiliates. These members have joined together to help educate others in agriculture, to generate support for the FFA to help build confidence in today's FFA members, to provide inspiration to younger members and to help others as they were helped in FFA.

The National FFA Alumni Association held its 12th Annual Convention in conjunction with the National FFA Convention. During their convention the host special workshops for all FFA members, advisors and friends of the FFA. Also during their convention the recognize their special achievers.

Outstanding FFA Alumni Achievement Awards

Dr. O. S. Gilbertson, Lincoln, Nebraska; Odell Miller, Columbus, Ohio; Vern J. Oerger, Madison, Wisconsin

Outstanding FFA Alumni Affiliate Awards

GOLD: LaRoy, Illinois; Bushnell-Prarie, Illinois; Harlan, Iowa; Washington, Kansas; Osceola, Missouri; East Butler, Nebraska; Buckeye Valley, Ohio; New Lexington, Ohio; Yelm-Rainier, Washington; Blackhawk, Wisconsin; Denmark, Wisconsin

SILVER: Pikes County, Georgia; Delta, Indiana; Waverlyville, Maryland; Cassopolis, Michigan; Milan, Missouri; West Point, Nebraska; South Rowan, North Carolina; Flandreau, South Dakota; Blair, Wisconsin; Wisconsin

BRONZE: Westwood, Arizona; Barren County, Kentucky; North Branch, Minnesota; Sun Valley, North Carolina; Warren County, Tennessee; Mission, Texas

INTERNATIONAL FFA PARTICIPANTS

The Work Experience Abroad (WEA) program enables FFA members to work on farms in other countries for various time intervals. This program also encourages American families to host students from foreign agricultural backgrounds.

WEA OUTBOUND STUDENTS

CALIFORNIA: Kelly Cunningham, Le Grand; Raelene Hindmarsh, Santa Maria; Jennifer Hosper, Hayfork; Karen Moorman, Potter Valley; Phillip Chavez Shook, Blythe; Brenda Switzer, Sonoma; Michelle Wakeham, Clements; FLORIDA: Walter Fernandez, Tampa; Ronald Owen, Winter Haven; KANSAS: Tracy Deel, Council Grove; Bryan Russell, Cozette; ILLINOIS: David Allen, Windsor; Brenda Burnett, Bethany; Dale Hoffman, Sycamore; Beth Johnston, Victoria; Leslie Morris, Sycamore; Dana Stenger, Tuscola; Julie French, Farmington; INDIANA: Linda Myers, Brownstown; IDAHO: Traci Feilung, Marengo; Jerry Gosch, Webster City; Martin Gibson, Elgin; Christine Schumacher, West Point; MICHIGAN: Robert Forline, Honor; David Kucharczyk, Sault St. Marie; Jim Webster, Williamston; Neal Anderson, Montevideo; Peter Brabner, Alwatat; Evelyn Ellen, St. Paul; Kirk Lee, Shorburn; Anne LeBarre, Lafayette; Peter Petersen, Murdoch; Fran Wherry, Le Roy; MISSOURI: Gregg Morgan, Columbia; Eddie Nashan, Carrollton; Pam Proffitt, Pottersville; Marsha Roach, Republic; MONTANA: Todd Spar, Ballantine; Jon Wearley, Augustus; NEW JERSEY: Andy Butler, Burlington; NEW MEXICO: Rod McSherry, Deming; NEW YORK: Teri von Seydewitz, Latham; NORTH DAKOTA: John Keller, Bisbee; Tania Martin, Minot; Chris Nelson, White Lake; DHID: Melani Emyer, Lexington; Martin Hahn, Bellevue;

Timothy Hutchinson, Salesville; Steve Kretzer, Eaton; Todd Plocher, Shelby; Amy Pulse, Columbus; Greg Williams, Eaton; OKLAHOMA: Larry DuBoise, Edgett; Shawn Glala, Lexington; Lisa Miksh, Shawnee; DRE-GDN: Carolyn Church, Carleton; Jeff Davis, Albany; Brent Gibbs, Pendleton; Margaret Gnos, Albany; Michelle Pirelli, Klamath Falls; Scott Schoenborn, Astoria; PENNSYLVANIA: Gwendolyn Boyard, Union City; Jacqueline Johns, Volant; Patrick Kalgen, Falls Creek; Mike Plautz, Jeffrey Stoltz, Argyle; Mike Thompson, Ulysses; Amy Ann Winksky, Dyer; TENNESSEE: John Clear, Dyersburg; Steven Gass, Mosheim; Rhedona Rose, Cookeville; TEXAS: Jennifer Bailey, Prairie View; Omar Demmon, Houston; Steven Ray, Robert Lee; VIRGINIA: Melanie Hughes, Harrisonburg; Cathy Hively, Broadway; WASHINGTON: Marica Pease, Everett; WISCONSIN: Gwen Belzold, Amery; Lee Belzold, Potosi; Mitchell Case, Spring Valley; Hans Huschitt, Brownstown; Jeff Ihm, Barnfield; Bruce Kane, Marshall; Mary Keough, Montello; Adele Lemke, Denmark; Jill Le Roy, Green Bay; Dawn Misk, Mineral Point; Darlene Maurer, Madison; Harrison Mink, Norwalk; Stuart Muck, Shawano; Cynthia Mutzner, Spencer; Keith Pien, Monroe; John Reban, New Richmond; Carolee Roberts, Eldorado; Allen Wall, Greenleaf.

15, 25, and 35-Year Sponsors

Each of these categories recognizes those special sponsors who have supported the National FFA Foundation, Inc., with continuous contributions.

15-Year Sponsors

Lawrence L. Augenstein; Export Leaf Tobacco Company; Hallmark Cards, Incorporated; Donald N. McDowell; National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; Ocean Spray Cranberries, Incorporated; The Proctor & Gamble Fund; Soo Line Railroad Company; The Upjohn Company/Agricultural Division; H. K. Webster Company, Incorporated

25-Year Sponsors

Agco Chemical Company; International Multifoods Corporation; Occidental Chemical Company; Rockwell International/Automotive Operations

35-Year Sponsors

Agway Foundation; Allied Corporation; Butler Manufacturing Company Foundation; The Delaware Agricultural Division of Alta-Lark, Incorporated; Ford Motor Company Fund; International Business Machines Corporation; The Kansas City Star Company; Oscar Mayer Foods Corporation; Sperry New Holland



Saturday, November 12, 1983

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WEA INBOUND STUDENT COUNTRIES

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Scotland, South Africa, Switzerland, Taiwan and Wales.



Building Our American Communities

Sponsored by R.J.
Reynolds Industries, Inc.

The Building Our American Communities (BOAC), encourages FFA chapters to commit all their members to the task of making their communities better places in which to live and work.

