

CORRECTED MASTER

The 63rd National FFA Convention

PROCEEDINGS



"Congratulations!

Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!"

Oh, the places you'll go!

Dr. Seuss



This participant was one of 24,130 FFA members and guests at the convention. This year's crowd set an all-time-high attendance record.



Eager members surrounded former National FFA Secretary Fred McClure upon his arrival in the convention newsroom. McClure, who is in regular contact with President George Bush, serves as assistant to the president.



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

That Dr. Seuss really knows how to nail it, doesn't he? You've got the talent. You've got the opportunity. What next? How can you become a leader for a growing planet? On the following pages you'll find the advice of some of the best minds around FFA. If you give these ideas a try, you just might find yourself, FFA and agricultural education going great places.

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It was a big night for Todd Lotter and Jode Beer of Monroe, Ind. He earned Star Farmer of America and Beer won a diamond ring. They met in FFA, so he proposed to her after winning the award. The couple will wed in August, 1991.



Robert Reynolds, Vice President and General Manager, Crop Protection Products Division, Monsanto Agricultural Company and 1991 Chairman Elect of the Foundation Sponsors' Board, was excited to be at the national FFA convention. "I was never involved in agriculture until five years ago, when I joined Monsanto," he said. "It was exciting to see all this enthusiasm. It makes the other 364 days of the year worthwhile."

**"You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself
any direction you choose."**

Oh, the places you'll go!
Dr. Seuss

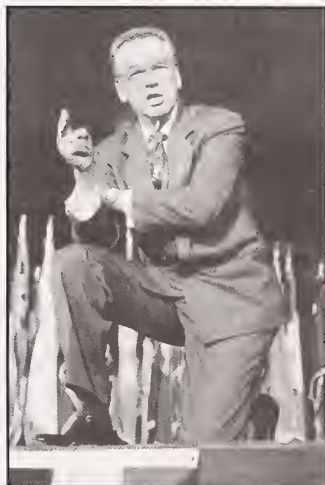
New friends. Old friends. Retiring officer addresses. Autographs and rolls of film. Career Show freebies. Blue jackets. Christmas in November and images of "Crazy" Joe Clark swinging his bat. These are the things we took with us as we flowed out of Municipal Auditorium closing out the 63rd National FFA Convention. But this year, we looked past the burst of renewed FFA spirit as we tucked the new Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education under our arms. This plan was not to be tossed into our scrapbooks, but used to develop a better FFA for us—and those yet to come.

President Bush has said that education is in a crisis, and many people agree.

Our own Robert Reynolds, chairman of the Foundation Sponsors' Board, said, "I'm scared there won't be enough competent people available to fill the growing needs of agriculture, like bio-chemists. We need people who can carry on with technology, or we won't be able to meet the needs of an increasing population."



Joe Clark, center, former high school principal and subject of the film "Lean on Me," sang the theme from his film with the FFA chorus. As the kick-off speaker of the 63rd National FFA Convention, Clark challenged members to "be the best of whatever you are." Clark was sponsored by United Telephone Systems—Midwest Group.



Zig Ziglar fired up members with his pearls of wisdom, entertaining stories and personal challenges. Ziglar was sponsored by DVB Enterprises.

Coleman Harris, National FFA executive secretary, agreed that the future is at risk, and said the new plan for agricultural education could be the solution. "Students and teachers must understand and focus on the mission of ag education," he said. "That's our framework for the future."

The plan, or more accurately, the blueprint, was developed by all of the national leaders in agricultural education. However, a blueprint is nothing without contractors and carpenters, who, in this case, are FFA members. Although proud and strong, FFA and agricultural education can no longer afford to be viewed as separate from the total learning system. We must become an attractive option in the mix of required courses, not an easily-snubbed elective.

At home, let's take a long, hard look at the foundations of our chapters and programs, many of which were erected decades ago and have weathered storms and disasters. We must be sure our iron

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During business sessions, delegates pondered many issues facing the FFA. Delegates made tough decisions, among them the increase in the national convention delegate body to a fixed number of 475. See pages 15 to 22 for additional information on delegate action.

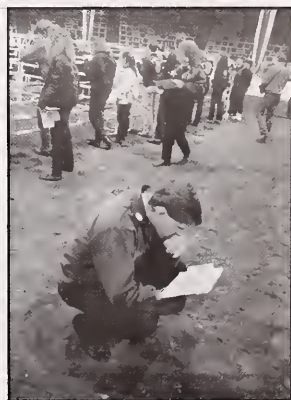
"You will come to a place where the streets are not marked.

Some windows are lighted. But mostly they're darked. A place you could sprain both your elbow and chin! Do you dare to stay out? Do you dare to go in? How much can you lose? How much can you win?"

Oh, the places you'll go!
Dr. Seuss



Akihiro (Henry) Horiye got a pat on the back and heart-felt thanks from former national officers Warren Boerger and Kelli Evans. Horiye earned the Honorary American FFA Degree for his many years of service as translator and tour guide on the national officer tours to Japan. Many past national officers chipped in to bring Mr. and Mrs. Horiye to America for the convention.



An FFA member concentrated on his placings during the limestock contest at the American Royal. Ten contests took place throughout the Kansas City area during convention.

"Oh, the places you'll go!

There is fun to be done!
There are points to be scored.
There are games to be won."

Oh, the places you'll go!
Dr. Seuss



Veronica Horan was one of more than a thousand of dedicated individuals who work hard to make the convention a success.



An FFA member photographed the sights in Kansas City during a break in the national FFA convention. The city offered a wealth of educational, sightseeing, dining and shopping experiences.



Miss America, Marjorie Vincent, signed autographs at the career show after a special guest appearance at the convention. Vincent's appearance was sponsored by the Chevrolet Motor Division.

beams aren't rusting, and that our wall studs are sturdy. We have to make agriculture attractive to more people and build additions to our long standing structure.

We have to market agricultural education in two directions. "Ag education is going to have to appeal to students," Harris said. "Otherwise, why enroll? Demands on students are already too great."

In addition, ag education must serve and attract sponsors like Reynolds who make our activities possible, and eventually hire our members in their companies.

Technology is changing every day. Researchers continue their quest for new cures, from the common cold, to cancer and AIDS. Agriculture, too, is changing, with genetic engineering, biotechnology and computer robotics. Agricultural education and the FFA are also evolving, not just for the sake of change, but to take solid steps to improve programs and ensure our future.

The architects have drawn up the blueprint. The crew in your chapter is ready. Using the tools and leadership provided through FFA, begin building a program to meet the needs of all students. You'll reward the members of today, and those who will wear the jacket tomorrow.



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"Trade in your rearview mirrors for telescopes and look ahead to the changing needs of our organization. The FFA will only prosper if we're willing to embrace progress."

— Kevin Oschner
1987-88 National FFA Secretary
Member, Official Manual Review Committee
Ft. Collins, Colo.



With so many activities taking place during the convention, national FFA officers were often spread too thin. With the help of a cardboard friend, FFA members got their picture taken with a stiff Donnell Brown look-alike.



Revved up and ready to go: Opportunity for all was what the National FFA Convention was all about. Members were challenged to take home this new attitude where they could help push FFA and agricultural education toward the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan. "If there must be a stereotype," says the plan, "Let it have nothing to do with race, creed, sex or color. Let it have everything to do with effort, energy, ideas, commitment and capabilities."

**"So...be your name Buxbaum
or Bixby or Bray or Mordecai
Ali Van Allen O'Shea,
you're off to Great Places!**

**Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting.
So...get on your way!"**

Oh, the places you'll go!
Dr. Seuss



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"Organize a chemical disposal day for your community. Many people have hazardous household products around the house that they no longer use, but they don't know how to dispose of them. Learn how to take care of these products and set aside one day a month to get together and collect and dispose of unused portions of the chemicals and their containers."

— Bill Blue
Sales Specialist
Dow/Elanco
Indianapolis, IN

American FFA Degrees

Sponsored by Case IH; Pirelli Armstrong Tire Corporation; American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division; Farm Credit System; Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.; and Na-Churs Plant Food Company

The American FFA Degree is no ordinary honor. Members earn this degree, step by step. From the day they stood before their peers to recite the FFA creed as Greenhands to the moment they signed their names to the multiple application for the American FFA Degree, they were working towards the highest laurels FFA can bestow.

There were more of them than ever before. On Friday, 1,056 members walked across the stage to claim their gold keys and certificates. The group was also honored with a banquet prior to the session.

ALABAMA: Casey R. Behel, Florence; Markel D. Behel, Killen; Edward S. Black, Athens; W. Allen Brewer, Black; Don Ezell, Arlton; Al Griffin, Lineville; Kyle A. Hopson, Russellville; David L. Jones, Elkmont; William T. Jones, Geneva; Larry W. Parker, Enterprise; Larry D. Peek, Piedmont; Keith Phillips, Ozark; Howard R. Pittman, Piedmont; Darryl B. Rutland, Tusculum; William A. Sims Jr., Woodville; Todd Smokland, Chancellor; Andy Wilks, Arab; Kevin Williams, Boaz; Jeffrey Wooten, Ider.

ALASKA: Maria S. Mason, Auburn.

ARIZONA: Brian P. Bingham, Glendale; Brandt L. Bull, Wilcox; Samuel C. Clonts, Sulmon; R. Lance Fire, Alpine; Douglas J. Henry, Rio; Kevin Layton, Safford; Hank Rush, Daleland; Rochell C. Satterfield, Glendale; Amy Scott, Tucson; Frank R. Wood, Casa Grande; Jetty Wright, Peoria.

ARKANSAS: John S. Black, Prairie Grove; Paula K. Bodenhammer, Mountain Home; Meredith V. Braker, Fayetteville; Lewis V. Cleveland, Cabot; Tom B. Collins, Harrison; Brian S. Fultz, Green Forest; Scott D. Gibson, Brookland; Steven D. Horton, Marshall; Kevin Jester, Gordon; Nina R. Laughlin, Conway; Shannon Loper, Greenwood; Gary A. Maflis, Green Forest; Nanna Morrison, Marshall; James R. Osborne, Ward; Michael A. Pinkley, Prairie Grove; David Rave, Vian; Lisa G. Rhoads, Delight.

CALIFORNIA: Woody, Slalom Springs.

CALIFORNIA: Diana M. Barbosa, Gilroy; Diana L. Barnes, Angels Camp; Spencer Bel, Dixon; Amy M. Benafield, Glendale; Diana M. Bernstein, Maxwell; Mark Betten-court, Visalia; Denise Burner, Tule; Michael W. Callicura Jr., Wilton; Chris Cardy, Atwater; Mary A. Casale, Denair; Albino A. Chapa, Kingsburg; Dennis Clay, El Nido; Shannon Daugherty, Fullerton; Thomas M. Davis, Meridian; Shawn Old, Chowchilla; Lisa M. Dillabo, Gridley; Wendy K. Dorr, Chino; Ward M. Dugger, Santa Maria; Gary Encksen, Turlock; John M. Esquivel, Planada; Vincent R. Ferrante, Nipome; Justin J. Fields, Morgan Hill; Deirdre E. Flynn, Mountain Ranch; Jim Folsom, Dixon; Charles M. Gist, Tule; Andy Gracia, Arroyo Grande; Jolene M. Dixon, Westminster; Lisa R. Greber, Elk Grove; Cand Grumbles, Kingsburg; Camira W. Harmon, Tule; Scott R. Heupel, Le Grand; Debra L. Holgersen, Leota; Troy C.

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MARYLAND: Darla F. Broadwater, Graysville; Trish E. Bull, Maryland Line; Charles DeBerry, Oakland.

MASSACHUSETTS: Michelle L. Beland, West Brookfield; Randy E. Jordan, Rutland; Christine E. Lucero, Readville; Michael C. Stanish, Halifax.

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American FFA Degrees

MISSISSIPPI: Andy Buchanan, Monticello; Amy C. Cooper, Mantachie; Michael R. Heister, Nettleton; Dean Hudson, Nettleton; Eddie F. Ivy, Outman; Daniel L. Nooner, Walnut; Charles K. Robinson II, Gulfport; Brian Taylor, Laurel; Robert T. Tol, Tallahatchie; Susan E. Watkins, Madison.

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NEBRASKA: Scott B. Aden, Cozad; LaVern E. Banzhaf, Cambridge; Scott A. Davis, Lincoln; Brian S. Dick, Hampton; Denise K. Drudik, Grand Island; Craig M. Dvorak, Clarkson; Chad J. Goff, Superior; John S. Goertzen, Bradshaw; Marc R. Grott, Imperial; Leslie L. Hat, Bassett; Jeffrey D. Hanson, Mead; Kit Held, Leigh; Tee

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NEVADA: James R. Barbee, Minden; Melissa Haworth, Logandale; Kevin Hetrick, Orvada; Shannon Marlich, Elko.

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NEW JERSEY: Daniel Berg, Allentown; Russell G. Kenny III, Columbus; Joel S. Rudenow, Mount Laurel.

NEW MEXICO: Janna Bradford, Lovington; Amy Laumbach, Hager; Elizabeth Laumbach, Hope; Kimberly M. Morgan, Blazer; Melissa K. Olmanns, Aztec; Melissa B. Russell, Las Cruces.

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NORTH CAROLINA: Linda K. Becton, Newport; John Berry, Camden; Kelly Butler, Mebane; Candace S. Cameron, Raeford; Rebecca L. Cartwright, Camden; Susan R. Cook, New London; Robert F. Crabg Jr., Milton; Tim Dail, Shannon; Angie Douglas, Blanch; Kinston; Mack Haywood, Mount Gilead; Shelly Howard, Richlands; Tony M. Jones, Mt. Olive; Donald F. Lea Jr., Milton; Scott Radford, Kinston; David T. Shannon, Hot Springs; Kevin Staples, Silerby; Duane Taylor, Richlands; Timothy D. Werley, Leicester.

NORTH DAKOTA: Paul O. Anderson, Harem; Roby Kauter, Hettinger; Paul Foss, Maddock; Jeremy Goske, Pingree; Shane C. Goette, Donnybrook; David Grooteged, Lisbon; Patrick L. Harold, West Fargo; Christina M. Hillis, Medina; Mark Kallenbach, Esmond; Tom Lila, Larimore; Troy A. Lura, Carrington; Scott McDaniel, Englevale; Lynn J. Mennis, Lisbon; Lyle Neuman Jr., Carrington; Dion Ottmar, Mt. Brenda J. Potts, LaMoure; Mike Pretzer, Carrington; Liz Reinholder, Hazen; Todd J. Rethemeyer, Arville; Tyrone Rosenaau, Carrington; Richard J. Schmidt, Hansel; Thomas A. Williams III, Northwood; Dennis Zacher, Elgin; Douglas Zacher, Dign.

OHIO: Corey Baker, Rushville; Eva M. Bosler, Oregon; Bart L. Berner, Springfield; Tamara Blazer, Woodstock; John M. Boeger, Iwini; Jerry Boes, Fostoria; William J. Borer, Grand Rapids; Christopher W. Bowersock, Spencerville; Dale Brandt, Versailles; Robert L. Bridwell, Zanesville; John B. Buck, New Bloomington; D. Michael Baumgardner, South Vienna; Mark G. Daugherty, Newton Falls; Wayne A. Dellinger, Millford Center; Bradley Dorman, West Findlay; Joseph M. Durkin, Mansfield; John H. Feichter, Willard; David A. Felumie, Newark; Shan Ferdunbergh, North Lewisburg; Jeff E. Germann, Bowling Green; Allen B. Geuer, Marysville; Scott W. Grooms, West Union; Greg A. Grube, Baltimore; Dana Handrosch, Litchfield; Bonnie K. Haws, Portage; John Holbrook, Steubenville; Kirta James, Carrington; Mark Jordan, Belle Center; Jeff E. Kazin, Middleton; Kirk Kessler, Athens; Dana W. Limes, Bowling Green; Brad Lokai, Columbus; Michael E. Longanbach, Fremont; Chad Lorcher, Willard; Douglas Mahlerwein, Oxford; Anthony E. Mayer, Marysville; Terry Miller, Dresden; Rick Neuenchwander, Dundee; Stuart M. Parsons, Chesterhill; Mike Pelton, Delta; Dean Schiller Jr., Oak Harbor; Brad Seckel, Caledonia; Laurie Sheridan, Athens; Janet L. Shingler, Delta; Shane Smith, Sabina; Adam C. Spiess, Wauseon; Shawn W. Slobber, Sycamore; Matthew D. Tuttle, Findlay; Joseph H. Vervser, Bowling Green; Robert A. Williams, S. Vienna; Debra G. Wilson, Warren; Dale R. Winner, New Weston; Jeffrey P. Wueker, Versailles; Dana K. Wyler, Fresno; Scott Zumbirk, Redburg.

OKLAHOMA: Mike Aiken, Altus; Andrea N. Baker, Butler; Justin Bredies, Thomas; Allen Boyle, Agra; Steven W. Brannen, Collinsville; Howard L. Brown II, Prague; David D. Carmel II, Pawnee; Dwain Corley, Tuttle; Mark E. Coulter, Oologah; Mary C. Culley, Talihina; Dennis D. Delozier, Adair; Jeffrey S. Dill, Hollis; Bryan Durkee, Billings; Audra O. Fenton, Stigler; Tom Fisher, Indiana; Melissa D. Flaming, Fairview; Kyle B. Fulton, Chickasha; Johnnie L. Gilpen Jr., Union; Jeffrey D. Graham, Temple; Daniel J. Grellner,

Kingsfisher; Charles S. Haggard, Arapaho; Amy Harrell, Indianapolis; Henry W. Hasenbeck II, Fletcher; Jesse Halcher, Kinta; Jason Hendrickson, Adair; Jason Heming, Tipon; Devin Hill, Davidson; Troy W. Jackson, Milby; Justin D. Johnson, Altus; Dale E. Krummenan, Kingfisher; David K. Kuykendall, Cushing; Tiffany L. Leslie, Dumas; Curtis C. Mack, Drummond; Christopher Z. Malen, Okarche; Todd Mason, Oakwood; James B. Miller, Custer; Terina L. Nolen, Stigler; Dirk O'Hara, Tuttle; Tina D. Parker, Lindsay; A. Trent Pepler, Adair; Michael F. Peters, Okarche; Jim L. Pigeon, Kansas; Harold D. Powell, Stigler; Brett A. Ramsey, Jones; John G. Regnier, Marland; Jason K. Reid, Nash; John D. Ringer, Bako; Brad L. Robertson, Stillwater; Shawna D. Robertson, Stillwater; Richie E. Schoelling, Douglas; Coby Snyder, Billings; Brad C. Squires, Camegie; Kim Vassar, Cushing; Jack P. Vaughan Jr., Prague; Connelly S. Wade, Orlando; Douglas D. Waghofer Jr., Tulsa; Yvette C. Walling, Arapaho; Kim Wollenberg, Lindsay; Jacques R. Woodson, Logan.

OREGON: Mollie S. Bothum, Pendleton; Jyrlle D. Breese, Prineville; Jonathan E. Christie, Solo; Eric A. Duncan, Gilder; Mike Knutz, Monmouth; Michelle Lantz, Culver; Carol J. Magness, Gilder; Andrew McGrae, McMinnville; Gabe Andrew McGrae, Kathy Vermilyea, Tillamook; Melinda K. Wacher, Pendleton; Nan Wimmers, Bandon.

PENNSYLVANIA: Thomas Arrowsmith, Peach Bottom; Irene G. Berner, Millersport; Robert L. Bingham, Waynesboro; Brian D. Bird, Danville; Steffen J. Clapper, Williamsburg; Caressa S. Crone, Danville; Howard W. Dashed, Centre Hall; Mark E. Dellinger, New Oxford; John S. Eaton Jr., Windsor; Matthew J. Ehardt, Navarre; John H. Fox II, Millersburg; Lamar B. Gockley, Mohnton; Andrew T. Greenleaf, Martinsburg; M. Abraham Harpster, Spruce Creek; Leon W. Heisey, Manheim; Josephine M. Hess, Gettysburg; Mark J. Hess, Quarryville; Erik L. Hickie, Berlin; Kimberly A. Hoppie, Mechanicsburg; Delvin J. Huber, Lancaster; Ann M. Kline, Birdsboro; Scott E. Lands, Berlin; Eric D. Lowe, Manheim; Robert E. Mathers, Bellwood; Robert E. Roher Jr., Nottingham; Barry E. Spangler, Millburg; Melissa A. Spayd, Fleetwood; Thomas L. Wiker, Conestoga.

PUERTO RICO: Jose A. Rivera Gonzalez, Jayuya.

RHODE ISLAND: Alan D. Adams, Hope; Debra L. Hammond, North Scituate.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Jay B. Gambrell, Abbeville; Richard D. Gammage, Reebuck; Steve A. Gamto, Aiken; Russell J. Graves, Gresham; Aaron Russen, Gresham; Jeffrey D. Swartz, Clemson; Byron Williams, Gresham.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Dwight D. Aymer, Miller; Colette J. Bieber, Bowdle; Thomas Heilman, Bowdle; Loren Helmer, Andover; Lance Howe, Hitchcock; Melodi Hurst, Harrisburg; Michael V. Jaspers, Eden; Gert A. Nagel, Gettysburg; Tonya L.



Julie Baggett, Texas



Rachael Goodhue, Iowa



Carol Magness, Oregon



Jason Butler, Texas



Stacy Cayne, Calif



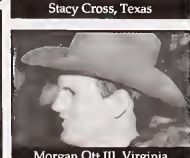
Stacy Cross, Texas



Tommy Wilkins, Florida



Angie Douglas, N.C.



Morgan Ott III, Virginia

American FFA Degrees



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"You're in charge of your destiny. Don't blame the white man. Don't blame the black man. Don't blame your mama. If you end up being nothing, blame yourself."

— Joe Clark
Former School Principal
Subject of the film "Lean on Me"

Schaefer, Kennebec, Darin Schnever, Hurley; Matthew J. Sinkle, Gann Valley; Nicole Stinner, Harrisburg; Mark Wagner, Westington Springs; Shawn W. Weishaar, Lemmon

TENNESSEE: Joseph P. Balz, Hemelage; Tom Bell II, Friendship; Mary B. Butler, Dyersburg; Lance Campbell, Dyersburg; Darrell Chumley, Cumberland Gap; Thomas L. Clarke, McMinnville; Michael T. Cooper, Pleasant Hill; Anthony L. Curtis, McMinnville; Eric Dalton, Clarksville; Anthony Davis, Sargentville; Marshall D. Fennel, Union City; Michelle R. Girelah, Crossville; Timothy Halbert, Lebanon; Charles R. Hamby, Crab Orchard; Tracy Hendrix, Decaturville; Allen Lewis, Gates; Monty C. McWilliams, Halls; Russell Meeks, Halls; Clinton Neal, Ripley; George Newman, McMinnville; Robert W. Nicholson, Clarksville; Christopher K. Parks, Nashville; Charles D. Purnell, Lebanon; Michelle D. Ramey, Rogersville; Joseph L. Roach, Cottonwood; Mark F. Sultier, Clarksville; Nancy L. Swarford, Crossville; William C. Thompson, Lebanon; John R. Waldum, Columbia; Carl N. Walker Jr., McMinnville; John A. Warfield, Clinton; Timothy W. Warren, Toone; W. Herschel Wells Jr., McMinnville; Richard W. Williams, Lebanon; Ruby A. Williams, Reagan; Allen Willis, Dyersburg; David S. Wisener, Rives;

Dianna M. Zen, Woodbury

TEXAS: Sandy L. Anderson, Jacksboro; John Andrae, Winters; Daryl G. Back, Mansfield; Julie Baggett, Sandia; Boyd R. Barnes, Greenville; Craig W. Bauer, Round Top; Ronnie L. Belew, Lubbock; Shannon C. Blankenship, Seymour; Michael J. Bowen, Sulphur Springs; Brett Buckingham, Wheeler; Jason S. Butler, Burleson; Jeff Byrd, Eastland; Joe M. Carr, Mineola; David Cotto, Lubbock; Stacy L. Cross, Belton; Melvin R. Dalmeyer Jr., Round Top; Mark D. Decker, Burleson; Buffy Denning, Alvin; Terri Dife, Pearland; John H. Dyer, Belleville; Stacey Enderli, Baytown; Glen Erms, Alpha Dulce; Emily S. Fulton, Denton; Jennifer A. George, Crosby; Stacy Y. Gilbert, Electra; Tim Groves, Alvarado; Lanna E. Hagler, Mexico; Thomas H. Hamilton, Bowie; Karl Head, Goldthwaite; Matt Helms, Howe; Nikki D. Holman, Colorado City; William Huizer, Pleasanton; Paul A. Jaure, Beeville; Bill M. Jones, Athens; Dennis J. Kallus, Edna; Shannon L. Kazniroski, Pearland; Damon Kelley, Paradise; Maurice K. Knesek, Gonzales; Calvin P. Krause, Burton; Sonya L. Liggett, Bellevue; Susan Lindall, Sulphur Springs; Ernest Maass, Soperville; Troy S. Miller, Frisco; Tre Moore, Pleasanton; Brett A. Myers, Livingston; Kerri D. Norwood, Campbell; Chris Orsak,

Seymour; Ryan Porter, Pleasanton; Jeff Rash, Gisher; Carol Reding, Norange; Elizabeth M. Schertz, Krum; Robert D. Schmidt, Hondo; Robert J. Schultz, Burleson; John P. Schuster, Mexico; Philip W. Shackelford, Cisco; John K. Stuver, Tehuacana; Lance L. Sullins, Abbott; Ursula N. Weidner, Wylie; P. T. Walters, Livingston; Scott W. Whitsett, Dime Box; Tracy N. Wright, Robstown

UTAH: Brandon P. Beazer, Syracuse; Ryan Butler, Payson; Troy D. Coats, Holden; Ryan L. Eames, Syracuse; Lori Freston, Bridgeland; Bruce S. Hamblin, Syracuse; Richard Harris, Richfield; David L. Haskell, Payson; Lance Henderson, Mtyton; Lance Moore, Coalville; Paul D. Potter, Farmington; Greg Price, Midway; Tilden Swallow, Fillmore; James D. Wood, Holden; Charly K. Wright, Elberta; Jeffery M. Wyatt, Tooele

VERMONT: James H. Foster Jr., Middlebury; Lisa M. Rutter, Bridport

VIRGINIA: Robert L. Andrews, Tappahannock; H. Gale Bateman II, Abingdon; Kelley G. Brown, Union Hill; William H. Brown II, Mechanicsville; Michelle L. Byers, Ashland; Kenny Collier, Edinburg; Margaret A. Custer, Gloucester; Darin A. Dysan, Westcock; Stephen C. Ellis, Champs; Gary M. C. Ely, Jr.; Lucinda J. Fannon, Charlotte C.H.; Timothy F. French, Maurerstown; Jonathan F. Garber, Blacksburg; Larry T. Garber, Pleasant Valley; Barry W. Gelz, Mount Jackson; Bryan K. Harris, Spout Spring; Lisa M. Hault, The Plains; Terry L. Hockman, Marrentown; Susan R. Hoover, Broadway; Chellie L. Hyre, White Hall; William Kruschwitz, Appomattox; Matthew J. Lohr, Broadway; David A. McCall, Abingdon; Miller F. McDonald, Linville; Dennis Menelee, Boyce; Joseph R. Monolo, Roper; Glenn R. Motley, Rocky Mount; Kurt C. Neff, Star Tarnery; William W. Orrock Jr., Thornburg; Morgan B. Ott III, Bealeton; Desmond J. Owens, Gloucester; Steven A. Prinz, Rileville; Robert B. Puryear, Buttol Junction; Charles A. Rossan,

Trevilians; Stacy A. See, Broadway; Steven D. Shuler, Wytheville; David Snipes, Mechanicsville; Jeffrey T. Stout, Winchester; Raymond E. Wilson, Axton; Ellen G. Worrell Jr., Hillsville

WASHINGTON: Jeffrey R. Bail, Tacoma; J. D. Baser Jr., Mabton; Henry J. Boehm, Ridgefield; John H. Buze, Tacoma; Weylin Eddies, Bellingham; Gene Giles, Kennewick; Scott A. Hackett, Ouster; James Kaech, Tenino; Tyler McMonigle, Lacey; Chuck Meyers, Yelm; Shaun R. Nau, Othello; Keith Parks, Mabton; Bruce Preston, Warden; Monte J. Scholz, Oring; Andie Webb, Pullman

WEST VIRGINIA: Leon Ammons, Fairview; C. Monroe Bailey, Cox's Mill; Dewey V. Broyles, Lindside; Jason Hughes, Ravenswood; Carolyn S. Johnson, Reiche; Dennis G. Largenti II, Paw Paw; Bradley N. Montgomery, Roncoveite; Jason Parsons, Given

WISCONSIN: Tim Balbach, Warren, Ill.; Pamela M. Bays, Adams; Warren C. Brooks, Omro; Michael W. Brunner, Newton; Ned A. Buhrand, Gillett; Timothy J. Buttle, Watford; Lori E. Calaway, De Pere; Eric Cary, Glenbeulah; Catherine A. Colby, Grand Marais; Michael Conrad, New Franklin; Amy S. Doseph, Denmark; Eric Eibergen, Granton; Jeffrey A. Engbrechtsen, Cecil; Julie A. Engel, Shawano; Carrie Espenschied, Argyle; DeWayne M. Fossum, Indianapolis; Douglas A. Fuhrman, Fennville; Michael A. Gleason, Ringo; Thomas A. Graf, Markesan; Sonya R. Granger, Hillsboro; Andy Hecht, Cumberland; John Heinberg, Shullsburg; Bryan P. Higgins, Bruce; Denise A. Janisch, Elsworth; Anjo Joanis, Ashland; Robert T. Johnson, Wheeler; Jennifer M. Kapiros, Denmark; Stephen Kirsch, Elkhart Lake; Ben Kizewski, Stevens Point; John H. Kraus Jr., Beaver Dam; Todd Kronberg, Rio; Brad Krueger, Melrose; Paul Kuse, Marshfield; Eric A. Larsen, Cecil; Gerald W. Lavasseur, Ashland; Christopher J. Lentz, Dallas; Tony Lion, Hixson; Kimberly K. Lindow, Chili; Kristin Lindow, Chili;

Howard C. Loomis, Fennimore; David Loomstra, Marshfield; Craig Lorkoff, Newton; Darlene Marnece-Sackmann, Mason; Robert Mattson, Marengo; David McCabe, Beloit; Sharon H. McDowell, Montello; Jeff McNally, Milton; David E. Messmer, Johnson Creek; Mike Meyer, Loyal; Brian C. Moll, Deer Park; James E. Novak, Denmark; Jenny Nowak, Marble; Todd Oliphant, Marengo; Shane Olson, Blanchardville; Paul K. Oman, Amery; Daren K. Pagenkopf, Lancaster; Derick B. Paider, Denmark; Brian S. Paulson, Columbus; Scott J. Pearce, Ashland; Rodney Pennings, Denmark; Brent Petersen, Denmark; Ronald R. Piechowski, Reganville; Neal Potting, Marshfield; Keith A. Prieve, Mosses; Gary W. Punzel, Edgerton; Brian Rose, Belleville; Tina Rodi, Montello; Joe R. Roweckamp, Alma Center; Jeffrey J. Rozum, Whiteale; Scott E. Saltzman, Watford; Cedric A. Schnizler, Alma Center; David Schroeder, Alma Center; David Schroeffer, Bryant; Michael A. Schuh, Green Bay; Corey Schweiher, Denmark; Stuart L. Selford, South Wayne; Daniel D. Siemers, Cleveland; Douglas H. Spooner, Evansville; Pat R. Starek, Elroy; Lane L. Stien, Cody; Terry Stewart, Wilton; Laurie L. Sutter, Mount Horeb; Douglas L. Syvud, Mount Horeb; Chad L. Teasdale, Shullsburg; Brian E. Vance, Elkhorn; Amber L. Vickers, South Wayne; Dawn Von Haden, Fall Creek; Mark W. Walwood, Markesan; Kendal J. Wenger, Blanchardville; Steven S. Wink, Thorp; Ronald R. Wussow, Bondell; Jill M. Zimmerman, Osseo; Randy Zimmerman, Belleville; Jeff Zobeck, Ferryville

WYOMING: Kay J. Buchhaults, Hawk Springs; Thomas W. Frank, Lander; Barry Hansen, Cheyenne; Aaron Johnson, Casper; Frederick J. Macy, Pine Bluffs; Mary Marfat, Torrington; Christine Michel, Fort Bridger; Dan Reimer, Moorcroft; Kitty Schultz, Cheyenne; Theresa R. Slack, Kinross; Travis T. Swenson, Cody; John R. Zoller, Pavilion

Computers in Agriculture

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

Computers are now the rule rather than the exception in many classrooms and homes across the country. FFA recognizes the outstanding achievements of students in putting these technological giants to work in everyday life.