National Winner—Franklin Center, Illinois
Eastern Region Winner—Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

Southern Region—Bradley, Tennessee
Western Region—Elma, Washington

Gold

California: Fresno-Central; **Illinois:** Franklin Center; Salem; Sycamore; **Idaho:** Webster City; **Kentucky:** Spencer County; **Montana:** Park City; **Nebraska:** Ravenna; **New Mexico:** Carrizozo; **New York:** Chateaugay; **Ohio:** Fairfield Union; Maplewood Area J.V.S.; **Marysville, Pennsylvania:** Elizabethtown; **South Dakota:** Letcher; **Tennessee:** Bradley; **Texas:** Kingwood; **Utah:** Wasatch; **Washington:** Elma; **West Virginia:** Marion County; **Wisconsin:** Oenahm; **Green Bay East:** Madison East

Silver

Alabama: Dale County; **Arizona:** Yuma; **Arkansas:** Lepanto; **California:** Ag Farm; **Idaho:** Burley; **Kansas:** Lillio; **Nebraska:** Brownstown; Bushnell; **Prairie City:** Dixon; **LaSalle, Peru, Indiana:** Brownstown Central; **Idaho:** Anna; **Noble:** Prairie Heights; **Woodland:** Iowa; **Arkansas:** Creston; **Kansas:** Marion; **Plainsville:** **Kentucky:** Green County; **Lyon County:** **Michigan:** Cassopolis; **Centerville:** Sault Ste. Marie; **Minnesota:** Truman; **Missouri:** Farmington; **Mountain Grove:** Osceola; **Nebraska:** Hartington; **New Hampshire:** Much-To-Do; **New York:** Madison; **Tin Valley:** **North Carolina:** Bartlett Valley; **Chase:** Halsboro; **Mountain Heritage:** Princeton; **South Elm:** Nash Senior; **North Dakota:** Drake; **Idaho:** Anna; **New Lexington:** Riverdale; **Oklahoma:** Purcell; **Silo:** **Pennsylvania:** Cedar Crest; **Texas:** Butler; **Virginia:** Abingdon; **Appomattox Senior:** James Wood; **Turner Ashby:** **Washington:** Eatonville; **Illinois:** West Virginia; **Wisconsin:** Mt. Horeb; **Wyoming:** Devils Tower

Bronze

Alabama: Jasper; **Scottsboro:** Walker Area Voc. Center; **Head Block:** **Alaska:** North Pole; **Arkansas:** Lake City; **Poughkeepsie:** **South Side:** **Colorado:** Moffat County; **Weid Central:** **Connecticut:** Mattabesset; **Tumbull:** **Delaware:** Caesar Rodney; **Florida:** Allentown; **McArthur Horticultural:** Santa Fe Senior; **Sarasota Vo-Ag:** **Georgia:** Lowndes; **Whigham:** **Hawaii:** Kailua; **Kohala:** **Waialua:** **Illinois:** Dekalb; **Hampshire:** LeRoy; **Northwest Suburban:** St. Anne; **Township:** Woodstock; **Iowa:** Fort Madison; **Mount Airy:** **North Fayette:** **County:** **North Pole:** **Prairie:** **Riceville:** **Sibley:** **Starmont:** **Wind Bend Hawkeye:** **West Lyon:** **Kansas:** Fort Scott; **Hanover:** **Hawatha:** **Hill City:** **Manitoka:** **Okanoshima:** **Oenham Springs:** **Oak Grove:** **Ray:** **Ward III:** **Maine:** **Easton:** **Limestone:** **Maryland:** Brunswick; **Frederick County Voc-Tech Center:** **Massachusetts:** Essex Agricultural; **Minnesota:** Cannon Falls; **Danube:** **Forest Lake:** **LeSueur:** **Montevideo:** **New Ulm:** **Sherburn:** **Southland:** **Mississippi:** **Carthage:** **Manitachie:** **Missouri:** **Aurora:** **Linn:** **North Harrison:** **Nebraska:** **East Butler:** **The Verdigris:** **Nebraska:** **Dux Valley:** **Stepie Valley:** **New Hampshire:** **Dover:** **New Jersey:** **Cumberland Regional:** **Dakrest:** **New Mexico:** **Goddard:** **North Dakota:** **Bisbee Egeland:** **Idaho:** **Bloom-Carroll:** **Bowling Green:** **Spencer:** **Oklahoma:** **Watts:** **Oregon:** **Newberg:** **Sherwood:** **Pennsylvania:** **Ponns Manor:** **Twin Valley:** **Rhode Island:** **Charlton:** **No. Scituate:** **South Carolina:** **Dorman:** **Lons:** **South Dakota:** **Phillips:** **Roslyn:** **Wall of the Badlands:** **Spencer:** **Tennessee:** **Riverdale:** **Texas:** **Baytown:** **Robert E. Lee:** **Utah:** **Millard Eagle:** **Virginia:** **Lee-Davis:** **Stonewall Jackson Jr.:** **Wisconsin:** **Amery:** **Belleville:** **Bloomer:** **Oelavon-Garlen:** **Green Bay Southwest:** **Janesville-Parker:** **Mishicot:** **Monroe:** **Oregon:** **Valders:** **Wyoming:** **Gillette**

National FFA Chapter Award Program

Sponsored by The
General Fund of the
National FFA
Foundation, Inc.

The National FFA Chapter Award Program encourages and rewards overall chapter activities. Awards are based on the chapter's performance in 11 areas. Supervised occupational experience programs, cooperative education, community service, leadership development,

earnings and savings by members, state and national activities, conduct of meetings, scholarship, public relations, alumni relations and recreation. Once chapters reach the national level, they may receive either a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Emblem rating.

Gold

Arizona: Kofa; **Arkansas:** Marshall; **Colorado:** Eaton; **Flagler:** **Moffat County:** **Florida:** **Bronson:** **Sarasota Vo-Ag:** **Illinois:** **Amboy:** **Clinton:** **DeKalb:** **Franklin Center:** **LeRoy:** **North West Suburban:** **District 214-211:** **Sycamore:** **Indiana:** **Benton Central:** **Prairie Heights:** **Idaho:** **Alamosa:** **Estherville:** **Guttenberg:** **Linn-Mar:** **Manchester:** **Prairie:** **Starmont:** **Union:** **Webster City:** **Kansas:** **Marion:** **Kentucky:** **Caldwell County:** **Farmington:** **Oldham County:** **KY 1040:** **Louisiana:** **Oenham Springs:** **Oak Grove:** **Minnesota:** **Cannon Falls:** **New Ulm:** **Montana:** **Flathead:** **Nebraska:** **East Butler:** **Lehigh:** **West Holt:** **New Mexico:** **Aztec:** **New York:** **Sidney:** **North Dakota:** **Wahalla:** **Idaho:** **Miami Trace:** **New Lexington:** **Tin-Rivers J.V.S.:** **Oklahoma:** **Eglin:** **Guthrie:** **Pennsylvania:** **Lower Gaghin:** **North Lebanon:** **South Dakota:** **Roslyn:** **Tennessee:** **Bradley:** **Utah:** **Millard Eagle:** **Virginia:** **Broadway:** **James Wood:** **Spotswood:** **Washington:** **Elma:** **Zillah:** **Wisconsin:** **Denmark:** **Monroe:** **Wyoming:** **Devils Tower:** **Douglas**

Silver

Alabama: **Scottsboro:** **Arizona:** **Yuma:** **Arkansas:** **La-vaca:** **California:** **Fairbrook:** **Connecticut:** **Housatonic Valley:** **Florida:** **Barlow Sr.:** **Blountstown:** **Lebo Sr.:** **Orlando-Central:** **South Sumter Senior:** **Tate Senior:** **Trenton:** **Williston Senior:** **Georgia:** **Gilmer County:** **Perry High:** **Idaho:** **Kuna:** **Illinois:** **Belvidere:** **Bushnell-Prairie City:** **Georgetown:** **Hampshire:** **Salem:** **Belmont:** **Indian-Brownstown:** **Central:** **Carroll:** **Clinton Central:** **Tipton:** **Iowa:** **Buffalo Central:** **Lincoln:** **Oreston:** **Dysart-Genseo:** **Mediapolis:** **North Bliss:** **Role Pilot Creek:** **Kansas:** **Cherryvale:** **Hill City:** **Labette County:** **Mankato:** **Scott City:** **Kentucky:** **Lyon County:** **Sedalia:** **Spencer County:** **Louisiana:** **Carmon:** **Maryland:** **Damascus:** **Michigan:** **Centerville:** **Minnesota:** **Sherburn:** **Truman:** **Montana:** **Fairfield:** **Nebraska:** **Answorth:** **New Mexico:** **Goddard:** **New York:** **Medina:** **North Carolina:** **Chase:** **Mountain Heritage:** **South Rowan:** **North Dakota:** **Rugby:** **Dio:** **Bloom-Carroll:** **Logan Elm:** **Maplewood Area Joint Vocational:** **Marysville:** **Mississinewa Valley:** **Osage:** **Peebles River Valley:** **Talawanda:** **Upper Valley Joint Vocational:** **Wauson:** **West Virginia:** **Oklahoma:** **Altus:** **Alva:** **Fairview:** **Springer:** **Oregon:** **Cascade:** **Eglin:** **Pennsylvania:** **Cedar Crest:** **Clouster:** **Grassland:** **H. G. Parkinson:** **South Dakota:** **Huron:** **Tennessee:** **Riverside:** **Texas:** **Cleburne:** **James E. Taylor:** **Pleasanton:** **Utah:** **Tooele:** **Virginia:** **Appomattox Senior:** **Montevideo Intermediate:** **Turner Ashby:** **Washington:** **Eatonville:** **Enumacaw:** **Evergreen:** **North Lebanon:** **South Carolina:** **Dorman:** **South Dakota:** **Phillips:** **Black Hawk:** **South Valley:** **Blanchardville:** **Pecatonica:** **Evansville:** **Janesville-Parker:** **Mt. Horeb:** **Sauk Prairie:** **Viroqua:** **Wyoming:** **Gillette**

ber: **Arkansas:** **Berryville:** **Clatsop:** **California:** **Morro Bay:** **Mt. Whitney:** **Colorado:** **Fowler:** **McClave:** **Dan-neke:** **Nebraska:** **Kearney:** **Ottawa:** **New York:** **Smyrna:** **Florida:** **Tate:** **Williston Sr.:** **Georgia:** **E-fingham County:** **Riverdale:** **Illinois:** **Cissna Park:** **De-kalb:** **Franklin Center:** **Nashville:** **Somerset-Leland:** **Washington:** **Idaho:** **Kootenai:** **Orient-Mocking:** **Kansas:** **Marysville:** **Louisiana:** **Oak Grove:** **Maine:** **Easton:** **Presque Isle:** **Maryland:** **Brunswick Senior:** **Massachusetts:** **Wachusett:** **Michigan:** **Marshall:** **Minnesota:** **Lamberton:** **Minnesota:** **Lanesboro:** **New Ulm:** **St. James:** **Wendell:** **Pemberton:** **Mississippi:** **Kossuth:** **Missouri:** **Aurora:** **Montana:** **Columbus:** **Nebraska:** **Geneva:** **Nevada:** **Ruby:** **Mountain:** **Stepie Valley:** **New Jersey:** **Belvidere:** **Cumberland Regional:** **New York:** **Dio:** **North Carolina:** **Oreston:** **Mountain Heritage:** **South Western:** **Dio:** **Columbia Co. JVS:** **Marysville:** **Dio:** **New Lexington:** **Oregon:** **Wallowa:** **Pennsylvania:** **Headwaters:** **South Carolina:** **Pleasant Hill:** **South Dakota:** **Harrisburg:** **Roslyn:** **Tennessee:** **Woodbury:** **Texas:** **Cleburne:** **North Carolina:** **Wachusett:** **Utah:** **Millard Eagle:** **North Sevier:** **Virginia:** **Pulaski County:** **West Virginia:** **Moorefield:** **Wisconsin:** **Amery:** **Cadott:** **Holsham-Dan:** **Green Bay East:** **Janesville-Parker:** **Mt. Horeb:** **New Auburn:** **Onishok:** **Sauk Prairie:** **Wyoming:** **Douglas:** **Gillette**

Bronze

Alabama: Dale County High; **Douglas:** **Ider:** **Scottsboro:** **Alaska:** Delta Junction; **Arizona:** Antelope Union; **Gil-**



Saturday, November 12, 1993

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National Chapter Safety Awards

Sponsored by Dow
Chemical, U.S.A., and
Farm & Industrial
Equipment Institute.

The National Chapter Safety Awards program recognizes chapters for achievements in promoting safety. Chapter efforts included a diversity of projects—from cardio-pulmonary resuscitation classes to farm show safety clinics. Chapters reaching the national level receive a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Emblem rating.

Gold

Florida: Sarasota Vo-Ag; **Illinois:** Amboy; **Bluffs:** **Brownstown:** **Indiana:** **Brownstown Central:** **Iowa:** **Oy-** **Nebraska:** **Kansas:** **Marion:** **Kentucky:** **Lyon County:** **Spencer County:** **Eglin Bend:** **Clinton Falls:** **Missouri:** **Haltway:** **Osceola:** **Nebraska:** **East Butler:** **Verdigris:** **New York:** **Chateaugay:** **North Carolina:** **Princeton:** **Dio:** **Bowling Green:** **Miami Trace:** **Tennessee:** **Bradley:** **Virginia:** **Broadway:** **James Wood:** **Washington:** **Eatonville:** **Elma**

Silver

Florida: **Bloomington:** **Hawaii:** **Waialua:** **Idaho:** **Troy:** **Il-** **linois:** **Bushnell-Prairie City:** **Sycamore:** **Webster:** **Indiana:** **Prairie Heights:** **Idaho:** **Prairie:** **Kansas:** **Ho-** **Scott City:** **Kentucky:** **Apola:** **Louisiana:** **Natchitoches**

This poses some tough choices for farmers and policy makers. The main problem in any program is money and this is difficult to come by in these uncertain times. But to save our soil and our future, money must be spent.