National winner Karla Williams uses computers to keep records for her family's feedlot. She designed financial spreadsheets for her local FFA chapter and the Montana Agricultural Teachers Association. Using desktop publishing, she developed a state FFA convention newspaper. She also worked with county agencies to integrate comput-

ers into their operations.

On Wednesday afternoon, the eight finalists gave 10-minute presentations about their programs to a panel of judges. Judges then selected a national winner and a runner-up. The national winner received \$500 and a plaque and the runner-up, \$250 and a plaque, in addition to the \$250 travel award presented to each finalist.

National Winner:

Karla Williams, Joliet, Mont.

Runner-Up:

Robert W. Johnson, Plattville, Colo.

Finalists:

CONNECTICUT: James Jacquier

SOUTH CAROLINA: Clay Britt

ALABAMA: John Bullock

MONTANA: Kevin Herrick

SOUTH DAKOTA: Karla Williams

CALIFORNIA: Melissa Hath

COLORADO: Robert Johnson

ARIZONA: Dominic Salce

State Winners

ALABAMA: John C. Bullock, Red Level

ARIZONA: Dominic Salce, Springerville

ARKANSAS: Christopher L. White, Lavaca

CALIFORNIA: Melissa Hath, El Nido

COLORADO: Robert W. Johnson, Plattville

CONNECTICUT: James Jacquier, East Canaan

FLORIDA: Corey Parks, Sarasota

IDaho: Patrick Stowell, Homedale

ILLINOIS: Steven Vache, Jacksonville

INDIANA: Blaine B. Butler Jr., Frankfort

IOWA: Eric R. Lang, Donaldson

KANSAS: Donnie L. Seeger, Penokee

KENTUCKY: William McIntosh, Georgetown

LOUISIANA: Matt Francis, Jonesboro

MASSACHUSETTS: Tracy Pappalardo, Lawrence

MICHIGAN: Curt Ratajczak, Standish

MINNESOTA: James Kruse, Elbow Lake

MISSOURI: Corey R. Hall, Williamstown

MONTANA: Karla Williams, Joliet

NEBRASKA: Brad Tonigges, Gresham

NEVADA: Amy Fahsoltz, Elko

NEW YORK: Scott M. Aubin, Henderson

NORTH CAROLINA: Paula J. Shelton, Marshall

NORTH DAKOTA: Sheila Wamman, Wishek

OK: Mark Schumm, Van Wert

OKLAHOMA: Kevin Freundt, Guthrie

OREGON: Hollis Miller, Union

PENNSYLVANIA: Marybeth Hassler, Morgan-town

SOUTH CAROLINA: Clay G. Britt, Nichols

SOUTH DAKOTA: Kevin Herrick, Roslyn

TEXAS: Kim Henson, Hearne

UTAH: Corey Ritchie, Coalville

VIRGINIA: Ronnie Dunn, Boydon

WASHINGTON: Jennifer Hodges, Mabton

WISCONSIN: Jeremy J. Kox, Green Bay

Agriscience Teacher of the Year

Sponsored by GTE Foundation

National Winner:

Mark D. Lalum
Kalispell, Mont.

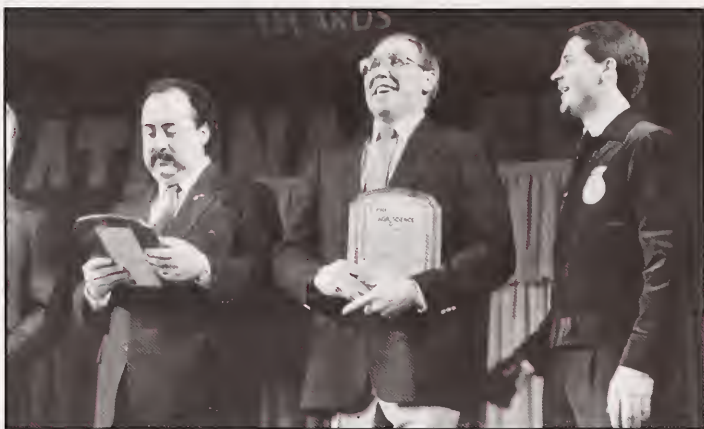
Regional Winners:

South Dakota: John D. Rist, Bowdle
Ohio: Anthony F. Casalnuovo, Uniontown
Montana: Mark D. Lalum, Kalispell

The agriscience program at Flathead High School is bursting at the seams, thanks to the innovations initiated by teacher Mark Lalum.

Noting in 1985 that enrollment in the freshman class had dropped from 50 to 23, Lalum committed himself to identifying and remedying the problem. Working with a four-person staff, Lalum has built the program to nearly 200 students with 100 percent FFA involvement.

"When we began evaluating the program five years ago, students could not receive science credit for agriculture classes," Lalum said. "Now we have restructured our curriculum so the classes are more science oriented and better prepare students for future employment."



National President Donnell Brown, right, congratulates Agriscience Teacher of the Year Mark Lalum, center, and runner-up Anthony Casalnuovo, left.

Agriscience Student Recognition



The national winner in the Agriscience Student Recognition Program is congratulated by fellow members of the Branford, Fla., FFA Chapter.

Sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Company

National Winner:

Tracie A. Daniels
O'Brien, Fla.

Runner-Up:

Lisa Marie Hefty
Auburn, Ind.

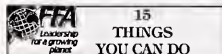
National Finalists:

Indiana: Lisa M. Hefty, Auburn
North Dakota: Blaine E. Jorgenson, Williston
Pennsylvania: Wayne J. Hassinger II, Middleburg
Florida: Tracie A. Daniels, O'Brien
Tennessee: Jennifer L. Gill, Greenbrier
Colorado: Aaron J. Brown, Lindon
Washington: Andrea Howell, Prosser
Wyoming: Ronald J. Swearingen, Laramie

Tracie Daniels grew up hearing her father talk about nematodes and the damage they inflicted on the family's peanut crop. In 1985, she began an experiment which she hoped would increase her understanding of the threat of this soil-borne parasite.

For her work, Daniels was named first place winner in the Agriscience Student Recognition program. Second place was awarded to Lisa Hefty for her research in fertilizer leaching and its impact on ground water safety.

Daniels was rewarded with \$8,500: \$1,000 for her state win, \$2,000 for the region and \$5,000 for the national. Hefty, as second place, received a total of \$6,000: \$1,000 for state, \$2,000 for the region and \$3,000 for national.



"Democratic societies can work only if people participate. So whatever else you do cast your vote on every election day. Volunteer to work in campaigns. Really participate by helping to decide who is going to serve in government... Decide what's right and wrong about an issue and take a stand. In a democracy there is no substitute for time and personal involvement."

— Clayton Yeutter

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.



Ronald Swearingen, winner of the Wyoming Agriscience Student Recognition Program, discusses his project with a panel of judges.

Stars Over America

Stars recognition awards sponsored by the executive sponsors of the National FFA Foundation, Inc. Audiovisual sponsored by DowElanco. International Experience Tour of Europe sponsored by Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and Chrysler Fund.

No other FFA awards carry the prestige of Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman. These winners are recognized throughout the FFA as top achievers, chosen on the basis of their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs.

From a field of 1,056 American FFA Degree recipients, four agribusiness applicants were chosen, along with four production agriculture applicants. On Thursday night, during the Stars Over America Pageant, names of the Star Farmer of America and the Star Agribusinessman of America were revealed.

The rewards were many for the honorees. The Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman of America each received \$2,000 and the six regional Stars each received \$1,000. All were recipients of handsome plaques, and the eight will have the opportunity to experience European agriculture during the Stars International Experience Tour.



Star Farmer Todd Lotter, left, and Star Agribusinessman Chad Luthro exchanged congratulations after the Thursday announcement.



Todd Lotter
Star
Farmer
Monroe, Ind.

Lotter owns a dairy farm, where he milks 63 cows and has more than 70 dairy heifers, steers and calves. Lotter performs all daily and management tasks for the 1,500-head swine feeding partnership he shares with his father. He also farms more than 300 acres of beans, corn and alfalfa.



Allen Lewis
Southern Region
Star Farmer
Gates, Tenn.

Lewis farms full-time with his father. Together they raise more than 1,400 acres of cotton, soybeans and wheat. They custom harvest cotton and contract-finish hogs. Lewis is a two-time national award winner: In 1986 he was the National Fiber Crop Proficiency award winner and in 1988, he took first in the National Diversified Crop Production Proficiency competition.



Morgan B.
Ott III
Eastern Region
Star Farmer
Bealeton, Va.

Ott is a partner in Marshfield Holsteins with his father. He is responsible for caring for calves, feeding the 90-cow milking herd and managing the crops. The operation includes more than 300 acres in hay, corn and pasture. Ott maintains and repairs his farm equipment, crediting agricultural education for development of these skills.



Weylin
Eldred
Western Region
Star Farmer
Bellingham,
Wash.

When Weylin Eldred and his brother Wesley were in high school, they convinced their parents that they could run a dairy farm. The family pitched in and purchased a dilapidated dairy. Today Eldred milks 138 cows and owns 122 replacement heifers. He plans to be milking 250 cows within the next two years.



Chad Luthro
Star American
Agribusinessman
Moorland,
Iowa

Luthro started Agri-Tech Products Company in 1988. His computer and electronic sales and consulting business was an outgrowth of early interests in computers and agriculture. He financed the business with profits from his SAE program, working with the family farm and Luthro Custom Farm Service. Luthro was the 1988 Computers in Agriculture award winner and served as Iowa state secretary.



Adrian Land
Southern
Region Star
Agribusinessman
Brantford, Fla.

Land is one of two main buyers for Land Watermelon Sales, Florida's largest watermelon shipping business. He has worked to improve the local industry by promoting the boxing of watermelons in the field a method that cuts the amount of handling needed in the field before shipping to northern markets. Land also owns several quarter horses, 100 cattle and 50 percent of Land Brothers, a watermelon buying and packing business.



Brian
Bingham
Western
Region Star
Agribusinessman
Glendale,
Ariz.

Bingham has today more than 70 landscape accounts, and first became involved in the industry while working in the school greenhouse. As a junior and senior, he managed the Peoria High greenhouse, which grossed more than \$30,000 each year. Business skills Bingham developed helped him become a respected landscaper—managing tasks from organizing daily operations to securing plant contracts.



Jody
Germann
Eastern
Region Star
Agribusinessman
Bowling
Green, Ohio

A fourth-generation horticulturist, Germann has spent much of his life working for the family business, Klotz Flower Farm. As part of his SAE program, he started a nursery to grow plant materials. He also arranged flowers and maintained the facilities. Germann has introduced new practices to the business, such as substituting temperature control for chemicals in regulating bedding plant growth.

Keep on Keeping the Dream Alive

Donnell Brown National President

Looking back on a year so fantastic, it is hard for me to find words to truly express my feelings. This has been a year full of opportunities unforeseen by this West Texas boy when I first learned the FFA creed.



Travelling from the wonderful little town of Throckmorton to the mountains of Montana, through the Plateau of Nebraska, into the forests of the South, and across the

giant ocean of blue to watch the sun rise on Japan, the memories touch my heart. As I reflect on this year of service I realize one thing—it is the people that make the difference. I am so glad to have had the chance to serve you.

I will soon pass the gavel to another and continue on life's highway, but before I turn "One thing is for sure, I will always live by what I believe in, and this year has reinforced that fact. I think Baxter Black put it best in his poem called "Ode."

It's hard to be a person when your heart is a saddle horn
When you're more of a horseshoe than a fly in a ointment
And clear blue skies outweigh the lure of fancy painted nights.

Last year at the convention you made me President.

The miles gone by so quickly, I'm not sure where I went.
It surely was an honor and I did the best I could. But I feel the truth, my friends, my speaker's of that good

I'm better on a bronc, countin' zoves or spinnin' shoes
But I say without a stutter I believe in what we do.
Our opinions are important, I feel in my heart,
So I stand up and take my turn, I'm glad to be my part.

I've talked to politicians and lobbied for a year.

Scott Crouch National Secretary

"One moment in time." The similarity between that song and my personal desire to serve this organization as a national officer is overwhelming.



It seems like only yesterday that I first entered agricultural education. As I reflect on the beginning of my association with this organization, I find that my first year in FFA was fairly routine.

When Greenhand pin, stated my SAE program, learned the creed (a paragraph at a time), judged livestock and ordered a size 34 FFA jacket.

Like most freshmen, I thought official dress was "uncool," and I did not understand why boots and jeans were not appropriate substitutes. My main motivation for attending meetings were the rebates and the ball games that followed.

When I became a sophomore, my advisor asked if I would be interested in attending the national convention and in showing hogs at the American Royal. Like any 15-year-old, eager to be excused from five days of school, I agreed with enthusiasm. Little did I know that those five days would forever change my life.

My first memory of Kansas City is of registering in Bartle Hall where thousands of blue and gold jackets surrounded me. I was amazed at how friendly everyone was and at the fact that there really were girls in FFA.

After registering, we moved to the Municipal Auditorium to await the beginning of the vesper program. It was here in the auditorium that I learned something important. Courtesy Corps members got upset if you threw paper airplanes.

As vesper began, I gave my unbridled attention to the stage where the national officers presented a controversial patriotic tribute to America. Their perform-

rights. Several hours on the telephone, spent many sleepless nights.
I need the farm too often to my family and its soil.
I need to represent us all, our problems and our life.

Sometimes was successful. Sometimes I pulled my hair.
A man can do no better than the folks who put him there.
You overbaked my number 'even more than I deserve.
But what makes me the proudest... I had the chance to serve.

I wouldn't have missed this chance for the world. I am so honored to have served you—the future of American agriculture at its best—and the National FFA Organization, improving agriculture through our learning-by-doing process and developing strong character, morals and values in those who wear the blue and gold.

The FFA prepares us for a successful future and a noble and worthy occupation on earth, agriculture. There is no greater joy than knowing you help feed and clothe the world. Agriculture is the oldest, largest and most important of our civilizations. It is in the Bible that God gave Adam the duty of tending the Garden of Eden. That was the earliest agriculture. It will be with us until the end as well, because we cannot survive without food.

We can be proud and grateful, but now it's our turn to decide the destiny of our organization, our America. We must pull together, adapt to our changing society and work for the best interests of all. You determine the outcome. United we stand and no progress, or even failure, is it your turn to craft FFA's future and make the best we can.

Many try to hold us back, to destroy our dream, ambitions and goals and keep us from reaching the top. Don't fall victim to the enemies of jealousy, deceit, passion and false pride. Guard your masterpiece—the person you are not out to lose. Do to dream, due to false charges and dare to be yourself. Follow your dreams, let them grow and they will be your forever.

I do not watch much television because I

steals valuable time from our families and our lives. But under the stars was waiting for me a plane, and in the waiting area was a TV. A quick little promotional message caught my eye. Though I tested only ten seconds, I made a decision to watch the program on the way to the show the next morning.

The clip is simply a picture of a black Labrador retriever sitting down with a Frisbee in his mouth. As you listen with his eyes, "Sit! Ubu! Sit. Good dog." Then the dog barks. Everyone says it along with me, "Sit! Ubu! Sit. Good dog." On the count of three, you yell out the dog's name. 1, 2, 3—Ubu! How'd you say, Ubu? Ubu! U.S.-S. That one more time along with me. U (you), B (be), U (you).

That is exactly what I hope you will be—Ubu. Let Ubu be your mascot because I want each of you to kill the reason and purpose for which you were created. It has been said that when we depart from this world and go to meet our Maker He will not ask, "Why didn't you try a little harder to become a better person?" He will simply ask, "Why didn't you become Ubu?" I dare you to be you and keep on keeping your dreams alive.

There are many setbacks or disabilities that seem to hold us back. They are or overcome if only we utilize the many talents we are blessed with. I want to share with you a story about a person who overcame a disability and became a handi-capped is not visible and few people even realize he has a problem.

He grew up in a small town with very young parents. Right, sharp and attentive, the young boy easily made friends when he started school. He was one of the teacher knew would be at the top of the class. Very able in body and mind, the boy did really well in school, learning to read. Unlike the other kids in his class, he had a hard time.

He went on to first and second grade, even though he was struggling with his reading skills. The boy had to concentrate, so he read, the words on a page. In third grade they realized he had a problem with seeing the words. His vision was fine but every time he looked at a written page the words appeared backward. The letters would seem to be in a different order, sometimes they would flash or vibrate in his mind.

No wonder he had to concentrate so hard to read the words. In his mind he had to re-order the letters in order to read the words correctly.

My Moment of Magnificence

ances were riveting and I remember walking away from the convention hall inspired by their words.
For the next three days, I obediently and religiously watched the officers conduct the 1984 National FFA Convention with more pomp, pageantry and prestige than I had ever seen. I was moved by their addresses and so impressed with their professionalism. By the end of the convention, I had adopted the national officers as my personal role models. I studied their actions and emulated their style for one of the days I would fill their shoes. I left Kansas City in 1984 with a much greater appreciation for our organization and with a renewed interest in agriculture.

Upon returning home I revealed my desire to obtain a national officer position to individuals who would eventually become very close friends—my advisors—Mr. Wolf, Mr. Kirby and Mr. Packer. Together we devised a plan of action that would prepare me for leadership positions on the state and national level.

Over the next two and a half years, I was involved in numerous leadership and judging events in addition to serving as a chapter and district officer. I can honestly inform you that my participation in these activities was a tremendous growth experience. I can also honestly inform you that I was not successful in my every endeavor.

Never did I master the art of judging dairy and beef, and if you examine my track record, you will discover more weaknesses than successes. I remember on several occasions having to pick myself up, brush myself off and if you examine my track record, you will discover more weaknesses than successes. I remember on several occasions having to pick myself up, brush myself off and if you examine my track record, you will discover more weaknesses than successes.

He still had his magnificent obsession to represent Kansas as a national officer. In early 1989, I learned that Scott Crouch, a member of the National FFA Organization, was running for president as Indiana's their national officer candidate. After a week of challenging tests and competitive interviews, I heard the announcement that Scott Crouch had been selected as the national officer.

As you can see in the convention film, my excitement was a genuine and immeasurable as I began my term of service.

After long periods of studying the words so strongly, he would fire. The words would begin to move and run off the edge of the page, or swirl around in a spiral.

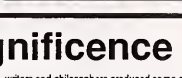
Back then they called it "dumb." Today we know this condition as dyslexia. Can you imagine growing up being unable to read, or reading at a very slow rate because you had to concentrate on each word to understand? Even though dyslexia hurt his school performance and he never made the best grades, he refused to accept the idea that he was dumb or that he would never be a success. This young man realized he had many other great talents and abilities that would help him. He continued on his path of self-determination to be the best he could be. Involved in 4-H, FFA, sports and other school activities, the boy was still very sharp and fun to be around. He was a leader of people.

Though his grades were low he was able to pass, even graduating from college with the help of his friends, who he now will say he is a true success because he used his abilities instead of feeling sorry for himself. He has served on the boards of directors of the American Quarter Horse Association for 24 years and the National Cattlemen's Association for 16 years. He is an honorary alumnus of Texas Tech University, he owns and operates the eighth largest registered cow-calf operation in the nation and

he has a problem.

He went on to first and second grade, even though he was struggling with his reading skills. The boy had to concentrate, so he read, the words on a page. In third grade they realized he had a problem with seeing the words. His vision was fine but every time he looked at a written page the words appeared backward. The letters would seem to be in a different order, sometimes they would flash or vibrate in his mind.

No wonder he had to concentrate so hard to read the words. In his mind he had to re-order the letters in order to read the words correctly.



writers and philosophers produced some of humanity's greatest works. Exploration, expansion and colonization were common themes during the 1600s, while the 1700s gave the world enlightenment, revolution and freedom from tyranny. The 1800s saw Western societies transformed from agrarian societies to manufacturing nations during the Industrial Revolution.

The 1900s will again be a decade of revolutionary change. Currently, we are seeing the disintegration of communism throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. We are seeing the boundaries of individual nations erased as the booming global economy of the 1990s replaces the national economies of the past. We are seeing agriculture converted into science as genetic engineering, biotechnology and immunology increase our ability to produce food and fiber for our world to consume.

The environmental movement of the 1990s will allow agriculture to evolve even further as conscientious citizens like you and me lobby and pressure our government to limit farmers to toxic fuels and nuclear power. The leadership of this century will be those people who are good at growing and producing crops to meet the world's energy and industrial needs. I believe former FFA members from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas will lead the way in the challenge by growing genetically enhanced hybrids designed for industrial purposes. Instead of plowing our land for the health of the earth, we will be producing crops on the earth's surface to satisfy our energy needs.

One day soon, FFA members and their advisors in the states of California, Florida, Alabama, Oregon and Washington will realize that less than one percent of the state's plants and animals have been researched for their pharmaceutical and biological properties. They will embark on a magnificent journey that will surround the medical community and will be open to the common cold, arthritis, heart disease and AIDS. Production agriculturalists will begin growing these pharmaceuticals and eventually control the world's controlled environments. Don't be surprised

in January his peers named him 1990 Livestock Man of the Year. Most people call him Rob; some call him R.A. I am proud to call him Dad.

Today there are glasses called flutes. Flutes to toast dyslexia. They have a colored lens and if you see my dad you will notice that his lenses are yellow and mine are blue.

My parents have instilled in their children the great values and morals that make us truly very happy, loving family. They taught us to be ourselves and to stand for what we believe.

What do you stand for? What talents do you have to make your life, the FFA, America and the world a little better? Give it your all and let's do it together.

There has been one song this year that has really touched my heart. When I saw the video, I knew I represented what I want to share with each of you. One month ago it was named Country Music Video of the Year.

I did not know what this year had in store for me but I'm glad it has turned out like it has, because I wouldn't have missed this "dance" for the world.

Today, I say thanks to my Heavenly Father for the many blessings He has given to each of you for making this past year the dance, the experience of a lifetime. Just remember, you be you and keep on keeping your dreams alive because the next dance is about to begin—and now it's your turn to lead!

Winston Churchill once said, "There comes a time in every man's life, a magnificent moment when he is tapped on the shoulder and offered to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talents; what a tragedy if that moment finds the man unprepared or unqualified for the work which would have been his finest hour." In essence, Winston Churchill has challenged us to prepare ourselves for the future contributions we must make to our democracy. As the leaders of the future, we owe it to ourselves and our country to strive for excellence in all our educational activities.

This year my mission has been to identify, develop and nurture future leaders for this organization. I have learned that being a leader means having the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who permit you to lead. I sincerely hope that in some small way I have contributed positively to the long-term development of every young person who has been a part of this year. I heard Mr. Kirby say, "Ladies and gentlemen, I hope I am an honest reflection of what a person can achieve if they envision a goal and diligently labor to accomplish it."

In closing, I wish for you a magnificent obsession, one that will give you a reason for living. I hope that at times you become so frustrated and so challenged that you begin to push back the very barriers of your own personal limitations. I hope you give so much of yourself that one day you wonder if it's worth it all. Finally, I wish for you a brilliant moment of magnificence in which you realize everything you are and everything you were made for. Thank you, and may God's richest blessings be yours.

To Be Continued...

Dan Schroer National Vice President Eastern Region

As I sit in the living room of Alpha Zeta Fraternity, I have beside me a bowl of popcorn, a bag of Doritos, a bag of pretzels and a 2-liter bottle of Mountain Dew. I await my favorite television program, "Star Trek." I watch as Captain Kirk, Spock and McCoy travel to the end of the universe to fight the nasty Klingons. A battle ensues as Captain Kirk fights with the Klingon leader. Captain Kirk gains an advantage but the Klingon leader hits Captain Kirk over his head. The horrible Klingon prepares to throw Captain Kirk over a cliff but then, "To be continued" flashes across the screen.

I feel exhausted, a bit disappointed. I have given my undivided attention to "Star Trek" for one hour but the story is unfinished. I then regain my excitement because I realize that in one week I will catch the electrifying conclusion. Whether or not Captain Kirk survives will be revealed when I tune in for the next episode.

Fellow FFA members, as I watched Star Trek, I realized what FFA means to me and the many members who belong to our organization. We have four years to be involved in agricultural education and the FFA, and when those years are over, our life is much better because of those years. We are blessed with an opportunity. An opportunity to be involved in an

organization that is preparing us for many career choices in agriculture. Not only do we learn the basic skills and knowledge to prepare us for over 200 careers in agriculture, but we also learn people skills, leadership, cooperation and citizenship. These allow us to work with people, a necessity in our business world.

As I think about this year, I am reminded of the national officers' tour of China, Hong Kong and China. We do not realize how lucky we are until we visit another country. When we crossed the border and entered China, we witnessed armed guards with machine guns. A sight like this is never seen in America. FFA members, we are lucky to live in a country where we can walk the streets during the day without the army searching us. We are lucky to have the opportunity to join an organization such as the FFA. However, for those Americans that burn the United States flag or that bad mouth our country, my comment is: Love our country or leave it. FFA members, God bless America.

As I look at my seven years in the FFA, I am reminded of three reasons for my enjoyment in this organization.

The first is member interaction. I returned two months ago from a New England tour. I had the pleasure of visiting six New England states, but I will always remember my trip to a chapter in Rhode Island. I entered a classroom of students about whom I had been warned. The chapter advisor had told me these students would never be FFA members. Each student had no ambition to succeed, let alone listen to me. However, after I finished my 45-minute presentation and asked for questions, the first question was, "Thank you for coming to our organization?" That made my entire visit.