We must realize that soil is the base for agriculture and the American economy. And, we, as members who make up this vital industry of agriculture are the stewards of the soil. We should exert our influence on the national leaders to preserve our good American farmland. We cannot stand idly by, ignoring the problem, while watching our future erode with the soil.



Agricultural Career Show

The National Agricultural Career Show is an exposition of careers in agriculture and agribusiness. It is a place where FFA members and advisors can visit on a one-to-one basis with representatives from industry, government, professional associations and educational institutions. It's this personal connection with a professional that may make an FFA member select a certain career or explore more opportunities in the many and diversified career fields in agriculture.

Career Show exhibitors are encouraged to demonstrate, answer questions, and display those things of interest to people with a keen interest in agriculture. Things such as education and experience required for careers, job opportunities, educational materials for use in agricultural education, new products, and new agricultural technologies being developed.

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AGRI-FARM PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN
AMERICAN BREEDERS SERVICE
AMERICAN-INTERNATIONAL CHAROLAIS ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN MORGAN HORSE INSTITUTE
AMERICAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
AMERICAN POLLED HEREFORD ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN SIMMENTAL ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION
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FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPT.
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS LABORATORY
INTERNATIONAL ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL BRANGUS BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL MINERALS & CHEM CORP/RALGRO
JACKSON & MANKATO AVI'S
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
LINCOLN UNIVERSITY
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, INSTITUTE OF APPLIED AGRICULTURE
MIO-AMERICA NAZARENE COLLEGE, AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - COLUMBIA, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
MORAY CHEMICAL CORPORATION, AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL DIVISION
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AVIATION ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SWINE RECORDS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ANIMAL BREEDERS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FARM BROADCASTERS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGES
NATIONAL FARMERS ORGANIZATION
NATIONAL FOOD AND ENERGY COUNCIL
NATIONAL GARDEN AND FEED ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL GUANO BUREAU
NATIONAL HAMPSHIRE JUNIOR ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, PUBLIC EDUCATION DIVISION
NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LIVESTOCK RECORD ASSOCIATIONS
NATIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CENTRAL REGION, DATA ACQUISITION DIVISION
NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES, CORNELL UNIVERSITY
NORTH AMERICAN LIMOUSIN FARM FOUNDATION

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
PARK COLLEGE
PEACE CORPS
PIONEER H-BRED INTERNATIONAL, INC.
POSTSECONDARY AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS
POULTRY SCIENCE ASSOCIATION, INC.
PRENTICE-HALL MEDIA
PROVIM, INC.
PSYCHOGRAPHICS
SUELO UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE
RADIO SHACK
REXINGTON ARMS COMPANY, INC.
RENCO CORPORATION
RURITAN NATIONAL
SAM ASSOCIATES
SEAL-SWEET GROWERS, INC.
SELECT SIRES, INC.
SHELL CHEMICAL COMPANY, AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
A. O. SMITH, CORP.
SMITH EQUIPMENT DIV., TESCOM CORP.
SNU, SYSTEMS, INC.
SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FLORISTS, THE CENTER FOR COMMERCIAL FLORICULTURE
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STEIGER TRACTOR INC.
STONE MANUFACTURING & SUPPLY COMPANY
STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
TARHEEL PEANUTS
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
TILL-MANUFACTURING, INC.
TRI-STATE BREEDERS COOPERATIVE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES ARMY RECRUITING COMMAND
UNITED STATES FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
UNITED STATES NAVY RECRUITING COMMAND
UPOHON COMPANY
USA; FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
USDA; FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
USDA; FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
USDA; FOREST SERVICE; MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST
USDA; SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICES
VERSATILE FARM EQUIPMENT CORP.
VIGORTONE AG PRODUCTS
VIRGINIA TECH
WATSON, PEARCE LEADERSHIP SPECIALISTS
WILDLIFE SOCIETY, MISSOURI CHAPTER
WILLINGHAM COLLEGE OF OHIO

Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest Sponsored by American Farm Bureau Foundation.

In the extemporaneous public speaking contest, FFA members draw two categories concerning production agriculture, agribusiness and leadership. Then they draw one topic from each of the two categories and choose one from which they wish to build their speech. Each contestant is given 30 minutes to prepare the four to six minute speech. After the presentation to the convention audience, each contestant answered the judges' questions for five minutes.

Tony Edmond of Dublin, Georgia, won the National FFA Extemporaneous Speaking Contest talking about "The Role of Exports in the Structure of American Agricultural Markets."



Good day, I am speaker four. My topic is related to agriculture and my subject "The Role of Exports in the Structure of American Agricultural Markets."

With agriculture production so high as it is today, exports are very important in the structure of U.S. agriculture markets. Exports provide 38 percent of cash receipts of the American farmer today. Therefore, these exports are vital to the U.S. agriculturist. We export a third of feed grains and tobacco from our markets here in the U.S. We export 30 percent of our soybeans. Thirty percent! This is an impressive figure. Now, therefore just by sheer numbers it seems that these exports are vital to the U.S. farmers, but I've told you only in number how vital they are. So, now I want to tell you in words.

Markets have to be kept open in order that we have places to market the product of our soil. It is important that we be able to sell and get this income we need to keep in business. This is the bottom line. We have to remain in business.

As a farmer, I myself know that many of my fellow farmers have "gone under" so to speak. They've gone bankrupt in other words. And the problem is that the time is not right for marketing. Therefore, the prices they get for their products are very low and do not get the responses back of the buyers they sell. Therefore, I say that we have to become "price makers" instead of "price takers" as agriculturists. Therefore, I feel exports are important.

Now exports in my opinion should become a part of the American farmer's responsibility. In other words, I feel he should be able to export as he needs to. Export and sell directly to foreign markets. Because it is important that we have the right price to be able to stay in business. We have to hold when we have to. Therefore, we figure in expenses, figure in our effort and back out our losses. It is because we are not just in this survive. We want to make a profit.

Farming is a business just like any other business. Being an agriculturist is not just being employed by any other business in the United States of America. Therefore, I feel that the United States of America has a debt to its farmers. Therefore, we should show the farmer to be able to sell his exports as he needs to.

Now it is more than just a question of how important these exports are. There is the question of who has control over the market and who is going to structure the markets for the American farmer.

The markets are structured now in a no win situation, in my opinion. The farmers are not able to get the prices they need. Must sell in order to get revenues. But the other hand the revenues are not enough to supply the farmer with his expense money and the profit for his time and labor.

Now, labor for the farmer is just like for anybody else, it costs. It costs the farmer labor and it costs the farmer to labor himself. So, I feel that we work in the

fields of market to get the product of our soil. I believe that the export markets are important and significant to us. As farmers we know exactly how important they are.

So, I feel that the farmer himself should have the option of deciding how he is going to market his crops, how he is going to market his soybeans and how he is going to market his wheat in order that we can get the price we need in order to survive as farmers.

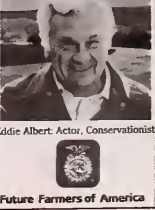
Now, I feel that as we market these things through the federal government, I feel that somewhere along the line we are not getting a fair share. Because as we look and see the people who are selling to us, we have embargoes to people and we have trade wars and all these things. The American farmer's products are being used as a bargaining tool. And I feel like this is a very expensive tool for the American farmer and to others who we are using this tool against.

I feel that using farm products as a bargaining tool is created for the point where people who need these products can't get them. The farmers who need to sell can't sell.

Now, the Soviets as you know are big buyers of our American wheat. We had embargoes to them and it seems that it hasn't affected them. This is a matter of "third sight" I am sure. You will find that as we use these things as bargaining tools it doesn't really work. Because there are other markets ready and eager to jump at the chances we created as American farmers and as American politicians. So, I feel that the American farmer has the export market as the major part of his strength.

We have to sell these products. We have to sell them at a price we need. Therefore, I feel that as we sell the role of the exports to the American farmer is of the utmost urgency. We need to structure the market as much as we need to have them structured.

KEEPING AMERICA ON THE GROW



Eddie Albert Actor, Conservationist

Future Farmers of America

NATIONAL FFA CALENDAR

We, the 1983 National FFA Calendar Committee, would like to thank the 1,200 FFA chapters that have taken advantage of the FFA calendar program as a means to promote the FFA organization. We wish to submit recommendations so that the popularity and success of the FFA calendar program will continue. The recommendations are:

1. Distribute a questionnaire to agriculture teachers as a means of determining why more chapters do not make use of the FFA calendar program.
2. Place advertisements in The National FUTURE FARMER magazine aimed at the potential sponsors of the calendar program.
3. Distribute a newsletter containing testimonials from chapters who have

successfully implemented the FFA calendar program as a public relations tool.

4. Educate teachers to use calendars and fill out order forms, with emphasis on new teachers in the early fall.

5. Reconsider distributing samples of calendars offered.

6. Devise unique, innovative gimmicks to increase calendar sales.

7. Consider operating through direct sales rather than by mail. Emphasis should be on contacting students directly.

8. Consider distributing unsold calendars at state leadership conferences and camping programs.

9. Provide ads targeted at potential sponsors for the calendars on the local

level. These can be used in state newsletters to promote calendar sales.

10. Stress the calendar program at Washington Conference Program and State Presidents Conference. The National FFA Calendar Committee would like to congratulate Jack Pizer and his staff for their continued efforts toward the growth of the calendar program.

Respectfully submitted,
National FFA Calendar Committee
Bryan Hill, South Carolina, co-chairman
Carol Galloway, Texas, co-chairman
Jeffrey Warner, Alaska
Janell Carlson, Alaska
Lance Cowley, Delaware
Lisa E. Walker, Michigan

FFA TIMES

Saturday, November 12, 1983

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CONTESTS

We, the National Contests Committee of the 56th National Convention, in hopes of improving national contests, submit the following recommendations:

We believe that instruction in a particular area of vocational agriculture should be available to the entire class at the high school level. The national contests should be a reflection of the curriculum of the local vocational class, and we strongly suggest that emphasis be placed on total instruction, rather than the preparation of a team in anticipation of competition. The success of a team should reflect on the quality of classroom instruction at the level of the local chapters.

The National FFA Board of Directors has eliminated the dairy cattle and milk quality and dairy foods contests, but have demonstrated an interest in replacing these with two similar contests.

We strongly suggest the revised contests be as follows:

1. A dairy cattle contest that would stress the production aspects of the dairy industry. In addition to judging, we believe the contest should test the contestants' abilities in other areas of production, including breeding, feeding, records, marketing and selection based on records.

We anticipate that this expanded program would greatly enhance the quality of the contest and its completion.

2. We strongly recommend a contest to replace milk quality and dairy foods that would encompass the skills of the milk processing and marketing. We suggest a means of testing the members' skills in recognizing quality, type and uses of milk products. In addition, we would like to test the marketing skills of the processor.

It is our intention to provide the situations that will be best in determining which FFA members are most capable in the fields of production and processing.

The National FFA Board of Directors has eliminated the poultry contest as it currently exists, but we recommend that the poultry contest be revised in alignment with industry standards. We believe a revised contest should test the competitors' skills as they relate to the modern industry. Members who are themselves most proficient in the poultry area should demonstrate the abilities necessary to successfully function in the poultry industry. Skills necessary to compete in this contest should be implemented as a part of the local curriculum.

Recognizing the importance of the forestry industry and its contribution to the agriculture economy, we recommend the National FFA Board of Directors for the institution of the National FFA Forestry Contest. This contest should test the abilities taught to the local members. Members should be able to demonstrate skills necessary to succeed in the forestry industry.

In view of the modernization of agriculture and society, we commend

DELEGATE BUSINESS

Convention delegates passed the motion that they go on record as showing a considerable amount of support for the updating and reevaluation of the Poultry judging and Milk Quality and Dairy Foods contests.

The motion was made by the Pennsylvania association and seconded by the Virginia association. The amendment on membership to the National FFA Constitution was tabled by convention delegates.

The amendment, which was proposed by the Missouri association, which has required FFA members to be enrolled in at least one vocational agricultural course of study during the school year and follow a planned sequence of study for a vocational occupation which includes a Supervised Occupational Experience program.

the National FFA Board of Directors for the institution of the computers in agricultural projects. We recognize the trends of the computer age and see the necessity of having FFA members adopt to these trends.

We recommend that a contest be established as a result of the local curriculum and test the members' skills in performing basic computer functions. Parliamentary procedure allows FFA members to develop many of those skills that our organization is well-known for. Performing under pressure as part of a team often enhances the personal development of each and every member involved. We recommend that the National FFA Board of Directors establish some guidelines toward developing a national parliamentary procedure contest. We feel that the board should adopt a set of rules which cover parliamentary procedure skills necessary for conducting a successful business meeting.

These rules should be developed as soon as possible in order so that the student associations may begin conforming to these standards. We recommend the implementation of the national contest in 1987.