To realize that this student's small part in convincing them to join our organization was a highlight of the year.

Another reason I truly enjoy and respect this organization is because of the determination our members learn to develop as they push forward in the FFA. In 1995, an intelligent young man named David Marston from Jefferson, Ohio, had a turn of events that would change his attitude toward life forever. David Marston was a brilliant high school student, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average while participating in FFA, National Honor Society and many other high school organizations. However, in the spring of his junior year, David was diagnosed with cancer. In early April he had surgery. His spleen was removed but the tumor was so large the doctors did not touch it.

The last weekend in April was the state FFA convention. David's dream was to become a state FFA officer. The doctors told him not to run, but David and his wonderful family discussed it and realized that his life must go on. When convention time came, David, who was 5'10" tall, was down to 90 pounds. He ran for office and was elected. His dream had come true. From that point on David was never down on himself. He spent a total of 17 days in the hospital, had a second surgery in August, had a tutor for the final 10 weeks of school because he was too sick to attend, but he only missed one state officer meeting and graduated first in his class with a 4.0 grade point average.

It has been five years since his state officer year. Chemotherapy cured his cancer and his determination accelerated in college. David became involved in many organizations, graduated with a

3.65 grade point average and was selected as a top student in Ohio State University's College of Agriculture. He is currently teaching agriculture in the high school classroom as he shares his determination with his students.

FFA members, I share this story with you because many people would have given up and quit when they found out they had cancer. Because of the pride and determination that our FFA members share, David fought this disease and became the best person he could be.

As I reflect over the past seven years, my final reflection is on the friends and supporters whom I respect and must thank for their guidance and friendship. Mom, Dad, Diana, Walter, Connie, and Stephanie Schreier, Todd Davis, Brad Lokai, the men and girls friends of Alpha Zeta, Mr. Al Hoying, Mr. Rob Hovis, Mr. Jim Scott, Mr. Tony Hoyt and my special friends, David Harrison, Scott Strieker and Julie Roemer; thank you for being there when I needed you most. I also thank the Lord above, because without Him none of us would have the opportunities we have.

FFA members, I have two final

challenges for each of you. Both can be summed up by my good friend Scott Strieker wrote to me before my interviews for national office. The last line in his letter said, "Do your best and remember all of the people who believe in you."

FFA members, do your best while in this organization. Sure, my years in this organization are over, but the rest of my life is a whole lot brighter, more exciting because of the years in this organization. Remember those people who believe in you. The day you forget about your family, your friends or the Lord above, is the day your life will begin to go downhill.

Opportunities are endless for each of you. I am so excited for your future. Members, you are the future of our country. As I close, I leave you with this last farewell: May the wind rise up to meet you May the birds be always at your backs May the rain fall soft upon your fields The sun shine warm upon your face And until we meet again May God hold you in the palm of His hand!



Bill Henricksen National Vice President Central Region

In the next four years I promise to improve the economy, wipe out unemployment and allow you to start

successful businesses across our country. I pledge to give you the federal deficit each year and, with time,

I promise to be giving you a balanced budget. All this will be done without cutting back on government programs or services and without increasing your taxes.

It would really be fantastic if a presidential candidate could come before all of us and say just that. No new taxes or tax increases, no cuts in current programs or services, all while the deficit is being reduced and the budget is being balanced. The only problem is that such claims would not be Reality.

In Reality, as well as now, everything you receive you must also pay for. Right now each of our families owes more than fifty thousand dollars of the United States government's debt—our debt. With almost 24,000 people here at this convention, together we account for more than one billion dollars of the debt that must be paid. The money has already been spent, now comes the not-so-fun part: paying the check. This is Reality.

Let's try to entitle my address, "Reality," because, like life or not, Reality is where each of us lives. In Reality there are problems that come along and must be dealt with. Many times we try to sugarcoat these problems, making things appear better than they are. We try to call them opportunities or challenges, but in Reality they stay problems until somebody decides to do something about them. Only then do they become opportunities or challenges.

The lesson that guide our nation face many problems—the federal deficit, the conflict in the Middle East, trade barriers between countries and a host of others. The people in these positions

know what the problems are and how they must be dealt with.

All too often though, we, as their constituents, put our leaders in a position where they must make false campaign promises to get elected. Like a promise for no increase in taxes while maintaining the same level of government programs. We must realize what the situation is and listen to true leaders, leaders who look at Reality and are honest with us about how we must deal with situations. This type of leader may have to make some pretty bold statements—statements like, "I am going to have to increase taxes and I am going to increase the federal deficit to deal with the debt situation under control." Statements like this are no fun to hear and certainly not easy for all of us to pay for. However, in the long run this much is true: the sooner you solve your problems the better.

Right now in agriculture we are facing many tough problems. Food safety, fertilizer and pesticide use, groundwater safety, animal rights—the list goes on and on. These are problems to look to face but they are Reality and must be dealt with. All too often we spend our time trying for a magic wand that will, with a few magic words, mysteriously fix the situation. Unfortunately, as all of us know, this is never going to happen and we are going to have to get busy and solve the problems we are facing.

It's our job in agriculture to inform the public about the real truths about our industry and the practices we use. Chemicals are used on food products to yield a safer, higher quality product than if grown under natural conditions. The reason we can find traces of pesticides in food today is that, thanks to technology, we can find one part per trillion of a substance. People get scared when they hear a trace of a chemical, no matter how small, is found in their food. It's our job to help them realize the risks and put them in perspective. We must tell them exactly what one part per trillion is.

One part per trillion is equal to one second in 320 centuries, that is one second in 32,000 years or one grain of sugar in an Olympic-size swimming pool—just one grain. People must realize the benefits they receive from using these products. Each day more than 40,000

people die of starvation. What would this number be if we unnecessarily limited our farmers' production?

When I think about saying that the practices we use in agriculture must be safe. Each new chemical must pass many stringent tests provided as safeguards by the Food and Drug Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency. The public must be aware that these regulations are in place and are continually being modified to provide them with the safest possible product.

Helping people understand these facts is something each of us needs to do. Why? Because the public is making the larger role in setting the policies and regulations that guide our industry. We must make sure the people who are doing so have a good general knowledge of how our industry operates.

One program cannot be implemented on a national level and be expected to solve the entire problem of agricultural reality. Each of us must start by working within our own communities to help the people there understand agriculture. By working together we can tell the American public about our practices and allow people to make rational decisions on their buying habits as well as the policies they set.

In the past we have seen the damage that sensationalism can cause to our industry: drastic shifts in the price of production, leading to supply problems and instability in certain markets. So far only a few areas have been affected, however, it is only a matter of time until other areas—maybe your areas of agriculture—are affected. Right now the time to take action and prevent these situations from occurring. Only by working together can we avoid problems.

Within our own organization we have problems that must be dealt with. Having been an FFA member for the past seven years, I have seen many changes. Each of these years has been good and interesting as we position our organization to move into the next century. We have seen the name of our organization change, new emphasis placed on areas of study outside of production agriculture, contests being developed in the areas of marketing, agriscience and computers. Each of these

steps adds to the opportunities FFA members enjoy.

When discussing changes for the FFA, almost always someone asks the question, "Is nothing sacred any more?" To this I would only respond, "I hope not." When an organization holds on to certain ideals or traditions that are not directed toward the future, sooner or later that organization will cease to exist.

We must continually analyze all the symbols, traditions and practices the FFA has in order to insure a successful future. In the past we have been able to make the necessary changes; today it is up to each of you to take on this responsibility to make sure the FFA we have enjoyed is around for a new generation of young people.

Agriculture is a dynamic industry, constantly changing to meet the needs of its customers across the globe. Agricultural education, as well as the FFA, must not follow the change and merely keep up; rather, we must continually work to lead the change. Only then will we be able to make the future we now talk about a Reality.

As I said earlier, Reality is where each of us lives. Life presents us with problems each day that we must deal with. How we decide to react to these problems determines the kind of people we are. People who create their own destiny by tackling problems head-on and providing solutions will inevitably bring about a bright future for themselves and others. People who continually look away, scared to face the problems that exist, will eventually create more problems for

themselves and others.

The choice is up to each of us: the type of person you want to be and the type of life you want to live. In Reality there are no promises or guarantees. Each day you must work to bring about the type of country, the type of agriculture and the type of organization that you want.

I chose not to use any music or the band or chorus in my address because of the type of the two victories we have in our lives, there isn't a band to play or the right music playing in the background. True victories are usually celebrated in a much different, and I think much better, way. They are simply celebrated with friends.

This year I want to thank you for allowing me to travel across our country and overseas making new friends. There is a special group in the audience today that deserves a very big thanks. Whether it was a football game, an FFA activity or something else, they were always sitting in the front row. To my family and friends: thank you for keeping me going this past year. I could not have done it without you.

Over the past year, my message are five individuals who I just met just one year ago. This year we have worked together, faced a lot of problems and become great friends. The most important one for each of you here is that when you find your success, you will have friends as good as the ones I have found in Donald, Scott, Casey, Brad and Dan, as well as my family and friends, to celebrate with.

Because that is Reality and Reality is where we live.



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"Help people understand the facts about agricultural practices. The public is taking a larger role in setting the policies and regulations that guide our industry."

Bill Henricksen
1989-90 National Vice President, DeWitt, Iowa

The Big Picture

Casey Ison National Vice President Western Region

FFA members, honored judges and guests, Mr. Tenshoelack, imagine if you can planting, cultivating harvesting and marketing your crop you desire in any climate without even stepping out of your front door. Impossible? Twenty years ago, maybe. But with today's advanced

computer technology, agriculture can produce and market the product of their lot on a television screen.

I felt so good that day. I had finally done it. There was, standing in front of the entire Furland High School FFA Chapter in the most awe-inspiring public speaking contest that ever carved itself in FFA history. The competition was fierce, but I knew the hard work and preparation had gone into my speech word by word. It was determined to make it to the state finals and on to the king of all contests, the National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Contest held right on this stage.

Making the national public speaking finals had been a goal of mine ever since I witnessed those incredible young orators walking around the stage delivering the most eloquent speeches a high school freshman could possibly handle. I only could reach that elite group, I knew time and success would be mine. The day of the contest, I thought my delivery was impeccable; everything was going splendidly. Suddenly, my orator skills were being yelled, "Earthquake!" I started to run for the doorway until I realized the only thing shaking in the room was the podium. The judges tallied their scores and gave the results. I placed third, and needless to say, was quite disappointed.

Somehow or other I picked myself up and decided to stick with it. I still had a chance the next year.

My persistence paid off and again, one year later, I found myself in the chapter speaking finals. My skills had improved and my speech was much more graceful. But despite my efforts, I placed second, leaving me feeling disappointed but somewhat hopeful for the next year.

My final year of high school came around. I was confident, I was a senior. This was it. No one could block my road to FFA success. I was going to win the chapter public speaking contest. My speech was awesome. I delivered it with the greatest of ease and tackled the questions head-on. I had victory on my mind. But victory kept from my mind in a flash and splattered itself all over my opponent. I lost. I was a failure.

That was it. The end of the world had come. All hope for any success in life was washed out that auditorium door. I decided I might as well quit school and earn what little money I could to perpetuate my meaningless, unsuccessful life. How wrong I was. I did not exactly know even reach those simple goals I set in high school as a freshman? At that moment I caught myself doing a terrible thing. I lost my dreams and hope for the future. I lost sight of the big picture.

All too often we equate goals with success. The number of goals we reach is what we measure our worth. It is so far from the truth. Let's say, for example, I set a goal to make one million dollars every year for ten years. I will be bringing in only \$500,000 a year for 10 years! I realize that would constitute financial failure.

How many times do we criticize ourselves just because the outcome of our goals was not exactly what we hoped? We often get caught thinking happiness can be achieved only when the goal is accomplished. We then forget to enjoy the road to these goals and fail to realize just what has been gained personally, manifested by skills, character

and experience.

After I lost my speaking contest, I decided to stop wallowing in my defeat and redirect the skills I had acquired. Sure, I had lost the contest, but I did not fail. The reason my goal of winning had been set in the first place was simply to become a better speaker, and I had.

Maybe I could focus my talents on something else—like a state office. I did, and things worked out pretty well.

It is a dangerous thing to defeat yourself with trivial matters. I don't care how serious your defeat may seem, it can always be overcome. There is simply too much to get out of life. There are too many people who need you. Never lose your ability to help yourself and others just because some problem made you think it was the end of the world.

When I was in kindergarten I invited a group of my friends, even some girls, over to my house after school one day. After the long bus ride home my friends and I rushed into my home to begin the festivities. I slipped away from them quietly to use the rest room since it was a rather long bus ride. Before I got away, however, my mother asked if I would run outside to get the mail.

"Mom, I can't," I answered.

I could not tell her why because it was just too embarrassing to say in front of all my friends, and I had to be cool. Deciding the only way to save my dignity was to get the mail, I quickly rushed out the door. By the time I reached the mailbox I could wait no longer. I wet my pants.

That was it; the end of the world had come. There was no way I would ever walk into my house and let my friends see this. I started walking down the road hunched over to start a new life. I was alone. Luckily, my mother spotted me before I went too far and she set things straight. That problem may seem trivial and silly now but in the eyes of a 5-year-old, it ranked right up there with wars, plagues and famine.

I had lost sight of the big picture and what was really important. My mom helped me see things in perspective. Don't be afraid to ask for help when things seem to be overwhelming. You would be surprised to see how quickly problems pass and fade with a little help from your friends.

Take a look at the big picture—the world with all its exciting people, changes and opportunities. In order to experience any of this you must have a zest for life, a never-ending desire to live life to the fullest and help others do the same. FFA members, you are doing just that. By developing your talents and leadership skills you will provide the guidance our country is craving.

We have an awesome responsibility to feed, clothe and ultimately lead this great nation. Let's not let trivial matters and obstacles stand in our way. When we look at our ultimate responsibility of caring for our earth and its people, many of the issues we now debate within our organization seem trivial.

Life is exactly the same. Take a good look at what you feel is restricting you from being happy or from making a difference in the world and get past it. No matter what the problem, you can solve it. Have a behind and target at it. You embark on this awesome, exciting responsibility called life. It is imperative that you do so, not only for yourself, but for your fellow human beings.

Do not care what has happened in the past. That is gone forever. What matters is what you do from this moment on. It is truly the end of the world as we know it. The world as we know it is behind us and with every day comes a new world with countless possibilities. Put the past behind, learn from it and move on to shape and guide our world for the future.

This change we experience can be frightening if we stand back and watch it happen. I challenge you to take control of your life first, then move on to make positive changes in the world. If you want to solve the world's problems, you must

take care of your own and move forward from there. Change can be exciting if you are making the change.

There are a few things, though, that never change—constants in this world that have stood the tests of time. For example, love, honor and truth are some of these constants. I have experienced them firsthand this year. During my travels I have witnessed the most genuine, caring, honest people all over the world. Whether I was in swamps in South Louisiana, Louisiana, and Florida, on a mountain in Oregon or on the plains of Texas and Kansas, you made me welcome and I always had the greatest time.

I express my thanks to all of you involved in this great organization for making my year the best ever. It is not the places I have been that stand out in my mind, but you, the incredible people who have made a valuable difference in my life. You know who you are and I only hope you realize I can never thank you enough.

I am lucky enough to have almost my entire family here and want each of you to know I love you very much. Although at times I may have wondered, I truly could not ask for a better family. I will miss you all terribly the next two years. Thank you for your guidance, support and example.

Five of my very best friends in the world are here also. To my fellow national officers, you are simply the best. It is hard to believe such a powerful bond of friendship could be created in just one year. However, considering the caliber of people you are and the experiences we have shared, nothing less could be expected. Thank you, my friends. FFA members, the future is in your hands. I am thankful to my Heavenly Father and to you for allowing me to play a part in your past. I can only hope I have been as valuable an asset in your life as you have been in mine.

Thank you very much.

The Best is Yet to Come

Brad Lewis National Vice President Southern Region

Hi there! I'm Brad Lewis from the small town of Elkton, Alabama.

During the past several months I often thought that the expression as I introduced myself to FFA members across this great land I often enjoyed bragging about the folks back home at state conventions, chapter banquets and other FFA events. I hope you've enjoyed hearing about hometown characters Buford and Bertha Moore and our famous mayor, Billy Bob Jones, as much as I've enjoyed telling you about them.

It's hard to believe that my year as a national officer has gone by so quickly. It's hard to believe that I've been in the FFA for eight years. I seems that it was only yesterday when I had those doubts about the FFA, myself and my future. I wasn't sure if the FFA was the direction I wanted to go.

After all, I was a freshman who had dreamed of going to college, and in 1984 many people did not encourage me to pursue a career in agriculture or the FFA. Fortunately, I decided to stick with the FFA, which has proven to be a wonderful and rewarding experience. Little did I know as a Greenhead just starting out that "the best was yet to come."

I can still remember the day I received my first FFA jacket. Brad Lewis—reporter for the Elkton FFA Chapter. Wow! I was so proud of that jacket and I still am. I'm also very proud of my hometown, even if it has only 450 people. You would never know the shopping mall near Washington, D.C., was not my kind of fun. I was awakened by the sound of breaking glass and watched news reports about a drug-related homicide just five blocks away

from my hotel. And the most horrid sight of all? Seeing the homeless and poor people of our nation's cities hopelessly searching through trash to find clothing or scraps of food.

You never realize how much certain people or places mean to you until you've been away as I have. I missed Elkton a little bit this year. I missed going to church on Sunday mornings and seeing a picnic lunch afterward. I missed seeing people wave from their front porch as I drove by or being offered a tall glass of iced tea.

Folks in rural America are always willing to lend a helping hand to the needy sick in the community. Grandmothers are making quilts or cookies for their grandkids, and grandfathers can always find time to take you fishing or bet you in a card game. I miss Elkton has a lot to offer after all.

There are opportunities in our small towns, opportunities that just need to be taken advantage of, not taken for granted. There is something great about small rural towns in America. Special people live and work in those small towns and they work together. These special people often have big-time qualities such as honesty, integrity, patriotism, a commitment to hard work, to God and to each other. For those of you who are still not convinced that there's a lot to be excited about in small-town America, then I encourage you to create opportunities and make something good happen for your hometown because "the best is yet to come."

As a national officer, I've had the chance to learn, to grow, to listen and to observe. I've learned that FFA is indeed and can be even better by looking to the future with progressive thinking, vision and higher expectations.

I've grown tremendously this year thanks to all of you. Thanks to Tyler of Ohio who gave me the definition of the type of leader I hope to become one day. Tyler simply said that "leaders aren't born with a silver spoon or a golden touch. They are just men and women who develop their skills to the point that they

can express their ideas in simple terms so their followers will do more than listen, they will get involved." Thank you, Tyler, for getting involved and for listening.

The opportunity to observe this great nation has been an education in itself. I have gained a deeper appreciation for America, but I also see that there is room for much improvement.

I never thought I would see the day when burning the U.S. flag would be legal or when drugs could hold captive so many of our schools and steal the self-esteem and will to live of so many young people. It's a shame that thousands of innocent people suffer from AIDS because they received a tainted pint of blood, blood that was supposed to give them life, not take it away.

There is much to be here in the land of opportunity. FFA members and agriculturalists can make a big difference and save the planet. How can you and I get involved? We can start by simply striving to be the best we can be. We can have high expectations for our friends, our families, and more important, ourselves.

America was built on strong moral values and has always practiced a spirit of peace, quality and a strong work ethic. It's a matter of having enough pride to make something good happen. Only you can make something happen for yourself. No one else can do that for you.

Let's work together to keep the pride alive by bringing back those same qualities and principles that have made America so great, those same qualities and principles that are found in rural America; those same qualities and principles that can help make America, the FFA and the food and fiber system every citizen has to rely on confident that "the best is yet to come."

In closing, I want to say "thank you" to the folks back home in Elkton. Thank you, Elkton FFA, for giving me the opportunity to wear this jacket. Thanks, Grandma and Grandpa, for picking all that cotton which has given me opportunities that you could only dream about. Thanks, Mama and Daddy, for driving all those nails and helping me be the best I can be. A special thanks to the Alabama FFA Association for believing in me and, most of all, I want to thank you for allowing me to sing my song and thank the Almighty God who believes in us all.

Well, I guess it's about time to take off this FFA jacket. This jacket has helped me find out who I really am and has made me very proud of the area from which I came. Some things haven't changed since my freshman year in FFA. I still don't know where I'm going, but I know that it will be good, for "the best is yet to come."

Thank you and God bless!



Delegates

ALABAMA: Brandon Abbot, Arab; Joe Barter, Vinegar Bend; Rebecca Dillard, Hartford; Tom Carlisle, Opelika; Christopher Etheredge, Daleville; Stephen Kiser, Piedmont; David Mines, Uniontown; Raymon Randolph, Town Creek; Michael Reese, Calera; Maria Rush, Lineville; Richard D. Scott, Uniontown; Lamar Seals, Bessemer; Kelly Williams, Fruitdale

ALASKA: Jason A. Balak, North Pole; Jeremy S. Stone, Wasilla

ARIZONA: Cheryl Faulstich, Yuma; Clint McCall, Yuma; Dominick Salas, Springerville

ARKANSAS: Chontia Ashlock, Harrison; Shelby Bussey, Waldo; Brian Carlton, Lincoln; Teresa Davis, Camden; James Hagar, Des Arc; Christopher Haral, Lowell; Harris Hopewell, Arkadelphia

CALIFORNIA: Nicole Anderson, Fullerton; Ronda Azevedo, Maxwell; Janine Kagan, Covina; Lynda Keeton, Santa Rosa; Jeff Longacre, Redding; Catherine Meltz, San Jose; Ryan Mendosa, Linden; Brenda Moore, Hughes; Larry Nichols, Eureka; Kim Oehlischlaeger, Alwaver; Robin Perez, Clovis; Joshua Richards, Fall River Mills; Nathan Seidelman, Petaluma; Jeff Thomas, Bodfish; Julie Treadaway, Gilroy; Amber Washington, San Bernardino; Kevin White, Anderson

COLORADO: Daniel Ellsworth, Meeker; James Pritchett, McClave; Jerrod Sanborn, Stoneham

CONNECTICUT: Ray Bugzo, Oxford; Coleen Harsteph, Enfield

DELAWARE: Stephen Cobb, Newark; Kimberly Dannenhauer, Felson

FLORIDA: Heather Folsom, Mayo; Mike McCracken, Avon Park; Keith Smedley, Holmes; Anna Stevenson, Chasimes; Dusty Walding, Gainesville;

Tim Weber, Sarasota; Nathan White, Pensacola

GEOORGIA: Jeff Bentley, Caveville; Gerry Courchaine, Covington; Andy Hart, Statesboro; Shelby Higdon, Harlem; Arnon Nolan, Moultrie; David Taylor Jr., Thomasville; Priscilla Weiden, Nicholson

HAWAII: Bruce Gushiken, Hawi; Leahua Sanoria, Pahoa

IDaho: Dale Keller, Clifton; Geert Loeffen, Fruitland; Angie Richard, Murphy

ILLINOIS: Mindy Elvidge, Farmersville; Bernie Engle, DeKalb; Andrea Gil, Speer; S. Mike Gregory, Roodhouse; Raquel Lacey, Nokome; Katrina Rose, Salem; Joe Winans, Lafayette

INDIANA: Bill Hall, Morocco; Chns Mackinnon, Thornton; Ed Myers, Gosport; Travis Park, Trafalgar; Mark Voors, Woodburn

IOWA: Kimberly S. Anderson, Clanton; Jon E. Hansen, Red Oak; Sheryl L. Janko, Shellsburg; Tony L. Klemm, Kellogg; Mark E. Oebmeyer, Danbury; Douglas E. Reynolds, Bedford

KANSAS: Kathy Feldman, Great Bend; Leslie Hedstrom, Lost Springs; Larry Whipple, Jelmore; Mike Zamzla, Wilson

KENTUCKY: Neysa Call, Glandale; James Comer Jr., Tompkinsville; Jay Graham, Fulton; Brian D. Hacker, Barboursville; Theresa Orr, Marton; John C. Park, Ravenna; Chris Schalk, Berry

LOUISIANA: Brennan Freedland, Welsh; Celsa Leger, Moreau; Amy Sanderl, Florien; Garrett Stonewall, Thibodaux; Sarah Steven, Stonewall; Paige Trinia, Mt. Hermon

MAINE: Brian Guetterre, Caribou; Jamey Hotham, Blaine

MARYLAND: Tammie Bull, Maryland Line; Melinda Horner, Keymar

MASSACHUSETTS: Darin Parks, Hingham; Jennifer Ward, Danvers

MICHIGAN: Philip M. Bowman, Alto; Andy Brown, Laingsburg; Heather Gordon, Bad Axe; Raymond Wagester, Remus

MINNESOTA: Christine Kidrowski, Clara City; James E. Lee, Clearwater; Val Luthman, Goodhue; Jenshu Sol, Reading; Brian Van Zomerem, Alexandria; Anne Willahart, Kimball

MISSISSIPPI: Allen Butler, Jackson; John Kage, Magee; Jeff Mayo, Philadelphia; Shan Parker, Bryant; Bryan Russell, Philadelphia

MISSOURI: Curt Blades, Shelby; Leigh Burkhalter, Wellsville; Jessie Davis, Craig; Stephanie Magee, Jackson; Kirk Karcher, Sweet Springs; John Kiebocker, Stotts City; Shelly Simpson, Hartville; Donnie Swafford, Pleasant Hill

MONTANA: Matt D. Peterson, Livingston; Michael Stevenson, Hobson

NEBRASKA: David Acheson, Kimball; Scott Heinrich, Blue Hill; Jeff Jacobs, Ceresco; Lee Thurber, Hoia

NEVADA: Jessica Carone, Lamolite; Amy Fahsoltz, Eiko

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Travis Allen, Newmarket; Tammy Woodell, Astead

NEW JERSEY: Liz Josi, Washington; Joel Rudenrow, Mt. Laurel

NEW MEXICO: Michelle Eichorst, Corrales; Wade Mulcock, Artesia; Clay Post, Corona

NEW YORK: Heather Bates, Cobleskill; Mike Thygesen, Cossayuna; Russell Turner, Loch Sheldrake; Richard G. Welsh, Arcandora

NORTH CAROLINA: Wesley L. Barefoot, Dunn; Kelly N. Butler, Mebane; Lester A. Chapman Jr., Lake Toxaway; Nathan A. Jones, Thomasville; Rebecca Jo Mizele, Williamston; Kim Morris, Troy; Steve M. Siford, Rockwell; Teresa Williamson, Fremont; Brian L. Wood, Raleigh

NORTH DAKOTA: Chad Dolzender, Wyndmere; Chad Ellingson, Maddock; Marie Nesheim, Berthold; Ron Schmidt, Hensler

OHIO: Randy Boes, Fostoria; Matt Burns, Twin; Bridget Diefisch, Findlay; Sara Dullis, Camden; Ryan Kisseel, Elma; Rick Perkins, Bloomville; Jerry Rauch, Little Hocking; Sara Ryan, Monclova; Suzanne Smith, Newark

OKLAHOMA: Cody Anderson, Ringwood; Toby Cauby, Bristow; Jason Hancock, Walters; Stewart Kennedy, Edmond; Brent Kelling, Burlington; Melaine McClure, Holdenville; Christie McDaniel, Yukon; Bryon Rice, Wiburton; Melinda Sumler, Claremore; Carl Treat, Durant; Jeff Vincent, Morison

OREGON: Brian Gilmore, Canby; Emily Read, Culver; Rick Whitehead, Tillamook

PENNSYLVANIA: Tom Gomez, Oxford; Gregory L. Hamish, Manheim; Keith Hay, Berlin; Eric Marshall, Reinholds; Rebecca Sonnen, Richland

Puerto Rico: Johanna Izary, Urueto; Annetta M. Nerys, Carolina, Monica Rivera, Urueto

RHODE ISLAND: Liz Johnson, Exeter; Scott Johnson, Exeter

SOUTH CAROLINA: Candice Hallman, Batesburg; Michael Hemmings, Gresham; John Holladay, Manning; Levern Fanning, Norway

SOUTH DAKOTA: Kindra Bellefacher, Bowdler; Mike Fasthorse, Presho; Jill Heemstra, Dolton

TENNESSEE: Kelly Carmack, Gates; Tim Corbise, Burlington; Curt Davis, Charleston; Kip Green, Manchester; Kari Lamb, Altam; Stefan Mapin, Newbern; Ralph Stewart, McEwen; Melissa Thompson, Lebanon

TEXAS: Belinda Deckendorf, Tomball; Jason Bennett, Odessa; Todd Boeng,

Marion; Lance Bradley, McAllen; Zach Brady, Abilene; Erica Clark, Mansfield; Amy Davis, Lubbock; Dennis Degner, Malone; Heather Dolins, Katy; Brent Graves, Chillicothe; Kristie Johnson, Ennis; Kimberly Koger, Ackerly; Russell Langley, Centerville; Brooke Lisen, Glen Rose; Paul Mahoney, Thornton; Marci McInzine, Dike; Matt Owen, Salado; Jo Ann Petty, Kennard; Wendy Phillips, Iraan; Justin Ransom, Wichita Falls; Heather Ratloff, Pleasanton; Eric Robble, Weatherford; Jana Rodnick, Royce City; Julie Stahl, Stockdale; Russell Tabor, Lampasas; Greg Urbanczyk, Hereford; Beth Windham, Abernathy; Tracy Wright, Robstown

UTAH: Monica Allen, Eda; Conn Famuliner, Westpoint; Shay Wright, Elberta

VERMONT: Harold Carleton, West Newbury; Karin Stingham, Springfield

VIRGINIA: Jody Beckel, Rapidan; Randy Doss, Rustburg; Junior Good, Mt. Crawford; Betty Hayden, Fredericksburg; Beth Miller, Mt. Crawford; Laura Ann Morris, Luray; Joey Reinhardt, Tappahannock; Billy Worrell, Hillsville

WASHINGTON: Josh Dykes, Winlock; Kenora Fet, Centralia; Tim Norris, Yelm; Kimberly Thome, Pasco; Nic Wilson, Pomeroy

WEST VIRGINIA: Darrin Clemens, Martinsburg; Sandra Harris, Leroy; Luann Moyers, Normantown; Deanna Poole, Morgantown

WISCONSIN: Beth Burgoyne, Monticello; Scott Holt, Baraboo; David Lulich, Mason; J. R. Neu, Neesho; Kevin Holt, Norwalk; John Roun, Whitelaw; Rob Seizer, Stanley; Carmen Seiner, Darlington; Joel Wondra, Sun Prairie

WYOMING: Howard Jones, Moorcroft; Susan Ziehl, Mills

Business

In serious deliberations, delegates faced crucial issues pertaining to equal representation. The reapportionment conflict over representation had been bubbling for years, and in 1990, the pot came close to boiling over. After concern was raised by the Texas Association, the "Fixed 400" delegate proposal was amended to a "Fixed 475" system, after approval by the National FFA Board of Directors. The amendment passed at the Friday afternoon business session. This motion caused more than a 400 percent increase in the number of delegates from two years ago.