We stress that rules and guidelines be established well in advance so that the upcoming members can be trained by national rules. We feel that implementation of this contest would greatly enhance quality of our organization.

Except for these recommendations, we find the national contests to be acceptable and thank the National FFA Board of Directors, staff and consultants for their support to our organization. We reemphasize the need for a local curriculum that involves study in these areas. The success of any group in competition at the national level should be a reflection of the quality of the local curriculum. We feel that programs should begin as classroom instruction and then progress to the contest level.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Meredith, Kentucky Chairman
Thomas Pierson, Minnesota co-chairman
William Johnson, Arkansas
Rick Lehman, North Carolina
Brad Bass, Texas
Ruth Higgins, Connecticut
Laura Raynor, Arizona
Craig Meyer, New Hampshire

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

We, the members of the National Leadership Conference Committee, have reviewed and evaluated all aspects of the Washington Conference and State Presidents' Conference for the summer of 1986, and do hereby submit the following recommendations and proposals:

1. Continue to use the national officers of the Washington Conference Program as the one present during each conference session.
2. Encourage participation in the promotion of the Washington Conference Program by:

- a. recommending that an application and article be published in at least two spring issues of The National FUTURE FARMER magazine;
- b. having copies of the application sent to all chapter presidents by March 1st;
- c. having copies of the application sent to all chapter advisers by February 28;
- d. having copies of the application distributed to all state officers at all National Leadership Conferences or State Officers' Conferences;
- e. having information on becoming a Washington conference staff member included in the following information sources: The National FUTURE FARMER magazine, BETWEEN ISSUES, STATE and mailings to state staffs;
- f. participants encouraging school administrators to attend

g. developing a promotional slide show and encouraging its use at National FFA Convention, state, district and chapter activities, or a report from a Washington conference representative to service clubs such as Lions, Alumni, Rotary, etc.

h. cooperating with FFA Calendar Program to promote and inform members of the conference dates and registration deadlines. We recommend that these dates be highlighted on the calendars.

3. In promotion of the advisers program of the Washington Conference Program, we recommend a schedule of activities be available to advisers and their spouses.

4. Help alleviate the cost of the Washington Conference Program by:

- a. providing the chapters with various fund-raising ideas and encouraging them to seek sponsorships for their delegates to the conference;
- b. having the national association seek discounted travel rates for state associations;
- c. having more information readily available to chapters to help in seeking sponsors and promoting the conference.

5. Encourage the continuation of present programs in Washington, O.C. State Presidents' Conference

1. We recommend that the 1986 conference staff use the same format as that used in the summer of 1983.

2. We recommend that the Washington Conference Program participants, although they may follow the same activities, do not attend the same schedule of events as state officers in the State Presidents' Conference. This will avoid any minor conflicts which may occur.

3. We recommend that along with regular conference program activities, more state officer training and leadership development be incorporated in the conference.

4. We recommend that state associations take care of all congressional correspondence and that they be instructed in ample time to respect all congressmen in their respective states.

5. We recommend that the conference staff organize the schedule. Congressional visits, consolidating appointments for visits in order to increase convenience and efficiency of the visits.

6. We recommend the following objectives for the State Presidents' Conference:

- a. have the objectives of the State Presidents' Conference directed more toward the development of American leadership, citizenship, and co-operation;
- b. increase the emphasis on the exchange of views and methods of operation between states, and further develop the spirit of unity and co-operation, rather than emphasizing National FFA Convention issues and activities;
- c. We recommend that counselors on the conference staff be encouraged to practice positive motivational leadership.

To follow up the 1983 National Leadership Conference, we recommend the following resolutions go on record at the 56th National FFA Convention:

1. Be it resolved that the National Leadership Committee at the National FFA Convention be provided evaluations of the Washington Conference Program and the State Presidents' Conference by the national staff.
2. Be it resolved the National FFA Organization sincerely appreciates the

efforts and co-operation of the following who helped make an effective conference in 1985:

- President Ronald Reagan and staff
- Secretary of Agriculture John Block and staff
- The Twin Bridges and Key Bridge Marriott Hotels
- The FFA Alumni Association
- The 3rd Infantry, United States Army
- Bus drivers Virgil Cline, Bob Cantrell, Bill Johnson, and J.Q. Motely
- General Motors Corporation for their sponsorship
- "Sticky Tyson"
- All national officers, national staff and all conference counselors
- The Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre
- Fred McClure
- Senator Vies Watkins
- All Congressmen and staffs
- All other individuals who worked hard to make the conference a success.

Respectfully submitted:
Don Johnson, Utah (chairman)
Jess Grummond, Alabama (co-chairman)
Patrick Jinks, Louisiana (secretary)
Holly Parker, Nevada
Donnie Collins, Arkansas
Mike Sutherland, Missouri
Peter H. Mercer, Washington
Tony Edmond, Georgia

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES FOR STATE OFFICERS

We the members of the 1983 National Leadership Conference for State Officers Committee, realize the primary purpose is to produce a more reliable, well-developed state officer to be able to work as a team and serve their respective associations. While striving for that primary purpose the committee submits the following ways and means:

1. To develop one's individual skills so that one may better serve their team, association, and organization as a whole.
2. To develop a state officer's ability to motivate members, chapter officers, advisers and members of the community.
3. To promote the development of the state officers communication skills.
4. To provide an opportunity for states to exchange ideas and programs by intermingling room assignments, activities and an informal discussion session.
5. To supply state officers and add one staff members with resource materials and information on current issues for the future development of the FFA.
6. To instruct and promote the state officers utilization of the resource system and the State Officers Handbook.
7. To supply adequate publicity for NLSO participants.
8. To inform and involve key government leaders and educational personnel for the betterment of the organization.
9. To utilize key leaders in business and industry to achieve the objectives of the leadership conferences through training programs, keynote speakers and leadership sessions.
10. To prepare state officers and staff for the National FFA members of opportunities and programs.
11. To schedule impromptu and extemporaneous public speaking events as a high priority to be covered on the agenda of all conferences.
12. To develop a program that expresses the importance of SOE programs and the various fields available to the state officers and staff.

This committee supports the general format of previous conferences. The conferences should be held at least three days and three nights in duration with at least two national officers, a national staff person and a board member in attendance at each conference. The

emphasis will be that of national instead of regional conferences. Forty dollars per person in resource materials will be implemented to achieve maximum leadership development. All funding will be handled through the National FFA Foundation Inc.

The committee supports the objectives with the following recommendations:

1. Continue training for national officers for the National Leadership Conference and national leadership development.
2. Encourage all states to participate in this leadership program by:
 - a. Encouraging rotation of the location if the location is adequate and is agreed upon by all of the states in their respective region.
 - b. Withholding allocated funds for this particular NLSO for states not in attendance in order to encourage all states to come.
3. Stress interstate fellowship by:
 - a. Encouraging time allowances for states to compile and then share a list of motivational officers, key-operators and other information.
 - b. Providing a more relaxed, informal atmosphere, yet maintaining a professional image.
4. Encourage adequate time for teams to set off team goals and priorities.
5. Having any material, such as audio-visuals, focus on presentations at the chapter level.
6. Putting more emphasis on extemporaneous and public speaking and having participants present a speech during NLSO program.
7. Encouraging constructive critiquing by NLSO members.
7. Encouraging standardization of all NLSOs to an extent that all have access to the same materials and resources.
8. Encouraging all state associations to send thank you notes to sponsors.
9. Requiring a summary of individual evaluations of the NLSOs to be submitted to next year's NLSO committee to ensure that the recommendations are being followed.
10. Lengthening the conference to allow more time for all activities.
11. We the members of the NLSO committee trust that the future participants will take into the consideration the goals and recommendations that we have set forth. This committee would like to express our thanks to those who put in their effort and dedication into the NLSO conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Johnson, Wyoming
Bob Armit, Wyoming
Debi Bateman, Idaho
Bobby Creeden, Delaware
Johnna Bradford, Ohio
Graham Boyd, North Carolina
Nancy Bostorff, New Hampshire
Gina Harriman, Oklahoma
Nancy Olson, South Dakota

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

We, the members of the Membership Development Committee, believe that each student of vocational agriculture should be an active member of the FFA because of the valuable experience he may gain through FFA membership. The 1983 committee would like to express our appreciation to C. Coleman Harris, Kenneth Mitchell, and Raymond Q. Hagan for their assistance and advice in helping us develop the following recommendations:

1. Reaffirm the 1982 committee report concerning 10-Plus, 10-Percent, 100-Percent programs for membership development with the following recommendations:
 - a. place promotional material concerning 10-Plus, 10-Percent, and 100-Percent Programs in The National FUTURE FARMER magazine and Between Issues;
 - b. include informational materials in the National up-date packages sent to state associations;

2. Encourage the state officers to promote 10-Plus, 10-Percent, and 100-Percent programs during contact with local chapters.

3. Encourage state officers to incorporate 10-Plus, 10-Percent, and 100-Percent programs in their leadership workshops for chapter officers.

4. Reaffirm that the National Officers prepare a program on membership development for National Leadership Conferences for State Officers, Washington Conference Programs, and the State Presidents' Conference, to inform participants of existing membership development programs and of incoming means of implementing them.

5. Encourage state associations to give recognition to 10-Plus, 10-Percent, and 100-Percent programs.

6. Encourage state associations to continue to support the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and encourage the national organization to continue to develop new, high quality PSAs in the future.

7. Encourage the state associations to set up membership goals for their state.

8. Encourage the national organization to further develop the 100-Percent program by presenting awards on a graduated scale, consisting of 80 percent membership - bronze, 90 percent membership - silver, and 100 percent membership - gold.

9. Recommend that state associations encourage local chapters to retain members who graduate and to develop activities for those members participation in local, state, and national activities.

In conclusion, we believe that for membership development program to be successful, these recommendations must be incorporated and carried out to their fullest extent.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Cottman, Missouri, chairman
Kevin Schoonhoven, California, co-chairman
Brian Speck, Maryland
Buster Smith, Florida
Jodi E. Dawson, Montana
Terri Nintemann, Minnesota
Anthony Strong, Kentucky
Rafael Figueroa Rodriguez, Puerto Rico

NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICES

We, the members of the 1983 National Information Services Committee, make the following recommendations to improve and further develop informational services on the national, regional, state and local levels.

CONVENTION SPEAKERS



Adding to the highlights of the convention were speeches given by several well-known individuals. Friday's keynote speaker Willard Scott, weather reporter for NBC's TODAY SHOW, broadcasted four live weather reports from the convention stage to 20 million viewers.

We recommend:

1. A new emphasis be placed on state officer visits to discuss and explain how valuable this resource system is. Chapter members be encouraged to use this resource system on an independent basis.

2. Condensing the resource system to intensify information:

a. to ensure exposure to greenhands

b. to provide a step-by-step promotional style to get FFA members involved in the first year of educational knowledge

c. to provide a student handbook for every greenhead as a beginning study program at the chapter level, or on a library system so that students can check out materials to home use

d. to encourage chapter advisors to supply adequate quantities of resource system materials.

3. Combining the supply and program catalogs when they are revised.

4. Using the impact of a state officer's visit as an ideal time for presenting and discussing the resource system.

5. Providing a period of time during the National Leadership Conference for State Officers to be instructed on the correct presentation of materials from the system to members. Encouraging the state, whenever financially possible, to provide these materials to the state officers.

6. Encouragement on the college level of prospective vocational agriculture instructors to use the resource system and other materials prior to beginning a teaching and advising position, by giving students the opportunity to present these materials in actual classroom situations.

7. Encourage use of the FFA Week packet by state officers for chapter visit discussion materials, and encourage officers to assist chapters in preparation for FFA Week activities on the local level.

8. Chapters show an interest in and support for the new public service announcements, and encourage local network involvement with all activities on the local, state and national levels.

9. State and chapter officers, as well as chapter members, work in conjunction with school faculty and administration to promote vocational agriculture and FFA within a given district.

10. Encourage state officers to write letters asking for funding of this committee by the National Board of Directors.

We would like to commend Cameron Dubes for a job well done with the information services department.

We also submit these recommendations after careful evaluation of the present national information services.

Respectfully submitted,
DeB McAlm, Wyoming, chairman
Michael Dillard, Pennsylvania, secretary
Ronald Bernier, Maine
Kevin L. Dyes, Texas
Craig M. Hagen, North Dakota
Marg Guey, Vermont
Deborah McCandless, Utah

NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAMS

We, the members of the 1983 National Awards Committee, believe that in order to best utilize our programs, the following recommendations should be accepted and initiated.

1. A motivational slide presentation be developed to acquaint FFA members with the total awards program offered by the national organization, along with supplemental teaching materials to ensure members' participation. State officers will use this slide show and materials as tools to work in special chapters. These slides and materials will be presented to state officers at the 1984 National Leadership Conference for State Officers (NLSOCs) and national Supervised Occupational Experience workshops.

2. Develop resource materials to be available to teacher education institutions for pre-service and in-service activities concerning the national awards program.

3. The 1983-84 student program catalog be reviewed and simplified making it more usable by FFA advisers and members at the chapter level, and a program be conducted at NLSOCs on how to use the student program catalog by chapter and state officers.