In a brief debate, delegates considered recommendations for a new creed written by Shirley Sokolosky. The Promotion and Information Committee did not mention the Sokolosky creed or read it before the delegates. However, the committee did vote to change three words of the M. T. Tiffany creed which has been revised only once since

its adoption in 1930. The vote changed the word "farming" in the first line to "agriculture." In the second paragraph, the word "pursuits" replaced "pursuit," and in the last paragraph, the phrase "rural America" became "American agriculture."

Receiving more discussion were controversial items modernizing the FFA. Delegates approved committee recommendations for changing the names of the Stars Over America titles. The delegates moved to change the names to American Star Farmer and American Star in Agribusiness, converting the latter to a gender neutral title.

In an unusual debate over a committee report, delegates recommended clarifications to the women's dress code. A requirement for knee-length black skirts passed; however, a proposal for neutral-colored nylons was defeated.



Toby Cauby, left, and Mary Burroughs addressed the convention Saturday on behalf of FFA International programs.

FFA members made a big splash when they converged on Kansas City for the 63rd time.

Committee Reports

Auditing

We submit the following recommendations:

1. That the audit report of Stoy, Malone and Company be found satisfactory in meeting the requirements of Public Law 740 for the fiscal year September 1, 1989, to August 31, 1990.
2. Continue placing a copy of the budget summary in the convention package sent to official delegates and state FFA staff before arrival in Kansas City. Provide, upon request, copies of the National FFA Organization budget from the National FFA Center.

3. Continue distributing a condensed financial report in the packet each delegate receives upon registration in Kansas City. Encourage delegates to share this information with their fellow state officers and other interested FFA members.

4. The National FFA treasurer's staff should continue to explain the condensed financial report and highlights of the current operating budget to the delegate body.

5. Continue providing, upon request, copies of the Stoy, Malone and Company audit report from the National FFA Center.

6. We respectfully submit the following reasons for the loss of revenue during the past fiscal year:

- A. National FFA Supply Service cost increases.
- B. National FFA Supply Service loss of sales.
- C. An increase in travel expenses.
- D. An increase in staff payroll expenses.
- E. Costs of FFA name change.
- F. Costs of FFA emblem change.

We extend a special thanks to David Miller, our retiring national treasurer, for his years of dedicated service to the National FFA Organization.

We also extend our warmest regards and best wishes to Charles Keels, our new national FFA treasurer.

We commend the efforts of Wilson Carnes and Don Michaels for their time and efforts in advising the national Auditing Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Smalley, FFA, (Secretary)
Wesley L. Barefoot, N.C.

Heather Folsom, Fla.
Howard Jones, Wyo.
John Kleibacker, Mo.
Matt Owen, Texas
Emily Read, Ore.
Suzanne Smith, Ohio
Lee Thurber, Neb.

Chapter and State Association Operations

During deliberate consideration, this committee studied ways to improve chapter and state associations through four subcommittees and now offers these recommendations:

Enhancing Pride and Commitment in Members and Officers

1. The National FFA Organization produce a motivational video to enhance pride and understanding of official FFA dress and the FFA code of ethics. Consider seeking the endorsement of famous former FFA members such as Bo Jackson.

2. Publish and send to chapters a listing of pamphlets and videos about involvement in FFA.

3. Create a pamphlet for non-members describing the benefits of FFA. The pamphlet should include quotations from former members about how FFA involvement has helped them.

4. Produce a tape of motivational music available through the National FFA Supply Service for use at banquets, meetings, and so forth (for example, "We Are the FFA's," "America" and "Top Gun Anthem").

5. Include in the National Leadership Conference for State Officers sessions to enable state officers to assist chapter officers in understanding and performing their duties effectively.

6. Clearly official dress for females as follows: skirt must be knee length or longer.

Effective Public Relations

1. Produce exciting, encouraging, yet understandable videos for sixth- through eighth-grade students to introduce all aspects of FFA.

2. Produce materials that encourage parents to participate in FFA activities such as Food for America.

3. Increase competition and awards in Building Our American Communities projects to secure community support.

4. Encourage sponsors to become more actively involved in the events they support financially.

5. Improve communication with various types of media to educate the public about how the FFA affects our American community as a whole.

6. Expand the current National FFA Week packet to include more specific ideas for exciting activities.

7. Improve the image of FFA by producing more effective slogans and advertisements.

Securing Support

1. Produce materials to help school administrators and faculty members understand the importance of agricultural education and FFA.

2. Publish an article in *FFA New Horizons* suggesting ways to get support from school boards and administrators.

3. Provide an article for the *Agricultural Education Magazine* giving suggestions for securing administra-

tive support.

4. Devote one day during National FFA Week in which members show appreciation for agriculture instructors and school administrators.

5. Provide a national how-to book about obtaining support from the community and agribusiness groups.

Developing an Effective Program of Activities

1. Stress to members the importance of following school attendance policies while participating in FFA activities.

2. Seek sponsorship for publication of an annual "Go for the Gold" booklet and video highlighting gold emblem chapters and their programs of activities.

3. Devote time during national activities to prepare state officers for training chapter officers in how to develop effective and useful programs of activities.

4. Publish and distribute a description of the major divisions of the Program of Activities.

We thank Mr. Charles Keels, North Carolina, for his time and effort in making this committee a success. As well, we thank Mr. Bellis, Ms. Dalton, Mr. Christianson and Mr. Denmark, our subcommittee consultants.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Myers, Ind. (Chair)
Nicole Andrus, Calif.

(Co-Chair)

Monica Allen, Utah
Travis Allen, N.H.
Chonta Ashlock, Ark.
Joe Baxter, Ala.
Jeff Bentley, Ga.
Tobin Boenig, Texas
Ray Bugzo, Conn.
Darrion Clemons, W.Va.
Teresa Davis, Ark.
Sara Duffie, Ohio
Bernie Engh, Ill.

Mike Fasthorse, S.D.
Stephanie Gable, Mo.
Heather Gordon, Mich.
Jay Graham, Ky.
Kristie Johnson, Texas
Liz Johnson, R.I.
Jeff Longacre, Calif.
Wade Mulcock, N.M.
Annette M. Nery's, P.R.
Melinda Sumter, Okla.
Donnie Swoford, Mo.
Julie Treadaway, Calif.
Greg Urbanczyk, Texas
Brian L. Wood, N.C.

National Awards and Degrees

We have reviewed the following subcommittee areas: Chapter Awards, Agricultural Proficiency Awards and American FFA Degrees as well as Computers in Agriculture, Agriscience and Achievement awards. We recommend the following:

1. The initiation of a selection process to determine a national winner in the chapter awards program.

2. That recognition similar to the BOAC volunteerism award be given for chapter safety campaigns.

3. That a blind review process be used in the agricultural proficiency award program, with the top five winners recognized on stage and a winner announced at the national convention.

4. That agricultural proficiency award funding be distributed according to individual state membership with no state receiving less funding than is currently allocated.

5. That the issue of placement versus ownership be reevaluated and placed on the committee agenda for the 1991 convention.

6. That in-service education activities be available to instructors and FFA members on how to complete agricultural proficiency award applications.

7. That computer assistance for understanding agricultural proficiency award applications be made available to FFA members at the National Agricultural Career Show.

8. That the outstanding student awards in produc-

tion and agribusiness be renamed American Star Farmer and American Star in Agribusiness.

9. The incorporation of a \$3.85 hourly wage rather than \$3.35 to determine minimum qualifications for American FFA Degree recipients.

10. That a plaque sponsored by the National FFA Organization be presented to each state winner in the Computers in Agriculture award program.

11. That the Achievement Award program be placed on a one-year probation, with renewal dependant on participation.

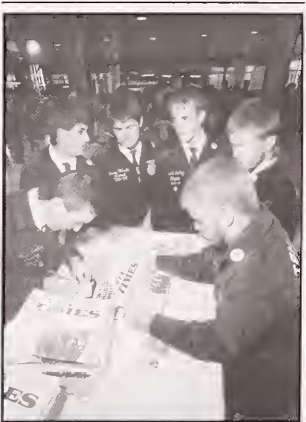
We extend our sincere appreciation to our sponsors and consultants.

Respectfully submitted,
Mindy Elvidge, Ill. (Chair)
Wesley L. Barefoot, N.C.

(Vice Chair)

Brandon Abbott, Texas
Judson Bennett, Texas
Andy Brown, Mich.
Matt Burns, Ohio
Cheryl Faulkner, Ariz.
Keith Hay, Pa.
Michael Hemingway, S.C.
Scott Holt, Wis.
Lynda Keeton, Calif.
Brooke Leslie, Texas
Val Luhman, Minn.
Misti D. Peterson, Mont.

Justin Ransom, Texas
Bryon Rice, Okla.
Angie Richard, Idaho
Marie Rush, Ala.
Bryan Russell, Miss.
(Alternate)
Shelly Simpson, Mo.
Julie Stahl, Texas
Carmen Steiner, Wis.
Jenny Thomas, Calif.
Nathan White, Fla.
Kelly Williams, N.C.
Teresa Williamson, N.C.
Billy Worrell, Va.
Mike Zamzla, Kan.



Committee Reports

National Contests

We submit the following recommendations to the National FFA Board of Directors:

1. A committee be formed to research the Oklahoma State Range, Land and Pasture Contest, collect information from other state contests and find out whether a national contest is feasible.

2. A committee knowledgeable in the equine industry be developed to research the need and feasibility of developing the following programs:

- National horse judging
- National horse show
- FFA rodeo

3. A committee be formed to investigate the possibility of a national master showmanship contest with animals provided by the American Royal.

4. A national tractor driving safety program be integrated in the agriculture curriculum to promote safety in agricultural mechanics and to increase involvement in state tractor driving contests.

5. An agriscience contest be developed and formatted like the agricultural mechanics contest, in which the categories are rotated yearly. Example categories include food technology, hydroponics, aquaculture, computers and biotechnology.

6. A crops contest similar to the National College Crops contest be discussed and possibly implemented.

We further recommend the following:

7. The FFA Agricultural Sales contest be evaluated after its first year as a national contest.

8. Future national contest committees be provided with the names and brief summaries of the contests held in each state and the number of states participating in each contest.

9. The contest department look into the possibility of an entrepreneurship contest to help members by teaching them how to start a business, market and advertise a product and follow up on their business.

Information and Promotion

Based on the following objectives: (1) to increase public awareness of FFA and American agriculture, (2) to improve the image of FFA and (3) to improve internal and external communications, develop a communications plan and evaluate contemporary issues.

1. A specific public relations plan be written for all chapters and states as well as the national organization. The plan should include general public service announcements, publications, audiovisuals and other resources.

2. A general article be sent to all chapters including basic information explaining the National FFA Organization and the changes that have occurred within. The image of FFA and media relations should be enhanced through use of a basic public service announcement for chapter use.

3. The National FFA Organization should recommend that the National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association consider a name change to better unify the two organizations.

4. The national office should attend national meetings of high school administrators to promote FFA.

5. Update resource materials with special emphasis on photographs and their relation to the FFA image.

6. The National FFA officer team should schedule their priorities in this order: national activities, chapter activities. This reflects the idea that national officers should reach as many members as possible.

7. We encourage state officers to develop a yearly plan to promote the FFA through media contacts, Food For America and public relations activities.

8. Encourage chapters to relay their needs and resources to their state association, which should relay that information across the state using a proper method of communication.

9. Develop an all-purpose workshop format to be distributed to state "President's" Conference participants who would share it with other state officers.

10. Develop fill-in-the-blank news releases for such activities as BOAC, Food For America and other FFA programs.

11. Encourage state officers to network by developing a directory of state officers and distributing it to state officers and state staff.

12. Make more information available to members and advisors by placing such publications as *Participation in Selected FFA Activities* on computer disks for data-base and cross-reference purposes.

13. Develop a separate, advanced supplement to

10. Contest superintendents be informed of the need to incorporate agrismarketing questions and/or activities into existing contests.

11. The contest department look into the possibility of a cooperative contest.

12. The commodities marketing contest be promoted at the state level and that existing guidelines be followed.

13. Computer skills be infused into existing contests where feasible.

14. We strongly recommend that a national parliamentary procedure contest be developed to increase the proper use of parliamentary procedure, which is extremely important to efficient communication and decision making. The criteria for establishing new national contests include a requirement that at least 50 percent of the states participate. Currently more than 90 percent of the states conduct a parliamentary procedure contest.

15. All states encourage participation in a Greenhand quiz. This would develop interest, knowledge and participation in FFA contests and activities.

16. All states encourage a radio broadcasting communication contest. The purpose of this contest would be to develop a new area of interest.

17. All states encourage participation in an agricultural discussion and debate contest. The purpose of this contest is to increase awareness of agricultural issues.

18. All states encourage participation in an FFA knowledge bowl. Its purpose is to encourage older students to remain knowledgeable about current issues in FFA and agriculture.

19. All states encourage a contest to involve chapters in creating a videotape commercial promoting the three aspects of FFA: leadership, citizenship and cooperation. This will promote interest in the FFA using modern technology.

20. A national FFA knowledge contest for junior

high and ninth grade members be developed. Each association would send a team consisting of four members. The top three scores would be tabulated; the lowest score would be dropped. We recommend that the Dutch system of evaluation be used. The top teams would go into a challenge round. These teams would answer FFA knowledge questions orally. The team winning the challenge round would be the overall winner.

21. The *FFA New Horizons* magazine publish articles on winners of the agricultural skills contests. This will help promote contest participation.

22. A package of resources be developed to aid students in preparing for contests. The package could be sold through the National FFA Supply Service or another FFA source.

23. We encourage the National FFA Board of Directors to attempt to find sponsors to provide scholarships for each of the agricultural skills contest winners.

24. The top four speakers from each region compete in a semifinal contest with the top four speakers selected from that group to compete in the national convention finals. This would leave the possibility that the top four speakers in the nation could all come from the same region.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Whitehead, Ore.

(Chair)

Suzanne Smith, Ohio

(Vice Chair)

Rebecca Birdsong, Ala.

Lance Bradley, Texas

Shelly Bussey, Ark.

Kelly Carruth, Tenn.

Jeremy Sauer, Alaska

Chad Ellington, N.D.

Kindra Felt, Wash.

Justin Fisher, Miss.

Mike Gregory, Ill.

Jill Heemstra, S.D.

Christine Kidrowich, Minn.

John King, Miss.

Ryan Kissell, Ohio

Russell Langley, Texas

Catherine Metz, Calif.

Luann Meyers, W.Va.

Sarah Steven, La.

Jeremy Sauer, Alaska

Carl Treat, Okla.

Raymond Wagester, Mich.

Amber Washington, Calif.

Beth Windham, Texas

25. We encourage the establishment of a new chapter resource system that addresses the following contemporary issues: (1) Environmental issues including pesticide use, biotechnological advances and environmental restriction. (2) International trade: instructing members in currency exchange, commodity training, subsidies, tariffs, career opportunities and resources for further information. (3) Assist instructors in covering the diversity of agriculture by providing resources immediately usable in the classroom. (4) Other issues that may present challenges to the advancement of the agricultural education program.

26. Send information about agricultural scholarships and careers to counselors and administrators.

27. Develop extensive cooperation between high school agricultural education programs and organizations with similar interests in the conservation of our natural resources.

28. We recommend that the word "paraphernalia" replace the word "equipment" in the sentinel's part of the official opening ceremonies.

29. We recommend no changes in the dress code or symbols of our National FFA Organization.

30. We believe that a creed is necessary for the organization because this statement of beliefs instills a sense of pride and confidence in its members. We find change necessary because (1) several phases in the current creed fail to recognize the vast opportunities available to members and (2) the creed needs to address certain pressing issues such as the diverse lifestyles of our members and the wide variety of career options in the agricultural industry.

Specific changes are:

(1) in paragraph 1, sentence 1, change *farming* to *agriculture*.

(2) in paragraph 2, sentence 1, change *pursuit* to *pursuits*.

(3) in paragraph 5, sentence 1, change *rural America* to *American agriculture*.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Voors, Ind. (Chair)

John Kleibacker, Mo.

(Co-Chair)

Brad Brady, Texas

Terry Conn, Tenn.

Josh Dykes, Wash.

Chris Ethredged, Ala.

Conn Farnuliner, Utah

John Henshaw, Conn.

Andy Hart, Gd.

Harris Hopper, Ark.

Seth Johnson, R.I.

Kimberly Koger, Texas

Raquel Lacey, Ill.

James E. Lee, Minn.

Ryan Mendoza, Calif.

Teresa Orr, Ky.

Parker, Mass.

Rick Peters, Ohio

Clay Post, N.M.

Monica Rivera, P.R.

Jerrold Sambrat, Colo.

Ron Schmidt, N.D.

Kenley Thibault, Wash.

Willie Vincent, Okla.

Kevin White, Calif.

Tammy Woodell, N.H.

Tracy Wright, Texas

Rich Katt, Neb.

(Adult Supervisor)

Committee Reports

International Development

We submit the following recommendations:

1. Broaden the impact and involvement of international programs—from individuals to groups—in FFA chapters, local schools and communities to improve agricultural education.
2. Encourage each chapter to establish an international development committee within the Program of Activities.
3. Seek local financial assistance for international programs.

Recommendations for current international programs.

4. International experience applications use a yes-no checklist form.
5. Deliver five or more follow-up presentations.
6. Prepare two or more news articles before, during and following the international experience.
7. Submit a follow-up report to sponsors and the FFA International Department.
8. Participants should recognize sponsors.
9. Applications should include a form to certify health.
10. Participants in FFA international programs must schedule time once a week to discuss experiences gained.
11. Secure scholarships for international experiences.
12. Continue to allow state officers and former state officers to travel abroad for agricultural seminars.
13. Develop more short programs (two weeks) to additional countries.

Recommendations

For Future International Programs

14. Request that a staff member from the national FFA International Department attend National Leadership Conferences for State Officers to present a program about international agriculture.
 15. Locate youth organizations in other countries that would participate in exchange programs.
 16. Develop a program in which students correspond with students of other countries without traveling abroad.
 17. Invite representatives from other countries to the national FFA convention.
 18. Expand sister-city and sister-state programs.
 19. Establish partnerships between subject areas to provide a global perspective across the curriculum.
 20. Develop a publication to provide comparisons between FFA and other youth organizations throughout the world.
 21. Assist students from other countries in applying the community development process.
 22. Develop an international organization for young people interested in agriculture.
- #### Promotional Activities
23. Staff a booth at the Agricultural Career Show with foreign exchange students, international staff and past participants.
 24. Publicize FFA through flyers and information cards.
 25. Develop a video on experiences abroad and hosting opportunities.
 26. Develop eye-catching posters.

27. Publish articles in state publications and *FFA New Horizons*.
 28. Issue reports about current participants.
 29. Send packets and posters to all chapters.
 30. Promote fund-raising in local communities.
 31. Invite international students to the national FFA convention.
 32. Present programs at state conventions.
 33. Change the video every five years and the poster every two years.
 34. Create a T-shirt for participants.
 35. Recognize participants and hosts at the state level.
- #### Hosting
36. Develop promotional materials emphasizing hosting opportunities.
 37. Promote services through FFA Alumni and FFA New Horizons.
 38. Give all host families information kits about their guest's social customs, language and other cultural differences.
 39. Provide a contact for hosts and guests in case of problems.
- Respectfully submitted,
- Jessica Carone, Neb.
(Chair)
Heather Folsom, Fla.
(Co-Chair)
Beth Burgis, Wis.
Brian Carlson, Ark.
Paul Castner, Va.
Erica Clark, Texas
Stephen Cook, Del.
Curt Davis, Tenn.
Chad Dotznerod, N.D.
Daniel Ellsworth, Colo.
Brian Gilmore, Ore.
Leslie Hedstrom, Kan.
Scott Heinrich, Neb.
- John Holladay, S.C.
Liz Jost, N.J.
Stephen Kier, Ala.
Paul Mahoney, Texas
Rebecca Jo Mizelle, N.C.
Brenda Moore, Ky.
Arnon Norman, Ga.
John C. Park, Ky.
Barrett Parks, Mass.
Jerry Rauch, Ohio.
Kristi Rightmire, Wash.
Katrina Rose, Ill.
Jerusha Solt, Minn.
Shay Wright, Utah

Leadership

The National FFA Leadership Program Committee suggests various offers in promoting leadership among the FFA members. We feel that because taking the lead is a main thrust forward in agriculture, the delegate body must thoroughly review the following proposals.

We strongly urge that the following actions be taken:

1. In order to make advisors aware of the Washington Conference Program (WCP) and to increase member participation, we feel informative mailings and pamphlets should be circulated and that state officers should encourage participation in this program.
2. The National FFA Organization should encourage more sponsorship in the WCP programs from contributing companies.
3. An article about WCP and a registration card should be put in the FFA magazine to give the program more exposure to members.
4. Encourage all states to send in a bid for at least one Made For Excellence (MFE) conference in their state. If there is not enough participation in one state then a number of states should pull together to form a host site.
5. We support the introduction of a Big Brother, Big Sister Mentor Program. We suggest that the students tutored be kept on the program until membership age.
6. Establish a national FFA member exchange program. The National FFA Organization will establish opportunities for members to be taken into chapters and for chapters that want an exchange to find one. All arrangements are to be made by the chapters and exchange students. A list of recommendations should be published by the National FFA Organization.
7. We support the idea of the agriculture classes forum activity that has been discussed.
 - a. The development of a curriculum that agriculture teachers can use as a formula to understand issues.
 - b. Agriculture issues should be infused into contests and awards in the FFA.
 - c. Develop an agriculture issues forum for community involvement to learn more about agriculture issues.
8. We know the dangers of drug use among teenagers. Since the FFA is a youth organization we encourage chapters to address the drug problem in their schools and communities. These programs should be allowed to be used as Building Our American Communities (BOAC) projects or chapter safety projects.
9. We suggest that national guidelines be set for state officers covering the following areas:
 - a. appearance
 - b. attitude
 - c. commitment
 - d. correspondence/communication
 - e. qualifications
 - f. etiquette
10. We recommend that a more standardized curriculum

be set for all National Leadership Conferences for State Officers which includes the following areas:

- a. personal development
 - b. leadership development
 - c. team development
 - d. provide tools such as pamphlets or workbooks that include ideas for workshops and chapter visits
 - e. programmatic information
 - f. current agricultural events
11. The State Presidents' Conference should schedule more committee meetings throughout the week.
 12. We recommend that the National FFA Organization consider giving states the option to carry a group insurance policy for state officers.
 13. We encourage that adult MFE conferences be held simultaneously with the student MFE conferences, but conducted as separate conferences.
 14. We suggest that the agenda for adult MFE conferences includes time management skills, the pressures of teaching, goal setting, training on how to help students deal with peer pressure and how to utilize outside support groups such as FFA Alumni, parent chaplains and volunteer speakers. The videotape "The Teacher Difference" should be viewed at some time during the conference.
 15. Alumni members, parents and agricultural education instructors will be eligible to attend this conference with priority given to agricultural education instructors.
 16. We encourage each state to acquire funds through the following possible sources: state education agencies, the National FFA Foundation and project sponsors.
 17. Possible incentives the state may consider offering could include paid mileage, free meals and allowing first-year advisors to attend free of charge.
 18. A promotional brochure must be developed similar to the student MFE conference brochure. The stated purpose of the conference will be to better oneself as a person and as an instructor.
 19. Better use be made of the advisors handbook. Suggested steps include:
 - a. Update the material in the handbook.
 - b. Package the handbook in an attractive and appealing way.
 - c. Encourage states to conduct training/in-service programs on the use of the handbook.
 - d. Encourage the universities that train teachers to use the handbook in their curriculum.
 - e. Encourage states to provide a handbook to each new teacher with funding from the state education agency, FFA Alumni, National FFA Foundation and project sponsors.
 20. A task force be formed to investigate methods for initiating increased participation in the agriculture teachers and agriculture science awards by:
 - a. Simplifying the applications.
 - b. Allowing chapter members to submit applica-

tions on behalf of their agricultural instructor.

- c. Providing a greater financial incentive through means of awards/scholarships to participate in the contest.
21. Develop a chapter-level point system that recognizes the leadership skills demonstrated by seventh grade, eighth grade and high school students. Points would be earned by members' leadership involvement in the FFA and other organizations.
 - a. System is a stepping-stone system that awards a higher level each year in the program.
 - b. First-year recipients meet qualifications by working toward earning a minimum number of points. Winners would receive a state pin. Each year thereafter, the qualifications increase and when earned, the recipient receives a bar attached beneath a pin which says "first level," "second level," etc.
 - c. Award limited to chapter level.
 - d. Criteria for achievement based on leadership within and outside FFA.
 - e. Program begins when student enrolls in FFA and concludes when the member graduates from high school.
 - f. An "x" number of points determines each level.
 - g. A member can advance only one level per year.
 - h. Award would be worn on the FFA jacket with highest award shown.
 22. Do not create a leadership proficiency award, but rather recommend that states look into developing a state leadership award.
 23. Award designed to recognize members for outstanding leadership contributions both within and outside FFA.
 24. Any current or former state FFA officer will not be eligible to receive recognition or apply for this leadership award.
 25. References to SAE awards and degrees will not be taken into consideration by the judges.
 26. Applicants must be in high school at the time of applying.
 27. State winners present a leadership workshop at their state convention.
 28. Recommend the continuation, promotion and expansion of scholarship programs recognizing leadership in the FFA.

We thank Mr. Kip Godwin, Mr. Tony Hoyt, Mrs. Beth Slack, Mr. Marshall Stewart and subcommittee advisors Mr. Smider, Mr. Miller, Mr. Waiselich and Mr. Bell for their endless time and efforts spent with us. We especially thank Mr. Scott from Ohio for all he has done for this committee. We couldn't have functioned as a group without his ongoing support and advice.

Respectfully submitted,

Dax Keller, Ohio (Chair)
Emily Read, Ore. (Co-Chair)
Jason Billek, Alaska
Kindra Beltschep, S.D.
Phillip Bowman, Mich.

Bridget Dietrich, Ohio
Brian Guernette, Maine
Suzanna Harris, W.Va.
Sheryl Janko, Iowa
Amy Sandel, La.

Committee Reports

Membership Development

We submit the following recommendations:

1. Develop and promote a recruitment package entitled *The National FFA Organization Student Recruitment and Benefit Program*, which would include a recruitment video, purpose/benefit brochures, benefit booklet, agricultural fact booklet and FFA idea booklet to be used and presented by state, district and local FFA officers. The package would be developed and marketed using the same color schemes as *The Agricultural Career Idea Booklet*.

2. Endorse and utilize the report of the National FFA Task Force on Middle/High School Administrators and Guidance Counselors. The committee recommends that Goal 2 be the first priority, Goal 1, second, and Goals 3, 4 and 5 as is.

3. Develop a program to target the recruitment of minorities in agricultural education as outlined in Goal 2 of *The Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education*.

4. We suggest that a list of scholarships and benefits offered through the National FFA Organization be included as an addition to the original Agricultural Career Recruitment program.

5. We strongly and aggressively urge the National FFA Organization to support the development of an additional staff position focusing on public relations. A director of public relations for the National FFA Organization would greatly enhance our organization's efforts in recruitment and membership development as well as purposes of agricultural education.

6. Each state identify science competencies taught in entry-level agriculture courses and work with colleges and universities to permit agriculture courses

to be counted as science credits for college admission.

7. All state departments of education and/or state agriculture teachers associations should make every effort to broaden the curriculum and adopt agriculture course titles that appeal to students and reflect the current industry of agriculture. If possible, state officers and/or FFA members should take part in the review.

8. *The Think About It* brochure should be reviewed by a committee and possibly modified by defining some of the career options.

9. We recommend that a four-year dues package be investigated in which high school seniors pay for a four-year membership in the fall of their senior year.

10. We support *The Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education* and the *FFA Tactical Plan*.

11. A booth should be set up at the national convention to promote FFA benefits and opportunities.

12. Develop membership cards that provide privileges for FFA members and advisors.

13. Develop chapter and student incentive programs such as a scholarship program for members from 100 percent chapters and a booth to inform other members about 100 percent chapters.

14. We have submitted a detailed report to Marshall Stewart to serve as a guideline for developing other membership privileges.

15. To support the program Project Growth, but modify it by changing the teacher incentives.

16. Develop a special degree for seventh and eighth grade students (below the level of the Greenhand FFA Degree). This would give middle school students their own degree and allow them to

tions for distribution to chapters by state officers.

6. Study the feasibility of charging members for catalogs and refunding the cost with the first purchase.

We commend the National FFA Supply Service for the following catalog features: page corner itemization, catalog back cover, title of catalog on spine, grouping of items and descriptions together and the 100 percent product guarantee.

We further commend the supply service on yet another year of providing high-quality products, exceptional service and outstanding responsiveness to the progressive needs of our organization.

We encourage all chapters to purchase items from the supply service. We request that all state FFA associations, at all times, promote the purchase of products from the supply service. We urge the National FFA Supply Service to continue working closely with manufacturers to help insure that the highest quality products are available to FFA members. We believe it is in the best interests of our organization to provide high-quality products to our members.

For the FFA New Horizons magazine we make the following recommendations:

1. Improve the image of FFA by featuring famous former FFA members such as Jimmy Carter or Bo Jackson in a centerfold article that could be used as a poster in agriculture classrooms.

2. Motivate FFA members with articles that address leadership and communication skills, by or about Zig Ziglar or A. L. Williams, for example.

3. Target younger members through a puzzle page with crossword puzzles or word-search puzzles, for example, using trivia information specifically about FFA.

4. Stimulate FFA interest in the past by incorporating a flashback column, for example, "20 years ago on this day...10 years ago on this day."

5. Enhance the interest of readers by distributing inspirational quotations throughout the magazine, for example, "together we can" quotes.

6. Stimulate reader input by incorporating mail-in response cards to critique the magazine while addressing specific controversial issues.

7. Enforce member/chapter relationships by supplying addresses of the chapters featured in "Chapter Scoop."

8. Diversify reader interest by profiling urban area chapters and supervised agricultural experience programs, for example, "SAE in the City."

9. Influence administrative professionals such as school administrators and principals not directly involved with agricultural education with articles focusing on career and leadership development through FFA.

10. Address the issues of drug and alcohol addiction through inspirational messages such as "Just Say No" or facts about teen pregnancy or drug abuse, addressing the issues subtly while not focus-

participate like the high school students.

17. The task force should analyze the feasibility of separate junior contests at the national level.

18. Examine the distribution of delegates among committees and subcommittees to ensure that subcommittees do not have multiple delegates from any state.

19. We feel that delegates should receive more specific information on their committee and subcommittee assignments rather than some of the excess materials such as the *Official Manual*, *FFA New Horizons* magazine and Greenweek.

20. Facilities for delegate meetings should be upgraded to help control noise.

21. We recommend that the states put more emphasis on collegiate FFA and that the National FFA Organization create guidelines for participation of these members before considering the possibility of combining collegiate FFA and FFA Alumni. Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Butler, N.C. (Chair)
Matt Owen, Texas
(Co-Chair)
Heather Dill, N.Y.
Leigh Burkhalter, N.Y.
Heather Dill, Texas
Andrea Gill, Ill.
Jan Hancock, Okla.
Jon E. Hanks, Iowa
Gregory L. Harnish, Pa.
Betty Hayden, Va.
Celena Leger, La.
Chris Mackinnon, Ind.
Eric Marshall, Pa.

Jeff Mayo, Miss.
Clint McCail, Ariz.
Kevin Noth, Wis.
Robert Perez, Calif.
Ann Petty, Texas
Deanna Poole, W. Va.
Raymond Randolph, Ala.
Dorothy Scott, Ariz.
Richard D. Scott, Ala.
Michael Stevenson, Mont.
Andrea Stevenson, Fla.
Ralph Stewart, Tenn.
Brian Van Zomeren, Minn.
Joel Wondra, Wis.

ing specifically on a particular viewpoint.

11. Increase emphasis on serving diverse populations by including articles of interest to such members as minorities and females.

12. Advance interpersonal relations between FFA alumni and FFA members by including items about alumni influence in the magazine, possibly through an "Alumni Corner."

To bring the magazine into the 1990s we recommend:

1. At least one page in each issue—the Junior Edition—should focus on seventh and eighth graders. Topics could include success stories, an agriculture glossary, contests and awards, diaries of seventh and eighth graders (such as "a day in the life of...") and discussions of school, SAE and future plans. Also develop a Chapter Scoop for the seventh and eighth grades.

2. For minority, disadvantaged and handicapped people, publish articles on handicapped people in FFA and how they overcome their handicap. Continue to represent minorities in the magazine.

3. Continue to include women in the magazine.

4. Topics we discussed for the 1990s are ecology, environmental issues, animal rights, sustainable agriculture, the broadening of agriculture in the future, how academic skills relate to agriculture, non-production proficiency and new technology, equipment and research.

5. Continue to survey readers. On the survey lower the subscriber age, include part-time farming and interview FFA alumni for the survey.

6. Send guidance counselors inserts from the magazine to help them counsel FFA members with such information as FFA scholarship news.

7. To broaden advertising allow the FFA Alumni to buy advertising space in the magazine. Allow anyone to buy advertising space in the magazine as long as they follow the FFA Code of Ethics.

Amendment to committee report:

As part of a public relations campaign, *FFA New Horizons* should make readily available through fliers and short news articles information about agriculture and agricultural education to improve agricultural literacy in America.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent Kisleng, Okla. (Chair)
Howard Jones, Wyo.
(Co-Chair)
Kimberly S. Anderson, Iowa
Curt Blades, Mo.
Thamie Bill, Md.
Neyssa Call, Ky.
Tony Carlisle, Ala.
Toby Caskey, Okla.
Dennis Degner, Texas
Michelle Eichhorst, N.M.
Brennan Freedland, La.
Toni Gomez, Va.
Junior Good, Va.

Bruce Cushman, Hawaii
Bill Hall, Okla.
Shelby Higdon, Ca.
Tonia Hudson, N.C.
Nathan A. Jones, N.C.
Kerr Lamb, Tenn.
Stefan Maupin, Tenn.
Mike McCracken, Texas
Amy Millard, Fla.
J.R. New, Wis.
Kim Oehlischlager, Calif.
Stephanie Smith, Ark.
John Stringham, Va.
Kylie Thrygesen, N.Y.

Member Services

After analysis and debate concerning the National FFA Supply Service and the *FFA New Horizons* magazine, we submit the following recommendations:

We recommend the following additions to the National FFA Supply Service product line:

1. FFA giftwrap
2. Long FFA running shorts
3. Official black purse
4. Poster of the new mural at the National FFA Center

5. Blue and gold polo shirt
6. Quality gold and silver jewelry such as officer chains
7. Waterfall scarf with FFA initials
8. Leather watch with FFA on face
9. Official advisor and collegiate FFA blazers

Following are recommendations for revisions in existing products:

1. Traditional scarf in waterfall design
2. Change sweatshirt jacket collar to resemble FFA jacket collar
3. Offer option of chain attachments on official jacket
4. Update lettering on all hats
5. Offer sweatbands in different colors
6. Offer boxer shorts in different colors
7. Update all jewelry chains to herringbone or rope chains, for example
8. Offer a variety of stuffed animals
9. Update "Are You an FFA Nerd?" poster
10. Make both traditional and modern versions of officers' symbols available

11. Change design of windshield sign annually to match the year's theme

We suggest discontinuing all camouflage products except hats.

Concerning the National FFA Supply Service catalog, we submit the following recommendations:

1. The catalog cover should focus on modern issues and the product lines, using colors that project the image of our organization and appeal to first- and second-year members.

2. The size of the words "Supply Catalog" on the front cover should be increased.

3. The following facts about the catalog and supply service need more promotion: the 100 percent satisfaction guarantee; extra catalogs are available on request; all advisors have catalogs; by purchasing items from the supply service you help keep the cost of dues down because funds are provided to the National FFA Organization; most items can be ordered directly by members.

4. Consider publicizing the aforementioned information about the supply service and catalog availability through *FFA New Horizons*.

5. Explore the possibility of sending posters and/or fliers emphasizing the above facts to state associa-

Committee Reports

National FFA Convention

The 63rd National FFA Convention was a great success. Careful evaluation of convention operations, the convention program, the agricultural career show, leadership workshops and delegate operations has led to the following suggestions:

Convention Operations

1. We recommend the following for the Courtesy Corps: send more information to chapters participating, provide more recognition through meal functions and during convention sessions; publicize the need for Courtesy Corps members in *FFA New Horizons*, *National FFA Convention Proceedings*, housing and registration forms and other publications.
2. We recommend that information be mailed separately to the flag bearers, including the correct time and place for practice on Wednesday evening. It should not include information about Courtesy Corps activities. Copies should be mailed to state FFA staffs.
3. We recommend the formation of a committee to evaluate housing and hotel check-in procedures. The committee would negotiate equity in room and restaurant costs for FFA members.
4. We suggest establishing a transportation system, such as a shuttle bus, to transport members to points of interest including hotels, shops, restaurants and the American Royal.

Convention Program

1. We recommend that American FFA Degrees be presented over a two-day period with rehearsal the night before the ceremony. Recipients should receive their degrees before the Stars Over America Pageant.

2. The excellent performances of the National FFA Band and National FFA Chorus added excitement and enthusiasm to each session. However, the performances would serve their purpose better if they occurred less frequently during the sessions. Career Show and Leadership Workshops.

1. We recommend that *FFA New Horizons* print an article introducing the Agricultural Career Show and explaining the set-up time, opening and closing times and the show manager's name and phone number.

State publications should distribute the same information. Continue previous publications and develop new publications.

2. We commend the national FFA officers for the organized and effective manner in which opening ceremonies are performed. However, we are concerned about the ribbon-cutting ceremony—due to the large crowd, many people are unable to see.

3. We suggest that the Hall of States be seriously considered for recognition as a national contest focusing on the agriculture within the respective states.

4. We recommend that directional signs be posted to clearly mark important areas.

5. Computer scholarships and college services, as well as other services, should be made known and accessible to all members.

6. We recommend that the Talent Show be held in a more central location.

7. We recommend that the leadership workshops be promoted through *FFA New Horizons*.

Delegate Operations

1. We suggest allowing more time for committee organization at the State Presidents' Conference.

2. Provide advance notification of committee assignments to delegates of the State Presidents' Conference to aid in developing agendas.

3. Establish written communication between committee leaders and members to clarify duties and proposed agendas.

4. Include in the delegate packets addresses of committee members and the rationale behind agenda items.

5. We recommend that a sign be placed in the hotel lobby stating the location and time for delegate registration.

6. Print a special delegate's convention program on a pocket-sized card. This program should include all official functions delegates are expected to attend.

7. We recommend that committee reports be submitted to all delegates in some form of writing such as paper copies or overhead transparencies.

8. We recommend a short recess during the business session, perhaps presenting one or two talent performances.

9. We highly recommend that more microphones be placed throughout the delegate floor for easier access.

10. We recommend that the national treasurer's schedule be arranged to allow attendance at the Auditing Committee meeting.

11. We suggest that the National FFA Board of Directors consider action on all business included in committee reports and all business passed by the delegates.

12. Establish and publish a time when committees can hear proposals and take testimony from delegates, national staff, state staff and other concerned individuals.

13. Continue housing members of a committee on the same floor of the hotel.

14. The rotational system for seating delegates should be published and mailed to all state associations.

15. Provide a specific location for the National Convention Committee to meet on Thursday afternoon and Thursday evening.

We extend sincere thanks to Donnell, Brad, Bill, Scott, Dan and Casey, as well as the many other individuals, businesses and industry sponsors who contributed to the success of the 63rd National FFA Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Whipple, Kan. (Chair)

Keith Smedley, Fla.

(Co-Chair)

Ronda Azevedo, Calif.

Jessie Davis, Mo.

Amy Fahsoltz, Nev.

Levern Fanning, S.C.

Todd Gerber, N.D.

Stewart Kennedy, Okla.

Tony L. Klemm, Iowa

Kim Morris, N.C.

Laura Ann Morris, Va.

Travis Park, Ind.

Wendy Phillips, Texas

James Pritchett, Colo.

Michael Reeser, Ala.

Eric Ribble, Texas

Joshua Richards, Calif.

Eric Ritz, Neb.

John Rozum, Wis.

Joel Rudderow, N.J.

Rebecca Sonnen, Pa.

Garrett Sonnier, La.

Russell Taber, Texas

Russell Turner, N.Y.

Dusty Walding, Fla.

Jennifer Ward, Mass.

Nici Wilson, Wash.



National Officers posed with official delegates.

Committee Reports



Delegates discussed suggestions for the organization during committee meetings. The delegate body, made up of 276 state FFA leaders, was divided into 13 committees that proposed various revisions in the structure and function of the organization.

Program of Activities

The following recommendations are instrumental to the successful use of an FFA Program of Activities on all levels:

1. Update the Program of Activities to comply with any changes to the National FFA Constitution and with all approved program committee reports. Also update other items that have changed, for example, change the name of the American Royal Queen contest to the American Royal Ambassador program.
2. Refer the Program of Activities to the national FFA staff for intensive review in order to align the program of activities with the tactical plan, the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education and the mission statement and goals of the Strategic Plan. It will then be presented to the National FFA Board of Directors for final action. The board will report on its implementation to the delegate body at the 64th National FFA Convention.
3. Include an index in the *Official FFA Manual*, making reference to specific areas in the Program of Activities.
4. We give special thanks to Terry Heiman and Marshall Stewart for their input and advice.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Whipple, Kan. (Chair)	Christie McDaniel, Okla.
Mike Zamzla, Kan. (Secretary)	Ed Myers, Ind.
Jessica Carone, Nev.	Michael Stevenson, Mont.
Dax Keller, Idaho	Mark Voors, Ind.
Brent Kisling, Okla.	Rick Whitehead, Ore.

FFA Achievers



Five former FFA members were inducted into the National FFA Hall of Achievement during the Thursday afternoon session. The five have made outstanding contributions in the areas of agribusiness, leadership, agricultural education and agricultural production. From left: Norman Brown of Battle Creek, Mich., served as national FFA secretary in 1958-59. As president of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation he has made possible grants to provide for education, improved health and the development of agriculture worldwide. Frederick McClure, originally from Texas, now serves as President Bush's assistant for legislative affairs in Washington, D.C. He served as national FFA secretary in 1973-74. Maritha Erickson, Minn., N.D., accepted the honor for her late husband, Don Erickson. He was an agriculture instructor for 29 years, then served as state advisor of the North Dakota FFA Association for 13 years. Carl Humphrey of Jefferson City, Mo., witnessed the founding of FFA at the first national convention 63 years ago. He went on to teach agriculture for 13 years and later served as director of agricultural education and state FFA advisor in Missouri for 30 years. Robert Book of Indianapolis, Ind., is president of the Indiana Institute of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition. He was previously group vice president of agricultural marketing for Eli Lilly and Company, a National FFA Foundation sponsor. All five recipients will be pictured in a permanent display at the National FFA Center. The Hall of Achievement is sponsored by the Ford Motor Company Fund.

Committee Reports

Support Services

We have put quality time and effort into the thought process of our report in these areas: FFA Alumni, National FFA Foundation, The National Council for Agricultural Education (The Council), the National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association (NVATA), Collegiate FFA, Alpha Tau Alpha, Agriculture Student Councils, National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization, National Young Farmer Educational Association, National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE) and American Association of Teacher Educators in Agriculture (AATEA). We recommend the following:

FFA Alumni

1. Publicize FFA Alumni more by having the National FFA Alumni Council provide brochures to states for dissemination to local FFA advisors. Brochures would include a membership application, information about incentive programs and a cost/benefit analysis.
2. Offer a joint dues package that would cover parents' FFA, Alumni dues and students' FFA dues.
3. Develop an incentive award program for states with the most new FFA Alumni affiliates.
4. Recommend that FFA Alumni sponsor the National FFA Convention satellite broadcast.
5. Recommend that FFA Alumni place an advertisement or article in FFA New Horizons and negotiate FFA Alumni members' dues to include subscriptions to FFA New Horizons.
6. Recommend that FFA Alumni provide Washington Conference Program scholarships and/or other services for FFA members as an incentive for states to provide items for the FFA Alumni auction.
7. Insert a flyer in the FFA Alumni Association Newsletter with such information as incentive programs and lists of speakers.
8. We congratulate FFA Alumni for its record number of life members.
9. We commend National FFA Alumni Association President Josiah Phelps for his efforts.
10. We commend FFA Alumni for involvement in implementing and developing the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education.
11. We thank the FFA Alumni for sponsoring leadership workshops in conjunction with the national FFA convention.
12. We thank the FFA Alumni for its continuing support.

National FFA Foundation and The Council

- We recommend the following:
1. The National FFA Foundation develop and fund an agriscience proficiency award.
 2. The foundation look into developing age categories for current award programs.
 3. The foundation seek funding for members to acquire leadership resources.
 4. The foundation look into distributing the Strategic Plan to supporters of the FFA.
 5. The Strategic Plan be available to all supporters of high school agricultural education and the plan be used to guide and direct all future agricultural education efforts.
 6. Develop a media packet that includes transparencies, audiotapes, videotapes and other necessary resources.
 7. The National FFA Foundation and The Council regularly submit articles about new projects and information on their activities, including a budget for annual activities.
 8. The foundation work directly with FFA support service organizations to further their goals and objectives.
 9. The foundation contact states in regard to acquiring additional sponsors.
 10. The foundation make a list of supporters in states so the states can contact them when needed.
 11. The foundation explore the feasibility of acquiring a list of potential business speakers on various agricultural topics.
 12. The foundation develop a brief informational flyer for state officers to use when talking about the foundation.
 13. The foundation assist in sponsoring satellite television coverage of the national FFA convention.
 14. The foundation send sponsorship requests to current state officers, agricultural proficiency award winners, state degree winners and others, and again to those groups five years later.
 15. The foundation solicit sponsors for member-

ship cards with discount benefits.

16. We commend The Council on an exceptional job in developing the Strategic Plan.

17. We commend the National FFA Foundation for raising approximately \$4 million for our organization.

18. We thank both The Council and the National FFA Foundation for outstanding support of agricultural education.

Post High School Organizations

1. Post high school organizations should distribute educational materials from a booth at the Agricultural Career Show.
2. Provide information about each organization in the *State Officers Handbook*.
3. Publicize programs offered by these groups.
4. Have FFA representation at events of these groups.
5. Develop and distribute to FFA members information about these groups through FFA New Horizons and public service announcements.
6. Hold joint activities with FFA.
7. Develop a speaker list for chapters and civic groups.
8. Broadcast public service announcements on the national FFA convention satellite telecast.
9. Make information available about these organizations.
10. Encourage state and national officers of all the organizations to address high schools, conventions and conferences.

11. Look into the possibility of conducting a personal development workshop for postsecondary agriculture students modeled after the FFA Made for Excellence conferences.

12. Encourage the organizations to submit articles to FFA New Horizons.

13. State and national officers of all organizations should correspond with one another.

14. Invite all organizations to local, state and national activities.

15. Make use of our organizations in the respective conferences, conventions and meetings.

16. Hold a conference for post high school organizations to meet with other agricultural organizations and advisors, officers and supervisors on local, state and national levels.

17. Recommend that all organizations develop a videotape about their organization to be distributed to state officers.

18. Report on national officers attending post high school organization meetings.

19. Develop more collegiate activities.

20. Invite a representative from each group to subcommittee meetings in Kansas City.

21. We extend our sincere appreciation to all the post high school organizations for their support.

22. We commend all post high school organizations for providing an avenue for continued involvement in agricultural education.

Professional Agricultural Education Organizations

We recommend:

1. The development of a council at the state level that would involve representatives from NVATA, NASAE, AATEA, FFA and other agriculture-related industries and organizations. The council would identify and address issues toward developing solutions and would encourage representatives from the state councils or state staffs to become involved with the national council.

2. Encourage all groups to change the words *vocational agriculture* to *agricultural education* in accordance with the National FFA Organization and to stress the dependence of these groups on education.

3. Invite groups to set up booths at the Agricultural Career Show to disseminate educational materials, participate in cooperative meal functions, broadcast public service announcements during the satellite telecast of the national FFA convention, offer inserts in the FFA Times and offer the opportunity to be a guest speaker at the national FFA convention.

4. Develop lists of speakers for chapters and civic organizations.

5. Recommend that professional organizations (NVATA, NASAE and AATEA) develop and distribute information defining their organizations and their relationships with FFA through FFA publications.

6. Develop and participate in joint activities with FFA and other organizations related to agricultural education.

7. We extend our appreciation to the NVATA, NASAE and AATEA for taking time to improve our organization. They not only influence our young people in a positive way, they help prepare our future leaders.

8. We thank the NVATA, NASAE and AATEA for being open-minded enough to work with our recommendations.

As a full committee we thank the following people for attending our subcommittee meetings, sharing their knowledge and enabling us to prepare a more complete committee report: Dr. Ted Ward, Roxanne Summer, Leonard Lombardi, William Schreck, Alan O'Neil, Gene Eulinger, Ed Woepfel and Dean Gagnon.

Respectfully submitted,

Christie McDaniel, Okla.

(Chair)

Leo Thuerber, Neb.

(Co-Chair)

Melinda Beckendorf, Texas

Randy Boes, Ohio

Harold Carleton, Vt.

Kathy Feldman, Kan.

Brent Graves, Texas

Candice Hallman, S.C.

Melinda Hornner, Md.

Janine Kagay, Calif.

Kirk Kercher, Mo.

Melanie McClure, Okla.

Mark E. Oberreuter, Iowa

Joey Reinhardt, Va.

Jana Roderick, Texas

Lehua Samora, Hawaii

Lamar Seals, Ala.

Nathan Sedlander, Calif.

Rob Selzer, Wis.

Steve M. Siford, N.C.

Melissa Thompson, Tenn.

Paige Triola, La.

Tim Weber, Fla.

Triscilla Weldon, Ca.

Richard C. Welsh, N.Y.

Susan Ziehl, Wyo.



National Band



Members of the National FFA provided rhythm for convention sessions.

Sponsored by Landmark Genetics, Inc. and Manna Pro Corporation

At the north end of the convention floor, just outside the doors that enter the arena, the National FFA Band prepared for the Grand Entry. Before the Thursday night session, they waited, instruments at the ready. The hall brimmed with people, and there was tension in the air as band members waited for the signal from Director William Moffitt. Finally it came, and the band stormed its way towards the stage, once again providing a favorite moment for audience participants.

After relatively few hours of rehearsal, the band offered a high-energy performance whenever it took the stage. Director Moffitt, his assistant director Gene Englerth and chaperone/assistant Jeannette Moffitt, and Chaperones Ed Schultz and Sue Beute once again provided the leadership that brought together excellent young musicians from across the land.

ALABAMA: Maxie Ray Gray, Centerville
ARIZONA: Rudy Cardena, Wellton; Trent Straub, Pearce
ARKANSAS: John Hamis, Montrose; Christy Ouel, Stamps
CALIFORNIA: Nathan Cookson, Covelo; Lori Kilgore, Palmdale
CONNECTICUT: Jennifer Kingstorf, Rockville; Kellie Moffat, Naugatuck

FLORIDA: Eric Coburn, Alluras; Joel Griffith, Tampa

IDaho: Erik Marone, Troy; Amy May, Troy
ILLINOIS: Tammy Daniels, Waterloo; Travis McIntyre, Cullerville

INDIANA: Sara Harmon, Depauw

IOWA: Tom Jansma, Rock Valley; Rachel Kneidler, Creslon; Joe Looker, Indianola; Matthew Oliver, Long Grove; Corey Stott, Cantril; Merry Weld, Clarion

KANSAS: Justin Jones, Wamego; Jason Larson, Columbus; Tammy Paterson, Clay Center

KENTUCKY: Mike Camerisch, Stanford; Jeremy Hinton, Sonora; Brandon Tanwin, Brooksville

MARYLAND: Steve Eyler, Keymer; Rebecca Ann Mills, Frederick

MICHIGAN: Scott Davis, Ashley; Jennifer Gruenberg, Falmouth; Robert Higgs, Hubbard Lake; Scot Ralston, Akron

MINNESOTA: Aimee Anderson, Webster; Paula Barsness, Hancock; Dawn Bondhus, Storden; Lee De Haan, Hollandale; Les Haack, Oneneco; Karla Kabes, New Prague; Denise May, New Prague; Jason Pappas, Ivanhoe

MISSISSIPPI: Bo Brown, Carthage; Matt Rhodes, Rientzi

MISSOURI: Amanda Fischer, Galena; Matt Francis, King City; Amy Henley, Green Ridge; Jeff Johnson, Granby; Brenda Jones, Chillicothe; Andrew McCrea, Maryville; Chris Schafer, Fayette; David Smith, Tarkio

MONTANA: John Dana, Trol Creek; Heidi Gasser, Beltry; Justin Krum, Beltry

NEBRASKA: Christie Faesser, Pawnee City; Denise Friesz, Crichton; Kara Greenwood, Craig; Regg Hagge, Bloomfield; Julie Ann Nelson, Dannebrog; James Pavlik, Verdigris; Jeff Spieth, Phillips

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Denise Blanchard, Northwood

NEW JERSEY: John Kamer, Windsor

NEW YORK: Chester George, Winemucca; Valerie Relyea, Monnsville

NORTH CAROLINA: Shannon Maness, Bennett

NORTH DAKOTA: Jesse Braunagel, Chaseley; Nathan Pirke, Wishek

OHIO: Carrie Sue Coomer, Versailles; Chris Hetzel, Winchester; Stuart Kaeding, Onarga; Janel La Cumsy, Oak Harbor; Phillip Lawson, New Madison; Amy Willman, Graytown

OKLAHOMA: Chance Celi, Ringwood; Elizabeth Crews, Holdenville; David Kill, Copan; Chad Kirk, Tipton; Douglas Kizzlar, Billings; Kathy Krejssek, Medford; Jennifer Malone, Harshone; John Pearson, Broken Arrow; Josh Waddell, Jones; John Wells, Skiatook

OREGON: Tanya Larson, Scappoose; Daniel Taylor, Carlton

PENNSYLVANIA: Tamara Hopkins, Waynesburg

RHODE ISLAND: Beth Lovas, North Kingstown; Todd Perkins, North Scituate

SOUTH CAROLINA: Lee Mayfield, Wellford

SOUTH DAKOTA: Jill Reinke, Sioux Falls; Shantel Swedlund, Arlington

TEXAS: Karissa Hawkes, Houston; Deanna Schumann, Belville; Devinie York, Mi. Pleasant

UTAH: Jim Wilson, Lehi

VIRGINIA: Bryan Baldwin, Whitelot; Mark Sworlie, Greenville

WASHINGTON: Barb Beattie, Chelan; Ivan Giddings, Yelm; Rochelle Norton, Monroe; Lynn Reichmann, Cashmere; Cheryl Van Beck, Othello

WISCONSIN: Dawn Eibergen, Granton; Amy Langenecker, Mequon; Cathy Larson, Amherst; Bonnie Olsen, Palmyra

WYOMING: Miranda Daniels, Shoshoni; Grazy Federer, Cheyenne; Alison Larson, Meeteetse



15
THINGS
YOU CAN DO

"At most (domestic violence) shelters, the majority of the people are children. Just go to a shelter and play with them. Let them know that someone out there cares."

—Marjorie Vincent
Miss America
Oak Park, Ill.

National Chorus

Sponsored by Ford Division—Ford Motor Company

Year after year, that incredible, vibrant sound of the National FFA Chorus highlights convention sessions. Director Stan Kingma brings it forth from young voices assembled only four days before the convention's first tap of the gavel.

The chorus, chosen by audition tapes submitted through state associations, once again awed its listeners. From Broadway ballads to Christmas carols, the choir and its soloists exhibited the payoff that comes from hard work behind the scenes.