4. Continue the Food For America program and develop a second program to be targeted for seventh through twelfth-grade students. This could be used in conjunction with the agriculture in the classroom program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

5. Review Food For America materials for kindergarten through third grades.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the following individuals for their counsel and guidance: Ron Crawford, Richard Katt and Glen Luedke.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Valencia, Arizona, chairman
Keith Fowler, Tennessee, co-chair
Sam Peck, Vermont
Steve Merito, Florida
Shannon Runyon, New Mexico
Kathi Mangan, Connecticut

AUDITING

We, the auditing committee of the 56th National FFA Convention, recommend to the National FFA organization:

1. The auditing report of Sloy, Melrose and Company found satisfactory and meeting the requirements of Public Law 740 for the fiscal year of September 1, 1983 to August 31, 1983 be accepted.

2. The financial report not be distributed to each official delegate. However, we recommend a condensed report be presented next year which would include: balance sheets of assets and liabilities, statement of revenue, expenses and changes in fund balances as taken from the auditors' report.

3. All auditors' report be available upon request from the National FFA Center.

4. The FFA membership dues be expended only in divisions which are of definite benefit to the FFA Center.

We would like to welcome David Miller, the new National FFA treasurer, into the FFA organization. We would like to thank David Miller and Wilson Carner for their help and guidance in our committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
1983 Auditing Committee
Chris Novak, Iowa, chairman
Danny Hunter, Texas, co-chair
Allen Stephens
Barry Brinkman, Kansas
Steven P. Grunberg, New Jersey
Rhonda McCarra, Oklahoma

NATIONAL CONVENTION

We, the members of the 1983 National FFA Convention Committee, on behalf of the delegate body, after evaluation of the 56th National FFA Convention wish to extend our sincerest thanks to those who made this convention a success:

1. Our National Officers—Juan Eberly, Marty Coates, Bruce Kettler, Cara Doyle, Bryan Stamps and Wendell Jaffee

2. Our Acting National Advisor Mr. Thaine McCormick, National Treasurer David Miller, and National Executive Secretary Coleman Harris

3. Byron Rawls who retired in August 1983 as National Advisor after four years of service

4. Scott Neasham for the opening invocation

5. The Honorable Richard L. Berkley, Mayor of Kansas City for his warm welcome to the FFA

6. Mr. Zig Ziglar for his inspirational and motivational speech

7. The Honorable Terrell Ball, U.S. Secretary of Education, for his remarks

8. The National FFA Band directed by Mr. Roger Heath and the National Chorus directed by Mr. Stan Kingme for their outstanding performances throughout this convention

9. Convention official Coby Shorter 10. Convention newsroom staff and the staff of the FFA Times

11. Mr. Zig Ziglar for his coordination of the National FFA Talent Contest

12. The National FFA Alumni for the leadership speeches which they sponsored

13. All official judges and timekeepers

14. Mr. Robert M. Book for his leadership with the FFA Foundation

15. Our official thanks to all of the sponsors of the 56th National FFA Convention

16. Mr. Bob Moawad of the United Learning Institute for his remarks

17. Mr. Charley Pride for providing entertainment for FFA Day at the American Royal

18. Mr. Willard Scott of NBC's TODAY Show

19. All exhibitors in the 1983 National Agricultural Career Show

20. Mr. Bill Stage, audio-visual specialist for the FFA

21. The members and advisors of the National Convention Courtesy Corps

22. Mr. Kenneth Seering, National President of the FFA Alumni

23. Tony Di Piero Orchestra for providing entertainment for the Firestone Show

24. Mr. Dale Butcher, National President of the National Vocational Agriculture Teacher's Association (NVATA)

We also submit the following items as suggestions for possible improvements in future National Conventions:

1. We recommend that an orderly picture-taking process be developed to prevent confusion backstage as well as in front of stage when keynote speakers are addressing the convention.

2. We recommend that the newly elected National FFA Officers have a tremendous year.

We would also like to thank our consultant for this committee, Mr. Willard Dannenbauer. And finally, we would like to thank the 2,000 FFA members and guests who have made this 56th National FFA Convention a tremendous success.

Respectfully submitted
Karl Burns, Chairman
Kelly Horton, Co-Chairman
Kim Lineburg, Secretary
Valencia Alvarado
Laura Albaugh
Dorothy Jenkins
Helena Fountain
Dale Mingo

FARMER MAGAZINE NATIONAL FUTURE

We, the members of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine Committee, on behalf of the membership of the National FFA Organization, wish to express our sincere thanks to The National FUTURE FARMER magazine staff and commend them on a job well done. We feel the magazine has made great strides over the years, establishing credibility and variety which appeals not only to members, but to all interested in the agricultural industry. Again, thanks to Wilson Carner, editor-in-chief; Mike Wilson, managing editor; Jack Pitzer, senior editor; and all those associated with the publication of the magazine, for their outstanding work and dedication. After careful consideration, we submit the following recommendations:

1. Provide inspirational and motivational material to the readers on a regular basis.

2. Request and encourage state staff, state reporters and members to submit articles and photos to the National FUTURE FARMER magazine.

3. Use Between Issues to inform and encourage advisers to do the following:

a. Send letters to the National FFA Center by October 31 to ensure members of receiving the December-January issue of The National FUTURE FARMER magazine.

b. Under bulk copies of the magazine to give to incoming freshman.

c. Distribute the magazine throughout communities as compliments of local chapters.

4. Include study guides in Between Issues for use in classroom instruction which corresponds with articles in the upcoming issues.

5. Conduct a readership survey at the discretion of the magazine staff to determine readers' interests.

6. Give a presentation on the workings of the FFA magazine to the members at the State President's Conference in Washington, D.C.

7. Send biographical sheets to states to aid them in their correspondence with The National FUTURE FARMER magazine.

8. Establish an annual "Greenhead Spotlight" in the February-March issue specifically directed toward greenhead membership.

9. Continue to publish articles about farm and FFA members who have become famous or successful.

10. Make an effort to publish unique agriculture articles.

11. We recommend that a year-end report be made to this committee next year which entails the progress made on the above stated recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,
Johnny White, Mississippi, chairman
C. V. Voigt, Oregon, co-chairman
Paula Hintz, Wisconsin

Michael Gayaldo, California
Cathy Taylor, Texas
Meg Potter, Florida
Angel Torres, Puerto Rico
Robert Soliman, Michigan
Michael Wilson, managing editor

The National FUTURE FARMER magazine

FFA TIMES
Sponsored by the
Jacques Seed Company.

The 56th National FFA Convention was the third year for the official convention newspaper, the FFA TIMES. There were three regular issues of the newspaper which were distributed Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings of the convention. The final special issue, the 56th Convention Proceedings which you are presently reading was distributed during the last session on Saturday night. This issue is sponsored by the National FFA Organization. All of the issues of the FFA TIMES were prepared by university journalism students working in the convention newsroom under the direction of FFA Information Interns, Laura Nelson and John Dutcher.