Besides Kingma's able direction, the chorus was staffed by accompanist Owen Robbins and chaperone/assistant Marilyn Kingma and chaperones Barbara and Kenneth Kirby of Granite, OK. **ALABAMA:** Jennifer Hughes, Arlon; Abel Sisco, Geraldine **ARIZONA:** Stephen Miller, Mesa **FLORIDA:** Venus Campos, Lutz; Andrea Knight, Mesquite **GEORGIA:** Stanton Usher, Covington **IDAHO:** Cory Bench, Oakley; Mary Graefe, Howe **ILLINOIS:** Jennifer Ash, Watseka; James Bailey, Chicago; Nicole Doyle, Henry; Valerie Gaisler, Mt. Pleasant; Tim Mamott, Mt. Carmel; Andrew Maves, Peotone; Cameron Shields, Cissna Park; Michael Smith, Newman **IOWA:** Lisa Beck, Ankeny; Tonia Elvers, Elkader; Shannon Foster, Vale; Jennifer Kinsey, Ankeny; Dirk Kirk, Sali; Mark Lee, Jewood; Brad Meyer, Rock Rapids; Kyle Shea, New Providence; Tony

Sienknecht, Gladbrook; Jenny Svensen, Decorah; Scott Wiederstein, Audubon **KANSAS:** Kate Ambruster, Kiowa; Christopher Palmberg, Palco; Eric Vogel, Kiowa **MARYLAND:** Kelly Cigaret, Palmira; Beth **MISSOURI:** Rebecca Barlow, Ossineke; Michael Sterly, Potosky **MINNESOTA:** Marie Arnold, Caledonia; Robert Henning, Okabena; Tanya Kueske, South Haven **MISSOURI:** Graham; Melissa Grooms, Couch; Jane Hardy, Grant City; Michelle Harland, Shelby; Christi Huff, Sparta; Sarah Hunt, Clinton; Chance Irvine, Tarkio; John Irwin, Bois D'Arc; Leslie Miller, Marshall; Monty Montgomery, Sumner; Debra Ralcraft, California; Randy Roush, California; Kristi Sampson, Hartsville; Jason Sandner, Anabel; Eliza Sherwood, Gower; Jason Spainhour, Avalon; Matthew Sportsman, Maitland; Renee Swiger, Weatherly; Scott Veach, Trenton; Johnny Viebrock, Cole Camp **MONTANA:** Julie Andres, Missoula; Samuel Gouchenour, Ledger **NEBRASKA:** Eric Dam, Hooper; Monte Dart, Enderis; Eric Ebers, DeWitt; Brock Ekhoff, Aurora; Brent Katz, DeWitt; Shawn Morsbach, Neligh; Lee Nelson, Hooper **NEW JERSEY:** Christina Camden, Cream Ridge; David Little, Hackensack **NEW MEXICO:** Loney Lay, Melrose **NEW YORK:** Lee Brown, Alexander **NORTH DAKOTA:** Tracy Ekeren, Enderlin; Clint Plath, Enderlin; Justin Sailer, Cando; Erik Stordalen, Enderlin **OHIO:** Rick Bachman, Grand Rapids; Joseph Durkin, Mansfield; Bruce Sonnenberg, Liberty Center **OKLAHOMA:** Tiffany Aldridge, Lawton; Andrea Barker, Holdenville; Alicia Burdette, Skiatook; Edward Chandler, Webers Falls; Laura Colpitt, Collinsville; Alicia Crissup, Wynoka; Deanna Dunn, Hydro; Jeremy Frey, Sulphur; Matt Gamett, Cashion; Tara Geminden, Carrier; Tara Griggs, Allen; Ginger Howard, Ardmore; Jennifer Lagan, Enid; Shelly Mae, Guthrie; Travis Pembroke, Fairview; Sarah Powell, Caddo; Shana Propps, Lookabe; Carrie Singleton, Chickasha; Heather Stone, Nash; Kendra Unruh, Balto; Kenneth Waugh, Tipton; Carl Wilson, Cherokee; Troy Winchester, Marietta



The National FFA Chorus captivated their convention audience.

OREGON: Cory Boswell, Joseph; Elif Egertson, Pendleton **PENNSYLVANIA:** Jacy Clugston, Manheim **SOUTH CAROLINA:** Barrett Anderson, Nichols; Lee Barrett, West Columbia **SOUTH DAKOTA:** Seanna Fastnacht, Gann Valley; Paul Fuller, Clark; Nicole Kosi, Harrisburg; Ryan Schaefer, Kennebec; Nathan Smith, Vienna **TENNESSEE:** Kenneth Rogers, Humboldt **TEXAS:** Nikki Callaway, Houston; Amy Haid, Hallsville; Moll Inio, Palacios; Lee Wilcox,

Wallisville **VIRGINIA:** Michelle Jones, Charlotte **WASHINGTON:** Ami Fortman, Port Orchard; Teena Howe, Bellingham; Julie Proctor, Colfax; Jayson Small, Ferndale; Adam Thompson, Brewster **WISCONSIN:** Warren Brooks, Omro; John Degner, Woneoc; D. J. Thompson, Stratford; Daniel Waleczko, Independence; Janay Witte, Thorp

National Talent



Talent participants performed before the Thursday night session.

Sponsored by Ford Division — Ford Motor Company

Many aspiring entertainers have found their first large audiences at the National FFA Convention. For these young artists, the challenge of performing before their peers provides a growing experience not to be found elsewhere.

Under the guidance of Director Gary Maricle and Assistant Director Suzette Bazen, 76 individuals representing 25 states gave performances at FFA convention activities. Along with their appearances at Crown Center, civic clubs and the National Association of Farm Broadcasters meeting, the talent participants logged more than 200 events.

ALABAMA: Harlen Campbell, Charles Crawford, Jason Johnson, Tim Martin Michael Moore Michal Nefferton, all of West Point **ARKANSAS:** Jeff Hall, WesternYell County; Shelle Morris, Nettleton **CALIFORNIA:** Jodie Marston, Summerville; Michelle Schmidt, Galt **COLORADO:** Rhonda Faith Allen, Dolores **DELAWARE:** Wendy Collins, Sussex Central **HAWAII:** Leahua Sanoria, Brandi Tampon, both of Pahoa **ILLINOIS:** Kevin Hornsby, Chicago; Lisa Marie Murphy, Spaulding; Martin Nance, Allison Simpson, both of Chicago; Patricia Jo Timmons, Seneca; Lalecia Williams, Chicago.

INDIANA: Todd Myers, South Adams **IOWA:** Brandi Lee Trupe, Prairie Valley **MICHIGAN:** Kevin Canfield, Chesaning **MINNESOTA:** Julie Ambrose, Heron Lake-Okabena-Lakefield; Sheila Henning, Heron Lake-Okabena-Lakefield; Kim Johnson, Clam Lake-Lincoln, Albert Lea; Carolyn Rossow, Hilary Rossow, both of Heron Lake-Okabena-Lakefield **MISSISSIPPI:** Nicole Rinehart, Falkner **MISSOURI:** Sonia Burton, Lakeland; Karen Sue Cox, East Buchanan; Amy Brighton, Melinda Hatfield, both of Willard; S. Sheree McRay, East Buchanan; Denise Todd, Willard; Daniel Webber, Couch; Krista Wheeler, Willard **NEBRASKA:** Mickie Wimer, Scribner-Snyder **NORTH DAKOTA:** Cathy Kopp, Elizabeth Kopp, both of Des Lacs-Burlington **OHIO:** Jodie Boob, Northwestern-Clark; Dan Boyle, Bowling Green; Mike Hyme, Amanda-Clearcreek; Amy Jonas, Ridgedale **OKLAHOMA:** Travis Beams, Dale Greiner, both of Kingfisher; Heather Hatfield, Coalpit; Monica Miller, Grandfield; Tara Muegenberg, Kingfisher; Kevin Roads, Geromino; Tiffany Roehman, Carey Rother, Katie Schulte, all of Kingfisher; Melissa Stone, Teumseh; Jamie Wood, Kingfisher **PENNSYLVANIA:** Jodie Hall, Linda Hall, both of State College **SOUTH DAKOTA:** Jennifer Brucklacker, Denise Dart, both of Wall **TEXAS:** Terry Shea Carver, Waskom; Craig Jones, Jay Pitts, Denis Spence, all of Cayuga **UTAH:** Kerry Gibson, Ron Gibson, both of Weber **VIRGINIA:** Tammy Cole, Grayson County **WASHINGTON:** Jennifer Nico McVeigh, Riverview **WISCONSIN:** Melody Milroy, Watertown **WYOMING:** Anita Jones, Clinton Jones, Howard Jones, Leroy Jones, Bobbi Miles, Jerdee Miles, Christina Slatery, all of Gillette-Moorcroft National FFA Talent Director—Gary L. Maricle, Columbia, Missouri Assistant FFA Talent Director—Suzette Bazen, Huntsville, Texas.

National Chapter Safety Awards

Sponsored by Equipment Manufacturers Institute

Agricultural safety has been an important issue since the day the first farmer used the first tool. Today, safety is no less important, as FFA members and their families are challenged to use chemicals responsibly, operate equipment carefully and tackle the ever-growing problem of substance abuse.

FFA's National Chapter Safety Award program recognized chapters for their outstanding efforts in planning and executing programs to improve the safety of their community's citizens. Chapters were designated gold, silver or bronze winners based on the submission of an application, first to their states and then to the National FFA Organization.

Delaplane, Ark., was one such chapter. Recognized as a gold winner, Delaplane FFA members focused their efforts on safety in hunting, boating, drinking and driving, blood supplies and classroom fire training. Perhaps most notable was cooperation with the

local fire department to build a 1150-gallon tanker/pumper truck for use in fighting rural fires.

GOLD

ALABAMA: Paramount High
ARKANSAS: Delaplane
ILLINOIS: Bufile; Warsaw; Winchester
INDIANA: Northwest-Hanover
IOWA: Bison; Creston; Webster City
KANSAS: Labelle County
KENTUCKY: Scott County; Spencer County
LOUISIANA: Crowley
MICHIGAN: Laingsburg
MISSOURI: Stockton; Union
NEBRASKA: Schuyler
OHIO: Amanda-Clearcreek; Bowling Green; Wauseon; West Muskingum
OREGON: Union
SOUTH DAKOTA: Bowdle
TEXAS: Ysleta
VIRGINIA: Highland County; Park View Senior
WASHINGTON: Cathlamet; Elma; Winlock; Yelm
WISCONSIN: Boscobel; Denmark; Mauston; Monroe; New Auburn; New Holstein

SILVER

ALABAMA: Daleville; Jacksonville; Scottsboro
ARKANSAS: Cadoville
COLORADO: Byers
FLORIDA: Lake Placid Senior; Taylor Sr. High
GEORGIA: Newton County; Perry
ILLINOIS: Seneca

INDIANA: Princeton
IOWA: Emmetsburg; Humboldt; Manson; Vinton
LOUISIANA: Elton; Oak Grove
MISSOURI: Carthage; El Dorado Springs; McDonald County; Nevada
NEBRASKA: Leigh; Verdigris
NEW MEXICO: Raton
NORTH CAROLINA: Mountain Heritage; Piedmont; Sun Valley
NORTH DAKOTA: Beach
OHIO: Peebles
OKLAHOMA: Billings; Laverne
OREGON: Illinois Valley
SOUTH CAROLINA: Loris
SOUTH DAKOTA: Harrisburg; Roslyn
TENNESSEE: Bradley
VIRGINIA: Essex; Montevideo Middle; Tunstall
WASHINGTON: Mabton
WISCONSIN: Black Hawk; Bloomington; Green Bay West; Oregon; Sauk Prairie
WYOMING: Douglas

BRONZE

ALABAMA: Arab; Crossville; Robert C. Hatch High; Skyline; York West End
ALASKA: Delta Junction
ARIZONA: Peoria; Westwood
ARKANSAS: Hamburg; Stuttgart
CALIFORNIA: La Puente Valley ROP; Mt. Whitney-Visalia
DELAWARE: Smyrna
ILLINOIS: Amboy; Ashton; Cissna Park; Franklin Center; Sycamore

INDIANA: Clinton Central; Woodlan
IOWA: Aplington; Cascade; Marengo; Mediapolis
KANSAS: Clay Center; Concordia; Hill City; Jackson Heights; Marysville; Oberlin
MAINE: Limestone
MARYLAND: Catocin
MASSACHUSETTS: Palindfer
MICHIGAN: Marshall
MINNESOTA: Atwater-Grove City-Cosmos; Lanesboro; New Uin; Westbrook; Willmar
MISSISSIPPI: Carthage; Hamilton
MONTANA: Conrad; Miles City
NEBRASKA: Franklin; Ravenna; Superior
NEVADA: Ruby Mountain; Steptoe Valley
NEW JERSEY: Belvidere
NEW MEXICO: Aztec
NEW YORK: Chemung-Tioga Future; St. Johnsville
NORTH CAROLINA: East Montgomery; Princeton; South Lenoir; West Montgomery
NORTH DAKOTA: J. E. Eastgate
PENNSYLVANIA: Greenwood; Spud Growers
SOUTH CAROLINA: Berea; Furman/Manchester
TENNESSEE: Lexington; Riverside
TEXAS: Tom Bean; Baytown-Robert E. Lee; Iowa Park
VIRGINIA: Cedar Lee Junior; Northampton High
WASHINGTON: Battle Ground
WEST VIRGINIA: Ripley
WISCONSIN: Bloomer; Green Bay Preble
WYOMING: Gillette

Building Our American Communities

Sponsored by RJR Nabisco Foundation

The Raton, N.M., FFA Chapter took home the national title in Building Our American Communities (BOAC) for their 11-project program, which included mine reclamation.

Additionally, the chapter was heavily involved in stewardship of natural resources. Members took part in cleaning up a state park, maintaining a cross-country ski trail, managing an 80-acre forest, and operating a greenhouse and tree farm.

National Winner:

Raton, N.M.

Second Place:

Bowdle, S.D.

Third Place:

Citrus North, Fla.

Fourth Place:

Grassland, Pa.

Kindra Beitelspacher was named National Achievement in Volunteerism winner for her leadership in the BOAC project of the Bowdle, S.D., FFA chapter. The award honors the individual volunteer spirit that drives the BOAC program. Rebecca Schaefer of Brea, Calif., was named runner-up.

Many outstanding chapters were recognized for their community development efforts through the BOAC program. The following were recognized onstage Friday

morning.

GOLD

ALABAMA: Cherokee Middle; Selma High
CALIFORNIA: La Puente Valley ROP
COLORADO: Olafie
FLORIDA: Citrus Senior
ILLINOIS: Cissna Park; Clinton; Franklin Center
IOWA: Algona; Buffalo Center; Crestland; Creston; Namon; Nashua; Plainfield; Prairie Valley; Starnon; Webster City
KANSAS: Concordia; Marysville
LOUISIANA: Crowley; Hahnway
MICHIGAN: Lentzwee Vo-Tech Center
MISSOURI: Owensville; Rolla Area Vocational-Technical; Union
NEBRASKA: Blue Hill; Ravenna
NEW MEXICO: O. Raton
NEW YORK: Chemung-Tioga Future Con. 412
NORTH CAROLINA: Southern Guilford
OHIO: Amanda-Clearcreek; Wauseon; West Muskingum
PENNSYLVANIA: Grassland
SOUTH DAKOTA: Bowdle; Elton
TENNESSEE: Bartlett; Bradley
TEXAS: Golad; Longview; Ysleta
UTAH: Granite Mountain
VERMONT: Mount Abraham
VIRGINIA: Broadway; Culpeper Junior; Park View Senior; Strasburg
WASHINGTON: Bethel; Elma; Summer
WEST VIRGINIA: Marion County
WISCONSIN: Denmark; Loyal; Marion; Mishicot; Monroe; Pulaski

SILVER

ALABAMA: Grand Bay; Houston County; Jacksonville; Paramount High; Scottsboro; York West End
ALASKA: Hilmar; Mt. Whitney-Visalia
FLORIDA: Evans; Lake Butler Senior; West Orange
GEORGIA: Perry High
ILLINOIS: DeKalb; Sornouk-Leland; Sycamore; Warsaw; Winchester

INDIANA: Carroll Fort Wayne; Shenandoah
IOWA: Marengo
KANSAS: Hill City
KENTUCKY: Reidland; Scott County
LOUISIANA: Dubach
MICHIGAN: Laingsburg
MINNESOTA: Willmar
MISSISSIPPI: Carthage
MISSOURI: El Dorado Springs; Keytesville; Monroe City R-I; Vandalla-Farber
NEBRASKA: Leigh; Schuyler
NEVADA: Steptoe Valley
NEW JERSEY: Warren Hills
NORTH DAKOTA: Wahnalia; Wyndmere
OHIO: New Lexington
OKLAHOMA: Burlington; Weleeka
OREGON: Union
SOUTH CAROLINA: Clover; Furman-Manchester
SOUTH DAKOTA: Garretson
TEXAS: High Island; Hockabay
UTAH: Bear River; Payson
VIRGINIA: Abingdon
WASHINGTON: Cathlamet
WISCONSIN: Bloomer; Holcomb-Lake Holcomb; Mauston; Oregon

BRONZE

ALABAMA: Florala High; Robert C. Hatch
ALASKA: Palmer
ARIZONA: Kila; Peoria
ARKANSAS: Delaplane; Rison; Stuttgart; Western Yell County
CALIFORNIA: Del Norte; Sacramento-Burbank; Santa Rosa
CONNECTICUT: Mattabeset; Woodbury
GEORGIA: Troup High
IDAHO: Kuna; Mackay
ILLINOIS: Seneca
INDIANA: Clinton Central; Franklin County; Southwest-Hanover
IOWA: Akron-Westfield; Lake View-Auburn-Wall Lake; Montezuma; North Fayette; Riceville; Southern Cal at Lake City
KANSAS: Clay Center; Highland; Jackson

Heights; Plainville Ag
KENTUCKY: Spencer County
MAINE: Limestone
MARYLAND: Frederick; Frederick County Vo-Tech Center
MASSACHUSETTS: Palindfer
MICHIGAN: Branch Area Careers Center
MINNESOTA: Atwater-Grove City-Cosmos; Lanesboro; Marshall; Rush City; Waterville-Elysian; Westbrook
MISSISSIPPI: Hamilton
MISSOURI: Carthage; Hartville
MONTANA: Denton; Miles City
NEBRASKA: Howells/Clarkson; Superior; Verdigris
NEVADA: Ruby Mountain
NEW HAMPSHIRE: Coe-Brown Academy (Much-To-Do)
NEW JERSEY: Medford Tech
NEW MEXICO: Aztec
NEW YORK: Greenwich
NORTH CAROLINA: Camden; Mount Pleasant; North Iredell; Northeastern; Princeton; Southern Wayne
OHIO: Eastwood; Elmwood; Oak Harbor; Osage
OKLAHOMA: Calera
OREGON: Forest Grove; McKay
PENNSYLVANIA: Berlin Brothersvalley; Blue Mountain; Cedar Crest; Greenwood; Manheim; Spud Growers; Twin Valley
RHODE ISLAND: North Kingstown
SOUTH CAROLINA: Loris; Strom Thurmond
SOUTH DAKOTA: Grollon
TENNESSEE: Lexington; Riverside
TEXAS: Lorena
UTAH: Sky View; Tooele
VERMONT: Bennington
VIRGINIA: Dan River; Orange County; Park View Middle
WASHINGTON: Mabton; North Thurston; Yelm
WISCONSIN: Green Bay Preble; Green Bay West; New Holstein; Sauk Prairie
WYOMING: Pinedale; Southeast; Wind River

National Chapter Awards

Sponsored by Contel Corporation

Chapter excellence can be measured by the personal growth of FFA members, and it can also be seen in the thoroughness with which chapters conduct their activities. The National Chapter Award program gives chapters the chance to prove and be recognized for their achievements in 11 areas of their Program of Activities.

One such chapter, Elkton, S.D., was chosen to receive a gold award. Their neatly typed application revealed an enrollment of 28 in agricultural education classes, with an FFA membership of 29. Some of their activities were conducted to encourage members to excel in their SAE programs. For example, the chapter awards a \$50 savings bond for the best records and employs members in its nursery-greenhouse. Conducting activities from the traditional (taking part in FFA camp) to the innovative (owning and operating milk and soft drink machines in school), the chapter distinguished itself and was rewarded along with other top chapters during the Thursday afternoon session.

GOLD

ALABAMA: Jacksonville; Paramount High
ARIZONA: Antelope
ARKANSAS: Valley Springs
CALIFORNIA: Kingsburg; Mt. Whitney-Visalia
FLORIDA: Sarasota Vo-Ag; Tate; Trenton Senior; West Orange
GEORGIA: Colquitt County; Perry; Putnam County
ILLINOIS: Chicago Ag Science; Ciesna Park; Clinton; Salem; Sycamore; Warsaw
INDIANA: Benton Central; Carroll; Carroll at Flora; Clinton Central; Oak Hill; Shenandoah; Tipton; Tri-County; Woodland
IOWA: Alburnett; Harlan; North Polk
KANSAS: Hill City; Plainville
KENTUCKY: Breckinridge County
MAINE: Limestone
MARYLAND: Catoclin
MICHIGAN: Corunna; Unionville; Sebawing
MINNESOTA: Wilmar
MISSOURI: Carhage; Chillicothe; Union
MONTANA: Flathead
NEBRASKA: Leigh; Norris; Tri County
NEVADA: Ruby Mountain
NEW MEXICO: Raton
NEW YORK: Hamilton
NORTH DAKOTA: Lisbon; Rugby
OHIO: Bowling Green; Elmwood; Oak Harbor; Peebles; Preble Shawnee; Trumbull County
O.K.S.: Versailles; Wauson
OKLAHOMA: Allen; Cashion; Coyle; Kingfisher; Lawton; Marlow
OREGON: Forest Grove

SOUTH DAKOTA: Bowdle; Elkton
TENNESSEE: Bartlett; Bradley; Polk; Riverside; White House
TEXAS: Alvin; Calallen; Klein Forest; Mansfield; Pleasanton; Robert E. Lee; Ysella
VIRGINIA: Broadway; Fort Defiance; James Wood
WASHINGTON: Elma; Summer; Winlock; Yelm
WISCONSIN: Delmar
WYOMING: Chief Washakie

SILVER

ALABAMA: Scottsboro
ARIZONA: Peoria
CALIFORNIA: Lenoire; Marshall
CALIFORNIA: Hanford; La Puente Valley ROP
COLORADO: Dolores; Flagler; Fort Morgan; Valley
CONNECTICUT: Housatonic Valley; Rockville
FLORIDA: Colonial; Indian River; Lake Butler Senior; South Sumter Senior
GEORGIA: Franklin County
IDAHO: Meridian
ILLINOIS: Leroy; Seneca; Sparland
INDIANA: Indian Creek; Southwestern-Hanover
IOWA: Algona; Creston; Linn-Mar; Marengo; Southern Cal at Lake City
KANSAS: Cherryvale; Clay Center; Concordia; Jewmore
KENTUCKY: Spencer County
LOUISIANA: Elton; Hathaway
MARYLAND: Clear Spring
MICHIGAN: Branch Area Careers Center; Laingsburg; Marshall; Perry
MINNESOTA: Greenbush; New Ulm
MISSISSIPPI: Carhage; Nettleton
MISSOURI: El Dorado Springs; Eldon; Hartsville; McDonald; Memphis; Monroe City; Rolla; Stockton; Troy
NEBRASKA: Northwest; Waverly
NEVADA: Charleston County
NEW JERSEY: Attentum
NEW YORK: Sidney
NORTH CAROLINA: North Iredell; Piedmont; Sun Valley; West Carleton
NORTH DAKOTA: Finley-Sharon
OHIO: Montgomery County; Olsego; West Muskingum
OKLAHOMA: Billings; Blair; Calera; Grandfield; Hinton; Morrison; Perkins-Tryon; Stratford; Tecumseh; Wetleika
OREGON: Union
PENNSYLVANIA: Grassland; Marheim; Selingsgrove; Twin Valley
SOUTH CAROLINA: Dorman
SOUTH DAKOTA: Roslyn
TENNESSEE: Cherokee; Lexington; Volunteer
TEXAS: Aldine; Booker; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch; Clear Creek; Cleburne; Dumas; Gallard; Gonzales; Love Park; Jacksboro; Katy; Kingwood; Livingston; Larena; Mission; Orange Grove
UTAH: Bear River
VIRGINIA: Montevideo Middle
WASHINGTON: Cathlamet; Evergreen; Ferndale
WEST VIRGINIA: St. Mary's
WISCONSIN: Bloomer; Bonduel; Darlingdon; Loyal; Marshfield; Mauston; Monroe; New Auburn
WYOMING: Southeast

BRONZE

ALABAMA: Brantley; Crossville; Daleville; George W. Long; Ider; Rehobeth
ARKANSAS: Cedarvale; Fayetteville; Lavaca; Prairie Grove; Oulman; Stuttgart
CALIFORNIA: Kelseyville; Norco; Santa Rosa
COLORADO: Delta; Moffat County
DELAWARE: Smyrna
FLORIDA: Branford; Lake Butler Junior; Lake Placid Senior; Ponce de Leon; Santa Fe; Taylor Senior
GEORGIA: Eltingham County; Newton County
IDAHO: Kuna
ILLINOIS: DeKalb
IOWA: Anamosa; Bison; Guttenberg; North Linn; Vinlon
KANSAS: Marion/Florence; Marysville; Westmoreland; Williamsburg
KENTUCKY: Apollo; Barren County; Davess County High; East Hardin; Fulton County; Logan County; McLean County; Oldham County; Scott County
LOUISIANA: Lacassine; Midland
MICHIGAN: Byron
MINNESOTA: Atwater-Grove City-Cosmos; Belle Plain; Cannon Falls; Plainview
MISSOURI: Clopton; Salisbury
MONTANA: Clyde Park
NEBRASKA: Blue Hill; Scribner-Snyder; St. Edward; Verdigris
NEW JERSEY: Newton
NEW MEXICO: Animas; Clovis
NORTH CAROLINA: Forest Hills; West Montgomery; Williams Township
NORTH DAKOTA: J. E. Eastgate; Mott
OHIO: Eastwood; Greenhill; River View; Southeastern-Clark
OKLAHOMA: Alva; Bennington; Cushing; Hooker; Idabel; Oologah; Prague; Springer
OREGON: Elgin
PENNSYLVANIA: Greenwood; Little Dutchman; Manor; Middleburg
RHODE ISLAND: Scituate
SOUTH CAROLINA: Clover; McBeer; Pleasant Hill
SOUTH DAKOTA: Groton
TENNESSEE: McMinn County High; North Knox; Northeast; Powell Valley; Woodbury
TEXAS: Garland; Gilmer; Godley; McGregor; Oquanah; Raymondville; Sulphur Springs
UTAH: Tooele
VIRGINIA: Enosburg
VIRGINIA: Essex; Fauquier; Laurel Park; Lee Davis; Park View Senior; Patrick Henry; Spotswood; Stonewall Jackson; Turnstall
WEST VIRGINIA: Ravenswood
WISCONSIN: Clear Lake; Mshikto; New Holstein; Oregon
WYOMING: Gillette

Distinguished Service



Through Distinguished Service Citations, FFA salutes outstanding organizations that contribute time, funds and other support to agricultural education and FFA. Five organizations that have made strong, long-term commitments to the future of agriculture were honored during the Thursday afternoon convention session. Representatives on hand to receive the awards were (from left) Mark Branstetter, Ford New Holland; Ray Beyer, Ford Motor Company; Dean Hager, Ford Division of Ford Motor Company; Dennis P. Niemeyer, Rhone-Poulenc Agricultural Company; and James E. Cason, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. The Ford Motor Company, through its various divisions, has supported FFA programs for 43 years. Ford New Holland sponsors the Outstanding Member Award for the National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association. The Ford Motor Company sponsors college scholarships as well as the Soil and Water Management Proficiency Award. The Ford Division of Ford Motor Company sponsors the National FFA Chorus and the National FFA Talent Show. Personal support through the three Ford groups has provided opportunities for numerous FFA members over the years. The Rhone-Poulenc Agricultural Company has been a key supporter of agricultural education and has sponsored FFA activities for 40 years. The company is currently involved in supporting the Ag Ed Network, college scholarships, the internship program, the National FFA Nursery/Landscape Contest, and the newsletters of the National FFA Alumni Association and the National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association. The company has been instrumental in the development of the new FFA Agricultural Marketing Contest. Its officers continually provide advice and feedback to FFA. The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation of the USDA has supported the FFA Stars Recognition Award program since 1984. FCIC also supports the FFA Stars European Tour. In addition, FCIC officials contribute a great deal of time in support of FFA activities; several are now working with agricultural educators on risk management insurance programs.



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO.

"Appreciate your educators. The hours are long, the pay isn't so great. Their only reward is that they change lives. Show them how much you care. They will become better teachers and show more enthusiasm for their jobs."

—Zach Brindy
 Official Delegate
 Abilene, Texas

National Agricultural Career Show

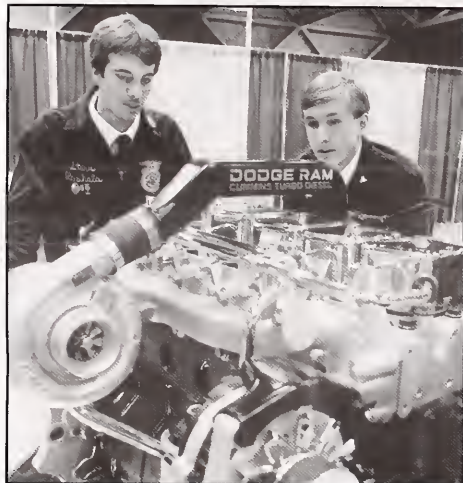
1990 Exhibitors

Ag Ed Network/ARI
Agri-Education, Inc.
Agricultural Communicators in Education
Agricultural Cooperative Services;
USDA/ASCS
Alabama A&M University School of
Agriculture and Home Economics
Alaska Oil and Gas Association
Alta-Laval Agri, Inc.
Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity
American Angus Association
American Association of Nurserymen
American Breeders Service
American Cyanamid
American Farm Bureau Federation, Young
Farmer and Rancher Activities

Exchange Program
Community Birthday Calendar
Cornell University College of
Agriculture and Life Sciences
Creative Educational Video, Inc.
Crosby Donkey Ball, Inc.
Delaware Valley College
Delmar Publishers, Inc.
Diversified Marketing Associates, Inc.
Dodge Truck
Equipment Manufacturing Institute
Ertl Company
FarmHouse International Fraternity
Farmland Industries, Inc.
Federal Aviation Administration
Fellowship of Christian Farmers International

Chemicals Division
Monsanto Agricultural Company
Na-Churs Plant Food Company
National Agricultural Aviation Association
National Food and Energy Council
National Futures Association
National Grain and Feed Association
National Guard Bureau
National High School Rodeo Association, Inc.
National Pork Producer's Council

Society of American Foresters
Society for Range Management
Southeast Community College, Beatrice
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Southwestern Technical College
Stone Manufacturing & Supply Co.
Student Conservation Association, Inc.
Stuppy Greenhouse Manufacturing, Inc.
Sunkist Growers, Inc.
Take Pride in America
Texas A&M University College of
Agriculture and Life Sciences
Texas Tech University College of
Agriculture Sciences
Tri-State Breeders
U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service
U.S. Army Recruiting Command
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Farmers Home Administration
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation
Forest Service
Soil Conservation Service
Soil Conservation Service, Earth Team
U.S. FWS Ecological Services, Columbia
Field Office
U.S. Marine Corps
University of Arkansas College of
Agriculture and Home Economics
University of Florida
University of Illinois College of Agriculture
University of Maryland at College Park
University of Minnesota, Crookston
and Waseca
University of Minnesota, St. Paul
University of Missouri, Columbia
University of Nebraska



Company displays attracted the attention of FFA members.



Hawaii's booth in the Hall of States was a popular stop.



Jean Harris, manager of FFA's National Scholarship program, talked with members at the Career Show.

American Gelbvieh Association
American Institute of Cooperation
American International Charolais Association
American Junior Hereford Association
American Maine-Anjou Association
American Management Association
American Morgan Horse Institute
American Paint Horse Association
American Polled Hereford Association
American Quarter Horse Association
American Sales Association
American Sheep Industry Association
American Simmental Association
American Soybean Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
American Vocational Association
American Yorkshire Club
Auburn University College of Agriculture
Austin Farms Salvage
Babson Brothers Company/SURGE
Barton County Community College
Bel-Rae Institute of Animal Technology
Brainerd Tech College
Breaking New Ground Resource Center
Briggs & Stratton Corporation
Bureau of the Census
California Citrus Selectors
Cenex/Land O' Lakes Agricultural Services
Chevrolet Motor Division
Chicago Board of Trade
Coca-Cola, USA
Colby Community College
Communicating for Agriculture

Florida Department of Citrus
Food & Drug Administration Center
for Veterinary Medicine
Garden Quick
Hampshire Swine Registry
ICI Agricultural Products
Industrial Safety Equipment Association
Instructional Materials Laboratory,
University of Missouri
Instructional Materials Service,
Texas A&M University
International Brangus Breeders Association
Iowa State University
Jeffers Vet Supply
J.I. Case
John Deere
Kaiser/Estech (Divisions of Vigoro
Industries, Inc.)
Kansas State University College of Agriculture
and Natural Resources
Lincoln Technical Schools
Lincoln University
Longwood Gardens
Louisiana State University College of Agriculture
and Natural Resources
Mid-America Dairyman, Inc.
Mid-America Vocational Curriculum Consortium
Mississippi State University
Missouri Department of Conservation/American
Fisheries Society, Missouri Chapter
Missouri Department of Conservation/The
Wildlife Society, Missouri Chapter
Mobay Corporation Agricultural

National Rifle Association of America
National Vocational Agricultural
Teachers Association
Navy Recruiting Command
North American Limousin Foundation
North Carolina State University Agricultural
Education Department
Northwest Missouri State University
Ohio State University College of Agriculture
Oklahoma State University College
of Agriculture
Park College
Pecan Valley Nut Company, Inc.
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
Pitman-Moore, Inc.
Postsecondary Agricultural
Students Association
Purdue University School of Agriculture
Remington Arms Company, Inc.
Shooting Development Program
Rhône-Poulenc Ag Company
Ruritan National
Seal-Seed Growers, Inc.
Select Sires, Inc.
Sellsom Manufacturing Company
Society of American Florists

University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wisconsin, Platteville
Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and
Department of Agricultural Education
Vocational Marketing Services
Vocational Technical Education
Consortium of States
Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance
Western States Colleges of Agriculture
WIX Corporation

**15
THINGS
YOU CAN DO**

"Apply yourself. The National FFA Scholarship Program has 583 scholarships valued at over \$715,000, ranging in value from \$500 to \$10,000.

— Jean Harris
Manager, National FFA
Scholarship Program
Alexandria, Va.

Honorary American FFA Degrees

It is no exaggeration to note that millions of adults have supported FFA since its founding. Teachers, parents, educators and members of the business community have brought an enthusiasm to the organization that has surely contributed to its success.

Once again, the FFA recognized adults who have distinguished themselves in supporting the group. Among the names are many chapter advisors, and the parents of national officers and regional Star Farmers and Star FFA businessmen.

Supporters:

ALABAMA: Annette Lewis, Elkmont; Charles W. Lewis, Elkmont
ARIZONA: Annette Bingham, Glendale; James T. Bingham, Glendale; Lou Burleson, Benson
ARKANSAS: Lee F. Griffith, Little Rock
COLORADO: John Stencel, Denver
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Carol Brookins; Robert R. Miller, Daniel B. Wagoner, David K. Wagoner; Winifred I. Wamai, all of Washington
FLORIDA: David N. Cole, Lakeland; Annette Land, Branford; Raymond Land, Branford
GEORGIA: Jimmy L. Hill, Atlanta; John W. Nixon, Macon; Dana L. Perkins, Athens; Werner Rogers, Atlanta; John K. Wilkinson, Atlanta
IDAHO: Dorothy Friend, Boise; Keith Taylor, Idaho Falls
ILLINOIS: Bill Goodman, Carbondale; Don Margenthaler, Moline; Ronald L. Reische, Springfield; Larry Finley, Moline; Kim Wells, Park Ridge
INDIANA: Carl and Marsha Lotter, Monroe; David T. Sheets, Rushville; Cheryl A. Walsh, Cecero
IOWA: Patricia K. Hennricksen, DeWitt; Janet L. Luthro, Moorland; Nathaniel Luthro, Moorland; Dee VanDePol, Ames
KANSAS: William G. Amstein Jr., Manhattan; Sam Brownstock, Topeka; Patrick A. Healy, Overland Park
KENTUCKY: Billy H. Stout, Taylorsville
MARYLAND: Christine Bloom, Annapolis; Susan G. Summers, Frederick; Gail P. Yeiser, College Park
MASSACHUSETTS: Leslie M. Allard, Palmer; George W. Jones, West Springfield
MINNESOTA: Dale E. Blank, Minneapolis; Charles J. Christians, St. Paul; Dale A. Dress, Waseca; James L. Gibson, Waseca; Gerald W. Hagaman, St. Paul; Duane G. Hutton, Minnesota City; Lynn C. Keleson, Wilmar; William D. Korff, Fairbault; Duane B. Lemmon, Detroit Lakes; Clifford E. Luke, Burnsville; James Ovenson, Luverne; Clifford Schlosser, Wilmar; Vaughn O. Sinclair, St. James; Clifford D. Vrieze, Truman
MISSOURI: Jim Coyle, Moberly; Marvin R. Hoskey, Maryville; Charles E. Kruse, Jefferson City; Mark Wyble, St. Joseph
MONTANA: Wayne D. Stevenson, Hobson
NEBRASKA: Mary P. Finn-Hoag, Norfolk; Marge Hathaway, Lincoln
NEW HAMPSHIRE: Larry W. Burton, Hudson
NEW JERSEY: Stephen L. Sokolow, Allentown
NEW YORK: Daniel K. Farsaci, Penn Yan
NORTH CAROLINA: James L. Flowers,

Raleigh; Larry D. Powers, Greensboro
NORTH DAKOTA: Gerald D. Iverson, Minot
OHIO: Larry Germann, Bowling Green; Nancy Germann, Bowling Green; Robin C. Hovis, Millersburg; Steven D. Maurer, Columbus; James Schroer, New Bremen; Martha Schroer, New Bremen; Peter Spike, Columbus; Betty J. Thornton, Worthington; R. Lynn Wells, Zanesville
OKLAHOMA: G. Edward Finley, Stillwater; Jack Kelsey, Oklahoma City; Shirley A. Sokolosky, Owasso; Dwight Stoddard, Stillwater
OREGON: Duane Coop, Creswell; Jean Coop, Creswell
PENNSYLVANIA: Ferman B. Moody, Harrisburg; Jay V. Rush, York
PUERTO RICO: Jose Lema, Hato Rey
SOUTH CAROLINA: Hiett C. Edens, North Myrtle Beach
TENNESSEE: O. Glenn Hall, Knoxville; Fred R. Hobbs, Nashville; Edwin E. Lamberth, Cookeville; Jimmy Lewis, Gates Neima Lewis, Gates; Texas: Peggy Brown, Throckmorton; Rob Brown, Throckmorton; James E. Christensen, College Station; Robert Crouch, Vega; Donald R. Herring, College Station; John Daniel Nixon, Beaumont; Bill T. Tomlinson, College Station
VIRGINIA: W. Tommy Johnson, Richmond; Helen M. Ott, Bealeton; Morgan B. Ott Jr., Bealeton; John M. Pope, Alexandria; Fay Reniker, Alexandria; Mary Beth Stagg, Alexandria

WEST VIRGINIA: Donald L. Michael, Charleston; Edmond E. Stewart, Charleston
WISCONSIN: Roy Peterson, West Bend; Marshall E. Poole, Madison; Mark J. Sheedy, Pulsaski; Richard H. Vilstrup, Madison
WYOMING: Elizabeth F. Schill, Laramie
JAPAN: Henry A. Horley, Tokyo

Teachers

ALABAMA: Douglas Caddell, McCalla; Stanley McAdams, Millport
ALASKA: Michael Behner, North Pole
ARIZONA: W. Steve Dockray, Cottonwood
CALIFORNIA: W. Scot Birns Jr., Quartz Hill; Gino Fanelli, Escalon; Kenneth Hulchings, McArthur; Charlene G. Morgan, Julian; Steve Obad, Chowchilla; Arlon Schubert, Kerman; Leo Thibault, Palmdale; Larry Tosta, Galt; David M. Wemp, Chico
COLORADO: Omer J. Burenheide, Fruita
FLORIDA: Jeffri H. Durrance, Sarasota; Murdock L. Gillis, Ponca de Leon
GEORGIA: Albert L. Logan, Jefferson
HAWAII: Matsuo Okamoto, Kailua
IDAH0: Darrell E. Empery, Driggs
ILLINOIS: John R. Conner, Galesburg
INDIANA: Donald J. Haberlin, Thorntown; Neil Wilson, Lafayette
KENTUCKY: Jerry W. Coleman, Owensboro; Mike Hughes, Bowling Green; Johnny R. Story, Owensboro
MARYLAND: James K. Ferranti, Frederick

MASSACHUSETTS: Michael Kelley, Walpole
MICHIGAN: Peter F. Siler, Lowell; David Wyrick, Byron
MINNESOTA: Vernon W. Groen, Lanesboro; Gene R. Kuntz, Waterville; Dennis Lehto, St. Cloud; George Thomas, Perham
MISSISSIPPI: Lee J. James, Weir
MISSOURI: Willard L. Haley, Eldon; Alan J. Harrell, Troy; Donald R. LaRue, Monroe City; Edde W. Lindsey, Willard
NEBRASKA: Duane J. Hoelsing, Hartington; Irving Wedeking, Aurora
NEW MEXICO: Ray Chelowski, Raton; Leon Samples, Animus
NEW YORK: Donald G. Farrand, Elmira
NORTH DAKOTA: Richard Varnett, Wishek
OHIO: Lowell D. Kreeger, Greenwich; Kenneth Smith, Warren; Nevin L. Taylor, Findlay
OKLAHOMA: Bradley J. Ashpaugh, Lawvere; Ronald Baker, Butte; Jerry I. Renshaw, Elgin; Mike Robinson, Jet; Mike O. Wilt, Omega
OREGON: James M. Higgins, Junction City
SOUTH DAKOTA: Roger A. Wehde, Dell Rapids
TEXAS: James D. Crowder, Corpus Christi; Tim Stone, Clyde
VIRGINIA: John E. Downing, Eastville; Jimmy D. Robertson, Gretna
WEST VIRGINIA: Paul L. Cummings, Walton; Donald Stephens, Ravenswood
WISCONSIN: Robert L. Ouasi, Sparta; Steve Redenius, Janesville



Susan Summer's cheering section included mom Thelma Gesling and son Tim. Susan and her family journeyed from Frederick, Md., for the Honorary members ceremony.



15
THINGS
YOU CAN DO

"FFA members leave this convention with a new outlook on their future. Now is a great time to take a good look at yourself and start making decisions about who and what you want to be five or ten years from now."

—Chris Bailey
 North Carolina State University
 Bear Grass, N.C.

National FFA Foundation



Robert Reynolds, left, 1991 National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board Chairman, urged members to be spokespersons, spreading the word about FFA and agriculture.



Tom Hennessey, 1990 Sponsors' Board Chairman announced the foundation raised over \$4.1 million in 1990 in support of FFA program.

Thomas Hennessey, chairman of the 1990 National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board and president of TSC Stores, announced at the Thursday evening session that the National FFA Foundation received more than \$4.1 million in 1990. Hennessey reported that this represented a record level of support from more than 1,234 sponsors.

"I think it is a very optimistic view of youth on behalf of the business community," he says. "They see a group of young men and women with potential they are willing to support extensively."

Hennessey also introduced the 1991 Sponsors' Board chairman, Robert Reynolds, vice president and general manager, Crop Protection Products Division, Monsanto Agricultural Company, who introduced the Foundation theme for the coming year, "Bold Leadership for a Bright Future."

Since its creation in 1944, the National FFA Foundation has provided nearly

\$36 million to FFA members for awards, scholarships and programs. Yet, while monetary support is important to the organization, Foundation sponsors make other significant contributions.

Individual and corporate members of the Foundation challenge the FFA with new and exciting ideas, and help keep the organization on track with the latest in agriculture. Members of the board gather several times a year to generate new ideas for the development of programs and activities.

An example of this progressive leadership can be found in the new groundwater safety curriculum distributed to high school agriculture teachers and in the new commodity and marketing competitions for students.

The members of the Sponsors' Board play a key role in the search for new supporters and provide leadership to help the National FFA Organization provide the finest in educational opportunities for its members.

Sponsors' Board Executive Council

Chairman: Thomas J. Hennessey, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, TSC Stores

Chairman-Elect 1991: Robert W. Reynolds, Vice President and General Manager, Crop Protection Products Division, Monsanto Agricultural Company
Chairman-Elect 1992: Neil O. Christenson, Vice President, Farm Equipment & Consumer Products Marketing, United States & Canada, Deere & Company
Chairman-Elect 1993: Dale Miller, President and Chief Executive Officer, Sandoz Crop Protection Corporation

Past Chairman: Nicholas C. Babson, President & Chairman of the Board, Babson Bros. Co./SURGE

Sponsors' Board 1989-1990

Don Berg, Vice President, Milk Procurement Division, Land O'Lakes, Inc.
John Heid, Senior Vice President, Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
Roger Heine, Semantodurics

Jerry Kane, Vice President, First National Bank of Chicago (through 1989)
James W. Kent, Vice President, L. William Teveles & Co.

Al Kern, Executive Vice President, Commercial Division, Mycogen Corporation

Emmett J. Scherman, President, LeaseAmerica Corporation
Charles Scholes, Vice President, Marketing, Vicon Manufacturing, Inc.

Charles E. Seaton, President, Vigoro Industries, Inc.

James Sipsorski, Past President, National FFA Alumni

Lynneville Smith, Vice President, Purchasing & Distribution, Carnation Company

Gerald Welch, Senior Vice President & General Manager, Agricultural Division, The Ujoh Company

James E. Wissmiller, Director, Agricultural Products Marketing, ICI Americas Inc.

Sponsors' Board 1990-1991

Olin N. Andrews, Jr., Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, Farmers Hybrid Companies, Inc.

Mark W. Atwood, Vice President, Agricultural Division, American Cyanamid

Company

Frank C. "Buzz" Baker, President & Chief Executive Officer, CMF&Z
George S. Dahlman, Managing Director & Senior Research Analyst, Piper, Jaffray & Hopwood Incorporated
Nick Hein, Commercial Director, North American Agricultural Products, DowDanco

Mark S. Hodgson, President & Chief Executive Officer, Northrup King Co. (through 1990)

Philip J. James, President, United Agri Products

Kenneth W. Kemp, Vice President, Marketing Agricultural Division, CIBA-GEIGY Corporation

Edward L. McMillan, President & Chief Executive Officer, Purina Mills, Inc.

Butch L. Mercer, Director of Business Development, Biologics, SmithKline Beecham

Joshua Phelps, President, National FFA Alumni

Robert W. Pritchard, Manager, Public Relations, DEKALB Genetics

Sponsors' Board 1991-1992

Kenneth L. Bader, Chief Executive Officer, American Soybean Association

Terry A. Blanks, President, Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc.

Henry D. Bobe, President & Chief Operating Officer, Fermenta Animal Health

Joseph R. Carpenter, Senior Vice President, Campbell-Milthun-Estly

H. D. Cleberg, Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Farmland Industries, Inc.

Leo T. Rasmussen, President & Chief Executive Officer, William R. Biggs/Gilmore Associates

J. C. Dromgoole, President, Fort Bend Services, Inc.

Gary L. Duncan, President & Chief Executive Officer, NC+ Hybrids, Inc.

Edgar E. Fehnel, Vice President, Elanco Products Company

James H. Helmitch, Director, Dairy Ingredient Management, Kraft General Foods

Leo T. Rasmussen, Vice President, Agricultural Investments, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

Victoria L. Rickey, Vice President, Agriculture Equipment Marketing, J.I. Case Company

Jack D. Satterwhite, President, ConAgra Fertilizer Company

Kent Schulze, President & Chief Executive Officer, Northrup King Co.

35-Year Sponsors

American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division
Kewanee Farm Equipment Co.

25-Year Sponsors

American Polled Hereford Assoc.
Central Soya Company, Inc.
Sandoz Crop Protection Corp.

Scott & Sons, O.M.
Universal Unifarm

Torrington/Fahrir
John Abel Stearns

15-Year Sponsors

Dr. Robert Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Aupperle

H. Neville Hunsicker
Iowa Nebraska Farm

Equipment Association, Inc.
Mississippi Farm Bureau

Federation
Odom Sausage Company, Inc.

Simpact Company, J.R.
Donald Staheli

John Wall
AGRI Industries

Albertsons, Inc.
Bassett Livestock Auction, Inc.

Central Tractor Farm & Family
Center, Incorporated

Robert Dole
Glenn Estick

Kenneth Guebert
Kerr Glass Manufacturing Corp.

Art & Genevieve Kurtz
Clarke Nelson

C. McCheyne Swartzel
Lu Estick Worrell
Weasler Engineering, Inc.

National FFA Alumni

The National FFA Alumni Association has grown by over 300 new members since last November, an accomplishment that was celebrated by delegates to the 1990 Alumni convention.

The distinction of the Blue Blazer Club, recognizing states that increased their membership by 50 during the year, was earned by nine states. This year's winners were Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

Roxann Sommers of London, Ohio, only the second female president, was elected to lead the association into the new year. Other newly elected officers are Vice President Virgil Martinson, Stoughton, Wis., and Council Member-at-Large Duane Nielson, Vienna, Va. Returning council members include: Josiah Phelps, Fort Valley, Ga., past president; Mark Williams, Oviedo, Fla., southern region representative; June Dean, Sperry, Okla., western region representative; Dr. Ray Herren, Athens, Ga., teacher education representative and Larry Redding, Harrisburg, Pa., state supervisor representative.

Sommers, a 10-year association member, says she is looking forward to fulfilling her responsibilities as president. "I am excited about developing our plan for the FFA alumni association in assisting with the strategic plan for the National FFA Organization," she says.

Sommers added the association is in good financial condition and is planning to award more educational scholarships.

Members closed their busy day

15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"It's time to stop smoking the peace pipe. Put on the war paint and fight. Members need to be aggressive — educating, recruiting, involving and getting more students excited about FFA."

— Kelli Evans

1987-88 National FFA President
Stillwater, Okla.

with the 5th annual FFA Alumni Auction featuring the Yoap family yelping from the auction block. After all was tallied, the association had raised more than \$39,500 to support the FFA.

The big buyers of the day were Wallace and Faye Schilberg of Milton, Wis., who bid \$19,000 on a 1991 Silverado half-ton, four-wheel drive pick-up donated by the Chevrolet Motor Division. Schilberg, a 10-year alumni association member and a former member of the Johnson's Crick FFA Chapter during 1948-52.

Ray Brown, West Bend, Iowa, shouted the highest offer for a four-wheel drive, all-terrain vehicle, \$3,200, donated by Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.

Roger Duff, also from Milton, Wis., outbid everyone at \$1,500 for a tool chest donated by Snap-On Tools Corporation.

Patz Sales Incorporated contributed a 30-foot conveyor belt that was purchased for \$1,250 by Ken Natzke, Bonduel, Wis., who also chaired the auction.

After the gavel dropped marking the final sale and the end of their convention, the FFA Alumni Association continued playing a crucial role in the week's activities.

The association sponsored the popular national leadership workshops, offering members a break from the usual convention sessions with one-hour programs targeting leadership skills development, in Bartle Hall. Workshops chair, Odell Miller, of Marysville, Ohio, scheduled the presenters: Jeff Johnson, 1988-89 national FFA secretary, Florida; Kelli Evans, 1987-88 national FFA president, Nebraska; Terri Hames, 1987-88 national FFA vice president, Oklahoma; Warren Boerger, 1988-89 national FFA vice president, Ohio; Kevin Ochsner, 1987-88 national FFA secretary, Colorado; Dana Soukup, 1988-89 national FFA president, Nebraska; Scott McKain, 1974-75 national FFA secretary, Indiana; Mark Mayfield, 1973-74 national FFA president, Kansas.



Arnold Cordes, Eldon Witt and Ralph Dreesen received the FFA Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award.

Awards

Three long-time supporters of FFA and Alumni were honored as FFA Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award recipients. Arnold B. Cordes, Wis., Ralph R. Dreesen, Okla., and Eldon E. Witt, Ill., were recognized at the Alumni banquet held Wednesday evening in Bartle Hall.

Denmark, Wis., was named as first place winner in the Outstanding FFA Alumni Affiliate competition. Taking second place was Milton, Wis. 29 other chapters were recognized as Outstanding Affiliates and were ranked either gold, silver or bronze.

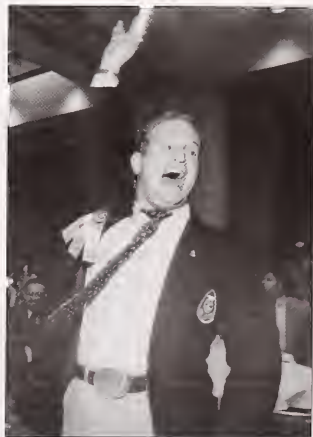
Gold
Carthage, Mo.
Washington, Kan.
Apollo, Ky.
New Lexington, Ohio
Bonduel, Wis.
Denmark, Wis.
Mauston, Wis.
Milton, Wis.
Silver
Woodbury, Conn.
Gilmer County, Ga.

Westmere, Ill.
Wamego, Kan.
Scottsbluff, Neb.
South Rowan, N.C.
Finley-Sharon, N.D.
Lexington, Tenn.
Pomeroy, Wash.
Blackhawk, Wis.
Sevastopol, Wis.
Bronze
Frostproof, Fla.
Sebring, Fla.

North Polk, Iowa
United Community, Iowa
Hill City, Kan.
Westmoreland, Kan.
Hopkind, Mich.
Clyde Park, Mon.
Norfolk, Neb.
Schuyler, Neb.
Frederick Co., Va.
Castle Rock, Wash.



Roxann Sommers, left, took over the gavel and the reins of the FFA Alumni Association from retiring president Josiah Phelps.



Rick Metzger, FFA Alumni past president, enjoyed his job as ringman. This year's annual auction raised over \$39,500.

Extemporaneous Speaking

The Impact of Exports on the Marketing of Agricultural Products

Mark Jones,
Tennessee

The United States of America has seen many remarkable triumphs in its history. From a rebellion against monarchy to a pinnacle of democracy, this nation has achieved more than any nation of its kind on earth. We, as Americans, most notably as American agriculturalists, have conquered every frontier we have ever known.

The sale of agricultural exports has often been the key to this success. The income derived from our powerful agricultural production system is what has built our great nation. We, as FFA members, know that farmers are the absolute backbone of our economy. Marketing is vital for our nation to prosper.

To illustrate this point, let us look at the 1970s. At that time we were experiencing an unprecedented farm boom. Production was skyrocketing; everyone was buying from us; farmers planted fence row to fence row in the hope of feeding a hungry world. We had a dream, a dream of total economic superiority through the sale of agricultural production exports.

Yet the Soviet grain embargo of 1979 cruelly crushed that dream. Without the vital Soviet market, there was simply no place for our excess commodities to go. Surpluses piled high across our nation while prices plunged.

The impact of this marketing disaster crippled the farm sector. In addition, the effects of this bust rippled through our economy and threw our nation deep into recession. One-third of America's family farmers were lost in the aftermath. Our troubles climaxed in the 1980s when the once all-powerful United States of America became a debtor nation.

For a nation to be economically strong it must sell more than it buys. Historically, agricultural exports have given America the edge in the world marketplace. Yet even today many critics point to the farm crisis and say that we can no longer depend on the marketing of agricultural products to make our country sound.

Nothing can be further from the truth. American agriculture stands ready to help us achieve our dreams again. By the year 2050, the world's population will have doubled. By the year 1995, 600 million people will have been added to our current population.

Who will feed these multitudes? America will.

The past has shown us that exports have a major impact on our agricultural marketing system and, therefore, on our entire nation. The challenge is clearly defined.

Other nations such as Brazil and Argentina have stepped forward to assert themselves in the export industry. Trade blocs like the European Economic Community have hampered the efforts of agricultural product marketing.

Yet throughout all these difficult times, agriculture has remained in the black. American agriculture still stands tall.

We, as FFA members, have the unique responsibility to carry the voice of the American farmer to wherever it is needed. Today the message is that exports impact heavily on our



Mark Jones, national Extemporaneous Public Speaking winner, emphasizes a point in his speech on farm exports.

economy. We must push for agricultural marketing strength in the future.

We have what we need to keep America strong—agricultural produc-

tion. Let us now take the reins and guide ourselves toward brighter export tomorrows.

Sponsored by American Farm Bureau Federation

A tough test of speaking ability is to be asked to deliver a speech extemporaneously—without rehearsal. With only 30 minutes to prepare a speech on a topic drawn at random, four finalists delivered speeches before a full auditorium and a panel of judges. After delivering their four- to six-minute speeches the finalists answered questions from the judges.

Competitions earlier in the week had narrowed the field of state winners to the four regional finalists.

Each finalist received a plaque and a cash award—\$200 for fourth place, \$250 for third place, \$275 for second place and \$300 for the national winner.

National Winner:

Mark Jones, White House, Tenn.

Second Place:

Zachary Stone Brady, Abilene, Texas

Third Place:

Julie Gebhart, Springfield, Ind.

Fourth Place:

Kris Snyder, Prospect, Ohio

VIP Citations



At the Friday morning session, FFA bestowed VIP Citations on seven individuals who have given exemplary service to agricultural education and FFA. From left: Max L. Amberson is retired chair of the Department of Agriculture and Technology Education at Montana State University and former state director of postsecondary education. Gus R. Douglass, retired commissioner of agriculture in West Virginia, served as the first national president of FFA Alumni. Richard L. Hummel is retired state supervisor in Ohio and received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Teachers of Vocational Agriculture. Ray Lett, who was chief of staff under Secretary of Agriculture John Block, is

developing an aquaculture education program. Joe Raunskar retired as assistant state supervisor of agricultural education in Oklahoma and served as president of the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education. Eldon E. Witt, retired executive director of the Illinois FFA Association, was national FFA Alumni president and is chair of the National FFA Officer Nominating Committee. Absent from the photo is Floyd G. McCormick, who retired as professor and head of the Department of Agricultural Education at the University of Arizona and has served on several national FFA boards.

National FFA Contests

Many FFA members came to Kansas City with competition on their minds. Teams that had previously won state contests demonstrated the knowledge and skills they acquired through classroom instruction and FFA at 10 national contests.

All contestants were honored at banquets at which winning teams and individuals were announced. Each first place team received a trophy and each team member was presented with a plaque. Second through fifth place teams also received plaques. All other teams received certificates rating them gold, silver or bronze. Individual high scorers were recognized with medals or certificates of honorable mention.

Agricultural Mechanics

*Sponsored by Bridgestone/
Firestone Trust Fund*

First place team:

Rugby, N.D.

High individual:

Kevin Starbuck, Fredonia, Kan.

Dairy

*Sponsored by Associated Milk
Producers, Incorporated and
Babson Bros. Co./SURGE*

First place team:

Decorah, Iowa

High individual:

Missy Wilder, Decorah, Iowa

Dairy Foods

*Sponsored by Mid-America
Dairymen, Inc. and Patz Sales, Inc.*

First place team:

San Antonio, Texas

High individual:

Sam Gross, Urbana, Mo.

Farm Business Management

Sponsored by John Deere

First place team:

Lakefield, Minn.

High individual:

Mat Birchmeier, New Lothrop, Mich.

Floriculture

*Sponsored by ORTHO Consumer
Products Division/Chevron
Chemical Co.*

First place team:

Bakersfield, Mo.

High individual:

Jeanie Davidson, Bakersfield, Mo.

Forestry

*Sponsored by Champion
International Corp. and
Homelite Division of Textron, Inc.*

First place team:

Dunmore, W.Va.

High individual:

John Rose, Dunmore, W.Va.

Livestock

Sponsored by Purina Mills, Inc.

First place team:

Paso Robles, Calif.

High individual:

Eric Peterson, Milton, Wis.

Meats

*Sponsored by Geo. A. Hormel &
Company and Oscar Mayer Foods
Corporation*

First place team:

Williston, Fla.

High individual:

Dustin Krueger, San Antonio,
Texas

Nursery/Landscape

*Sponsored by American Association
of Nurserymen, Kubota Tractor
Corporation, CHIIPCO®/Specialty
Products Group of Rhone-Poulenc
Ag Company and Wholesale
Nursery Growers of America, Inc.*

First place team:

Fayetteville, Ga.

High individual:

Chris Stanley, Fayetteville, Ga.

Poultry

*Sponsored by Pilgrim's Pride
Corporation and Tyson Foods, Inc.*

First place team:

Springdale, Ark.

High individual:

Mark Bowen, Springdale, Ark.



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"It is important, not only for FFA members but for all Americans, to seriously guard their rights and powers under the Constitution and the Bill of Rights."

— Fred McClure

Special Assistant to President George Bush
Washington, D.C.



Judging contests gave members a vehicle for proving their skills under pressure.



Members judged livestock in the American Royal building.



15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"Take responsibility for the environment. It begins with small things: recycle your cans, turn off the lights, don't dump your oil. When simple actions become habits for many people, a great difference can be made."

— Bill Stoggs
Director of Information
National FFA Organization

Proficiency Awards

Many FFA members aspire to excellence in their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs and prove their achievement through participation in the national Agricultural Proficiency Awards program.

The road to the top is arduous; the competition intense.

National winners were chosen on the basis of their applications and an interview held Thursday afternoon. Judging panels were composed of National FFA Foundation sponsors, former officers and other friends of FFA.

The national winners, revealed Friday night, each received a \$250 plaque, a cash travel award and an invitation to join other winners on the 1991 European Travel Seminar. Regional winners each received \$250, a plaque and a cash travel award.

Sponsors for each division follow the category name. National winners are designated by boldfaced type.

Agricultural Electrification

National Food and Energy Council, Incorporated

Central: Matt T. Schantz, Alburnett, Iowa
Eastern: Terry Amig, Elizabethtown, Pa.
Southern: Mike McCracken, Avon Park, Fla.
Western: Michael D. Mayo, Farmersville, Texas

Agricultural Mechanics

Case IH

Central: Daniel M. Koonitz, Bremen, Ind.
Eastern: Eric Park, Marion, Ohio
Southern: Timothy W. Thompson, Lakeland, Fla.

Western: Cody Jones, Cleburne, Texas

Agricultural Processing

Carnation Company

Central: Ed S. Clow, Lake City, Iowa
Eastern: Gregory B. Huber, East Earl, Pa.
Southern: Joseph P. Balz, Nashville, Tenn.
Western: Michael D. Peters, Kingsburg, Calif.

Agricultural Sales and/or Service

Chevrolet Motor Division—Trucks ICI

Americas Inc.; SmithKline Beecham Animal Health; and Northrup King Company
Central: Terrill D. Smad, Formoso, Kan.
Eastern: Eric Park, Marion, Ohio
Southern: Robert W. Tonn, Elgin, La.
Western: Glenn Schorno, Yelm, Wash.

Beef Production

American Simmental Association; and Nasco Division/Nasco International, Incorporated

Central: L. Dow Randall, Smiths Grove, Ky.
Eastern: Dale R. Winner, New Weston, Ohio
Southern: Robert J. Dettenham, Oak Grove, La.
Western: Jason Hendrickson, Adair, Okla.

Cereal Grain

Production

Unocal 76; and Kellogg Company
Central: Rodney E. Werling, New Haven, Ind.
Eastern: Adam J. Sharp, Stoubsville, Ohio
Southern: Jimmy A. Barbour, Friendship, Tenn.
Western: Mitch S. Klann, Flagler, Colo.

15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"Be a long-term thinker when it comes to aiding developing countries. Some people think we're hurting ourselves by giving away grain and meat. Really we're helping ourselves. When these people have a better standard of living they will be able to import our products, and the balance of trade will be tipped back in our favor."

—Toby Causby
World Agriscience Studies Participant
Germany
Bristow, Okla.

Dairy Production

American Breeders Service; Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc.; and Manna Pro Corporation
Central: Jeremy T. Dewart, Bremen, Ind.
Eastern: Brande J. McDonald, Stephens City, Va.

Southern: Ryan Perry, Mayo, Fla.
Western: Jonathan T. Fernandes, Tulare, Calif.

Diversified Crop Production

Cargill

Central: Jim Nelson, Pipestone, Minn.
Eastern: Bobby Jackson, Godwin, N.C.
Southern: Tim Gibson, Dyersburg, Tenn.
Western: Matt Muller, Altus, Okla.

Diversified Livestock Production

Wayne Feed Division/Continental Grain Company; and Livestock Marketing Association

Central: Gary R. Weber, Milton, Wis.
Eastern: Richard S. Herman, Taylorsville, N.C.
Southern: J. Timothy Beal, Polk City, Fla.
Western: Brent Kislign, Burlington, Okla.

Feed Grain Production

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
Central: Thomas O. Phillips, Burlington, Kan.

Eastern: Golen J. Hellwarth, Celina, Ohio
Southern: Alan Willis, Dyersburg, Tenn.
Western: Joseph B. Tuttle, Plattville, Colo.

Fiber Crop Production

Sandoz Crop Protection Corporation
Central: Shannon K. Russom, Holcomb, Mo.
Eastern: Erick L. Herring, Roseboro, N.C.
Southern: Anthony E. Adams, Friendship, Tenn.
Western: Jud Herring, Tipton, Okla.

Floriculture

American Floral Endowment; The Paul Ecke Poinsettia Ranch; The Lerio Corporation; and Professional Plant Growers Association

Central: Brian J. Martin, Borden, Ind.
Eastern: Elizabeth L. Fravel, Winchester, Va.
Southern: Mary Kate Parks, Lake Placid, Fla.
Western: Dan P. Pearson, Oakville, Wash.

Forage Production

Gehl Company; and Northrup King Company

Central: Douglas J. Adams, Churubusco, Ind.
Eastern: George L. Scott III, Milton, N.C.
Southern: Shane Short, Delta, Ala.
Western: Aaron Borba, Merced, Calif.

Forest Management

Stone Container Corporation; and Buck Knives
Central: Hunter Drane, Pendleton, Ky.
Eastern: Earnest W. Elmore, Statesville, N.C.
Southern: Jeremy S. Lowery, Century, Fla.
Western: Jim Walters, Elma, Wash.



Fiber Crop winner Erick Herring reacted to his win.

Fruit and/or Vegetable Production

Briggs & Stratton Corporation Foundation, Incorporated

Central: Scott R. Jones, Springfield, Mo.
Eastern: Sterling E. Bollinger III, Thurmont, Md.
Southern: Patrick L. Jackson, Grand Ridge, Fla.
Western: Bryan S. Day, Waurika, Okla.

Home and/or Farmstead Improvement

Upjohn/Agrow

Central: Shawn E. Hofer, Marion, S.D.
Eastern: Christopher T. Owen, Martinsville, Va.
Southern: Adam C. Borden, Albertville, Ala.
Western: Brian Johnson, Gotebo, Okla.

Horse Proficiency

American Quarter Horse Association

Central: Brian Murphy, Rensselaer, Ind.
Eastern: Janson B. Norman, Woodawn, Va.
Southern: Stephanie T. Wideman, Royston, Ga.
Western: Ron D. Schumacher, Dayton, Ore.

Nursery Operations

MSD AGVET Division of Merck & Co., Inc.; and Chrysler Motors Corporation—Dodge Trucks

Central: James R. Jones, Lincoln, Neb.
Eastern: Michael J. Lindenmuth, New Holland, Pa.
Southern: Gary Hamby, McMinnville, Tenn.
Western: Tonya G. McPheters, Culver, Ore.

Oil Crop Production

Chicago Board of Trade; and FMC Foundation

Central: Ted A. Grell, Central City, Iowa
Eastern: Clay Armstrong, Ashland, Va.
Southern: Alan L. Sims, Newbern, Tenn.
Western: William Hulzar, Pleasanton, Texas

Outdoor Recreation

Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.

Central: Michael Jaeger, Charles City, Iowa
Eastern: Nathaniel A. Hawkins, M. Jackson, Va.
Southern: Jason B. Martin, Bartlett, Tenn.
Western: Dale C. Bennett, Mayer, Ariz.

Placement in Agricultural Production

DEKALB Genetics Corporation; and LeaseAmerica Corporation

Central: Byron C. Gramling, Ashley, Ind.
Eastern: Mark G. Daugherty, Newton Falls, Ohio
Southern: Jerry Vaden, Ripley, Tenn.
Western: David Lee, Royal City, Wash.

Poultry Production

Pitman-Moore Inc.; Red Brand fence/Made by Keystone Steel & Wire Company; and Chore-Time Equipment, Incorporated

Central: John J. Rozum, Whitelaw, Wis.
Eastern: Matthew J. Lohr, Broadway, Va.
Southern: Lindsey Jackson, Mayo, Fla.
Western: Aaron L. Holcombe, Jay, Okla.

Sheep Production

American Sheep Industry Association; Justin Boot Company; Kent Feeds, Inc. and Evergreen Mills, Inc.

Central: Don Swanton, Goose Lake, Iowa
Eastern: Brent S. Eyler, Ealon, Ohio
Southern: S. Michele Pearman, Arthur, Tenn.
Western: Ryan Faldgrova, Buffalo, Wyo.

Soil and Water Management

Ford New Holland, Inc.

Central: Mark Rewekew, Woodburn, Ind.
Eastern: Amy L. Dinneen, Yellow Springs, Ohio
Southern: Denny F. Hildebreit, Smithville, Tenn.
Western: Kinlon L. Rittberger, Hillsdale, Wyo.

Specialty Animal Production

Country General Stores; and Purina Mills, Inc.

Central: Keith Erickson, Wild Rose, Wis.
Eastern: Robert W. Fogle Jr., Walkersville, Md.
Southern: Donald W. Eason, Goodwater, Ala.
Western: Tammy Wilnes, Yerington, Nev.

Specialty Crop Production

Kubota Tractor Corporation and CENEX/CENEX Foundation

Central: Scott H. Ruter, Clara City, Minn.
Eastern: David L. Balsey, South Hill, Va.
Southern: Benjamin A. Davis, Surgiosville, Tenn.
Western: Scott A. Sayer, Brownsville, Ore.

Swine Production

Pfizer Animal Health Division/Pfizer, Inc.

Central: James D. Christian, Garvin, Minn.
Eastern: Todd M. Schrimmeyer, Versailles, Ohio
Southern: Valerie L. Morgan, White House, Tenn.

Western: Kevin D. Fruendt, Guthrie, Okla.

Turf and Landscape Management

O.M. Scott & Sons

Central: Kevin S. Gransee, Milton, Wis.
Eastern: Keith D. Burd, New Lexington, Ohio
Southern: John H. Woodall III, Hermitage, Tenn.
Western: Troy L. Black, Ohiola, Wash.

Wildlife Management

Prudential Foundation

Central: Lowell Bjorgaard, Battle Lake, Minn.
Eastern: Richard W. Stewart, Wilmington, Ohio
Southern: Gina M. Strell, Cantonment, Fla.
Western: Louis V. Wilson, Owasso, Okla.

Prepared Public Speaking

Sponsored by FMC Foundation

State winners of prepared public speaking contests came to Kansas City ready to sweat it out in competition to determine the top FFA prepared speaker in the nation. Regional competitions narrowed the field to four finalists, who competed for the top spot in the National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Contest Friday night.

Each speaker delivered a six- to eight-minute presentation and answered questions from a panel of judges.

The four finalists received plaques and cash awards—\$200 for fourth place, \$250 for third place, \$275 for second place and \$300 for the national winner.

National Winner:

Vickie J. Smith, Buffalo, Mo.

Second Place:

Leigh Ann Wyatt, Durkee, Ore.

Third Place:

Philip R. Harbin, Cross Plains, Tenn.

Fourth Place:

Kristin Marie Digulio, Coventry, Conn.



Casey Isom thanks U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Clayton Yeutter, for speaking to attendees at the National FFA Convention.

Convention Speakers

Listening intently, laughing uncontrollably, thoughtfully reflecting... FFA members were motivated, entertained and challenged by the impressive slate of convention speakers. Among those appearing on stage were Clayton Yeutter, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture; Zig Ziglar, sponsored by DVB Enterprises; Joe Clark, sponsored by United Telephone Systems—Midwest Group; Miss America

Marjorie Vincent, sponsored by Chevrolet Motor Div.; Fred McClure, Assistant to President Bush for Legislative Affairs; W. Mitchell, sponsored by Farmland Industries, Inc.; Rich DeVos, President, Amway Corp.; Bobby Tucker, Executive Director, National Youth Department, BMA of America; and Chubby Checker, provided by the American Royal.

The Life You Save May Be Your Own

Vickie J. Smith

William Saroyan once stated, "Kids are always the only future this nation has." In today's society, mankind has become keenly aware of a startling reality. The reality of carelessness on the farm. The tragic result of this reality is lives of innocent children being taken away. Preschoolers and elementary students, suddenly and violently being stripped of the greatest gift that God has ever provided...The Gift of Life.

Although some say that human life will eventually die out, the sadness lies in treating it as though it were unimportant and irrelevant to survival. Every year, thousands and thousands of children, as well as adults, lose their lives to the deadly effects of unsafe conditions on the farm. I am standing before you today hoping, preaching and praying that one day, one of us in this room, will not be among the thousands of lives that have perished through farm-related accidents.

Agricultural life is the most important aspect in the business world today. But this big business can easily turn into a death trap for those that choose to ignore the responsibilities of safety precautions on the farm. Two years ago, a friend of my family was unaware of those safety precautions.



Vickie Smith

Suddenly, he found himself hospitalized because he had been caught violently in the chains of a combine. When the doctor told my family that our friend had lost his nose, an arm, a leg and most of his head, we began to question ourselves why better safety precautions had not been implemented on his farm. This man survived and was conscious for two weeks. Then he, too, became just another statistic for farm-related accidents and, consequently, deaths.

Throughout this speech, I am going to tell you about some safety precautions that can and should be implemented on your farm. I am going to show you how carelessness on the farm has cost people more than the agricultural business may ever hope to net. The price is life.

A national public opinion study shows that the number-one fear of parents in the United States is that their child will be kidnapped. In reality, accidents are the leading cause of death for children under 16. This is alarmingly true for farm kids.

Take, for example, David Virnig. Three years ago David was a typical 13-year-old boy who loved to help with the farm work. Then, on one October morning, his life changed in a few shattering seconds.

He was helping his brothers unload a silage wagon on the family farm near Hillman, Minnesota. When he reached for a switch across the PTO shaft, his shirt caught and he was dragged into the shaft.

Today, David is still much like other boys, except he has a pair of mechanical arms, with hooks for hands and sweatshirt with "Hookman" emblazoned on his back.

Since David's accident, his father has devised a safety guard for the silage box. He and his wife Marlene are facing huge medical bills which threaten to claim their farm of 21 years.

The sad reality is that David is not alone. According to national statistics, about 1,600 people are killed each year in farm-related accidents and at least 25,000 more are injured seriously.

By simply looking at these statistics, it is clear that certain steps must be initiated on the farm before an accident like David's occurs. We might stop and wonder what David's life would

be like if someone, anyone, would have taken the time to take the necessary safety precautions.

The first step in decreasing the number of lives lost because of farm-related accidents is education.

We as adults must take the responsibility for educating the children of the United States. Such education can come from three primary sources:

(1) Authority. As an adult on your farm, sit down with your children or teenagers who work for you and tell them exactly what farm equipment can harm them. Let them know that you care and express how important following safety rules and regulations is for their safety and for their lives.

(2) Awareness. Maralyne Adams was a ware of how dangerous a gravity flow wagon could be...that is until she lost her 11 year-old son.

Since that time, Maralyne has worked with FFA and 4-H members to help launch a group entitled, Farm Safety for "Just Kids." She has worked vigorously to educate students about farm safety by using a plastic model of a gravity flow wagon, demonstrating the dangers of such equipment. She is lobbying Ag in the Classroom officials to incorporate farm safety into the curriculum.

She states, "Many people in agriculture think accidents are the price you pay for being in farming. But don't tell me that life is the cost of doing business."

(3) Responsibility. Taking responsibility on your farm could someday save the life of a loved one. Fifteen farm safety tips require responsibility on your part. For instance, remember to store your chemicals and pesticides in locked areas, do not allow children to be extra riders on farm equipment and never allow children to operate farm machinery unless they have passed a safety course.

Although the three primary sources of education will not prevent every death or accident on the farm, the steps will reduce the risk that you or someone you love become another statistic.

Many people in today's society hold the attitude that a farm accident could never happen to them or someone they know. That was probably the attitude 15-year-old Scott had when a piece of baler twine hanging from a beam caught around his neck and choked him. Maybe that is what 2-year-old Jeffrey's father believed when he backed over his son with the tractor unknowingly.

If this is your attitude, then I sincerely hope that you have listened to this presentation, because through authority, awareness and responsibility, the life you save may be your own.

Kids are America's future, but what kind of future are we guaranteed if farm-related accidents continue to take their toll on this country's kids?

National Officer Candidates

National officer candidates took part in an in-depth selection process lasting five days. An emotional roller-coaster ride for many, the week offered candidates a growth experience. Six of the 32 candidates were triumphantly called to the stage during Saturday's election; the rest returned toward home secure in the knowledge that they had reached the heights of FFA achievement.

ALABAMA: Shane Black, Athens
ARIZONA: Amy D. Scott, Chinle
ARKANSAS: Nina R. Laughlin, Conway
DELAWARE: Shelly Jo Atha, Frankford
FLORIDA: Wesley S. Davis, Vero Beach
GEORGIA: Ben Nessmith, Statesboro
IDAHO: Sara Braasch, Caldwell
ILLINOIS: Jeffrey T. Beavers, Alexis
INDIANA: Mark A. Timm, Fillmore
IOWA: Bill A. Belzer, Albia
KANSAS: Sandra Goering, Newton
MICHIGAN: Bernie Stewart, Constantine

MINNESOTA: Christine A. Henning, Okabena
MISSISSIPPI: Shawn Oliver, Weir
MISSOURI: Christine M. Hart, Center
MONTANA: Sara Hougen, Melstone
NEBRASKA: Julie Dawn Classen, Ayr
NEVADA: Jon A. George, Winnemucca
NEW MEXICO: Ernest M. Cummings, Truth or Consequences
NEW YORK: Jon Miller, Hamilton
NORTH DAKOTA: Shane C. Gottle, Donnybrook
OHIO: Laurie Sheridan, Athens

OKLAHOMA: Danny J. Grelner, Kingfisher
PENNSYLVANIA: Abraham Harpster, Spruce Creek
SOUTH CAROLINA: Patrick E. Settle, Inman
TENNESSEE: Kate Bell, Friendship
TEXAS: Lesa Ann King, Howe
UTAH: Nichole Phillips, Springville
VIRGINIA: Matthew J. Lohr, Broadway
WASHINGTON: Gene Giles, Kennewick
WISCONSIN: Brian Roe, Madison
WYOMING: Thea Slack, Kinnear



National officer candidates 1st row from left: Shane Black, Ala.; Nina R. Laughlin, Ark.; Amy Dawn Scott, Ariz.; Shelly Jo Atha, Del.; Wesley Scott Davis, Fla.; Ben Nessmith, Ga.; Bill A. Belzer, Iowa; 2nd row: Sara Braasch, Idaho; Jeffrey T. Beavers, Ill.; Mark A. Timm, Ind.; Sandra Goering, Kan.; Bernie Stewart, Mich.; Christine A. Henning, Minn.; Christine M. Hart, Mo.; 3rd row: Shawn Oliver, Miss.; Sara Hougen, Mont.; Shane C. Gottle, N.D.; Julie

Dawn Classen, Neb.; Ernest M. Cummings, N.M.; Jon Miller, N.Y.; Jon Aaron, George, Nev.; Laurie Sheridan, Ohio; 4th row: Danny Grelner, Okla.; M. Abraham Harpster, Pa.; Patrick E. Settle, S.C.; Kate Bell, Tenn.; Lesa Ann King, Texas; Nichole Phillips, Utah; Matthew J. Lohr, Va.; 5th row: Gene Giles, Wash.; Brian Roe, Wis.; Thea Slack, Wyo.



Enthusiastic members of the Casey Isom fan club showed up in full force.

National Convention Proceedings

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 The 63rd National FFA Convention Proceedings is published by the National FFA Organization as a record of the organization's annual convention held in Kansas City, Mo., November 8-10, 1990.

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15 THINGS YOU CAN DO

"Distribute recycling bins to both urban and rural families so everyone will think recycling."

— Brian Roe
 National Officer Candidate
 Monticello, Wisconsin

1990-91 National FFA Officers

Mark Timm, 19, Fillmore, Ind., is the national FFA president for 1990-91. Timm, the son of Larry and Ruth Timm, is a member of the South Putnam FFA Chapter. His local advisor is Larry Bortoff.

Timm served as state FFA president in 1989-90. He was the state winner in the job interview, leadership and sales demonstration contests, and was a national FFA scholarship recipient.

Timm's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program includes a custom crop planting and cultivating business, and work placement on a farm and with a seed corn grower.

Timm will take a year's leave of absence from Purdue University where he is a freshman studying agricultural sales and marketing. He plans to continue his education after graduation to pursue a master's degree in business administration and then work for an agricultural company.

Matthew Lohr, 19, Broadway, Va., was elected national FFA vice president for the eastern region. Lohr, the son of Gary and Ellen, is a member of the Broadway FFA Chapter. His local advisors are James Hively and Dennis Smith.

Lohr served as state president of the Virginia FFA Association and participated in speaking contests, skills contests and traveled to Germany on the FFA Work Experience Abroad program.

Lohr's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program includes a large beef cattle operation and a poultry operation which annually produces two million broilers. He also raises corn, wheat, alfalfa and rye.

A freshman at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Lohr is studying agricultural education and poultry science, and plans to return to the family farming operation upon graduation.

Lesla Ann King, 20, of Howe, Texas, was elected national FFA vice president of the western region. King, the daughter of Joe and Katie King, is a member of the Howe FFA Chapter. Her local advisor is R.C. Riggins.

King served as state first vice president and area vice president. She also participated in parliamentary procedure and prepared public speaking contests, and traveled to Europe as part of FFA's Work Experience Abroad program.

King's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program included registered Charolais beef cattle, swine, oats, corn and finger crops. She recently incorporated embryo transplant technology into her beef cattle enterprise.

King will take a one-year leave of absence from Texas A&M University where she is majoring in agricultural economics and communications. After graduation, she plans to obtain a master's degree in international agricultural marketing and pursue a career in agricultural policy and international livestock marketing.



Mark Timm
President
South Putnam Chapter
Indiana



Danny Grellner
Secretary
Kingfisher Chapter
Oklahoma



Matthew Lohr
Eastern Region Vice President
Broadway Chapter
Virginia



Ben Nessmith
Southern Region Vice President
Statesboro High Chapter
Georgia



Lesla Ann King
Western Region Vice President
Howe Chapter
Texas



Julie Classen
Central Region Vice President
Blue Hill Chapter
Nebraska

Danny Grellner, 20, Kingfisher, Okla., was elected national FFA secretary. Grellner, the son of Jim and Judy Grellner, is a member of the Kingfisher FFA Chapter. His local advisor is Kenny Beams. Grellner served as state president and state secretary.

He won the national prepared public speaking contest in 1988 and was the state winner in the Computers in Agriculture award program.

Grellner's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program includes raising stocker steers and commercial cows, as well as farm work placement.

Grellner will take a year's leave of absence from Oklahoma State University where he is a junior majoring in agricultural economics. After graduation, he plans to attend law school and work in international trade and law.

Ben Nessmith, 20, Statesboro, Ga., was elected national FFA vice president of the southern region. Nessmith, the son of William and Carol Nessmith, is a member of the Statesboro High FFA Chapter. His local advisor is Walter Gibson.

Nessmith served as state vice president and participated in the public speaking and livestock judging contests. He was elected president of his chapter three consecutive years.

Nessmith's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program includes a purebred swine operation and farm placement. He has won many awards for his top-quality swine herd.

Nessmith will take a year's leave of absence from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. He is a sophomore majoring in animal science and agricultural education. He plans upon graduation to teach agricultural education at the high school level.

Julie Classen, 20, Ayr, Neb., was elected national FFA vice president for the central region. Classen, the daughter of Keith and Joan Classen, is a member of the Blue Hill FFA Chapter. Her local advisor is Duane Lienemann.

Classen served as state president of the Nebraska FFA Association. She has participated in various public speaking and skills contests during her FFA career.

For her Supervised Agricultural Experience program, Classen raises corn and alfalfa, and runs a feeder pig operation. She also owns two quarter horses and plans to continue raising colts to train and sell.

Classen attends the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and will take a year's leave of absence to fulfill her duties as a national officer. She is enrolled in the agricultural honors and agriscience program, and plans to work in agricultural public relations upon graduation.

Nominating Committee Report

We, the nominating committee, have given careful and deliberate consideration to all applicants running for national office. The committee nominates the following slate of candidates to the delegates of the 63rd National FFA Convention to serve as national officers for the year 1990-91.

President:

Mark Timm, Indiana

Secretary:

Danny Grellner, Oklahoma

Vice President Central Region:

Julie Classen, Nebraska

Vice President Eastern Region:

Matt Lohr, Virginia

Vice President Southern Region:

Ben Nessmith, Georgia

Vice President Western Region:

Lesla King, Texas

National Treasurer:

David A. Miller, Maryland

(through 12/31/90)

Charles L. Keels, North Carolina

(effective 1/1/90)

National Executive Secretary:

C. Coleman Harris

Washington, D.C.

National Advisor:

Larry D. Case, Washington, D.C.

Respectfully submitted:

James Comer, Ky. (Chair)

Geert Loeffen, Idaho (Co-Chair)

Sara S. Ryan, Ohio (Secretary)

David Acheson, Neb.

Jody Bickel, Va.

Allen Butler, Miss.

Chris Harraz, Ark.

Marte Neshem, N.D.

Timothy Norris, Wash.

Eldon E. Witt (Consultant)

Stacy A.artin (Consultant)

Sidney E. Koon, Jr. (Consultant)



As FFA members headed home, they looked to the future with great expectations. See you next year! 64th National FFA Convention, Nov. 14-16, 1991.