

**FFA**

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1999

# New Horizons

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION



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1998-99

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1998-99

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# FFA New Horizons

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

October-November, 1991

Volume 40 Number 1



## FFA

### 18 . . . . . **FFA's Excellent New Adventure**

Where is Micronesia and why do young people there want to be in FFA? We visit the tropics to find out.

### 28 . . . . . **The Stars Say...**

Profiles and quotes from the 1991 regional Star Farmers and Stars in Agribusiness.

### 36 . . . . . **We're Gonna Pump You Up!**

Arnold Schwarzenegger is scheduled to put the 1991 National FFA Convention through a workout.

### 38 . . . . . **Recycling Project Launched**

This FFA chapter and Alumni affiliate are working to recycle pesticide containers.

## COVER STORY

### 13 . . . . . **Warm Washington Welcome**

On the cover, President George Bush receives a plaque from Mark Timm, national FFA president, at the White House during State Presidents' Conference in July.  
Photo by Andrew Markwart.

## PEOPLE

### 14 . . . . . **The Russian Revolution**

Russian student Vladimir Mounkine is in Iowa learning how to feed his homeland.

### 16 . . . . . **Agriculture's New Professional: Farm Manager**

Christa Limberger manages a cattle operation in Connecticut.

### 40 . . . . . **State Degree Day**

Arddrie Williams pursues her dreams in FFA at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences.



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# THE FRONT LINE

The editor's page is supposed to be reserved for deep, thought-provoking topics that make people wrinkle their foreheads and go "hmmm." But instead of challenging your minds with serious, earth-shattering issues, it seems like more fun to drop names of really important people and talk about why they are being seen with FFA members these days.

How about **President Bush** taking time to pose for a picture and visit with our national and state officers at the White House? Here's a man with the world's problems on his shoulders and he carves out a few minutes to welcome our officers to Washington. It's proof that an act of kindness, no matter how small, goes a long way in shaping how people think of you. Thanks Mr. President.

Can you believe that **Arnold Schwarzenegger** is coming to national convention! The king of bulk, brawn and exploding movies is going to lead 24,000 FFA members, advisors and other sweaty people — jammed shoulder-to-shoulder in the convention hall — through a workout. With all those FFA members wearing official corduroy jackets, the exercise could lead to an all-time record for convention weight loss.

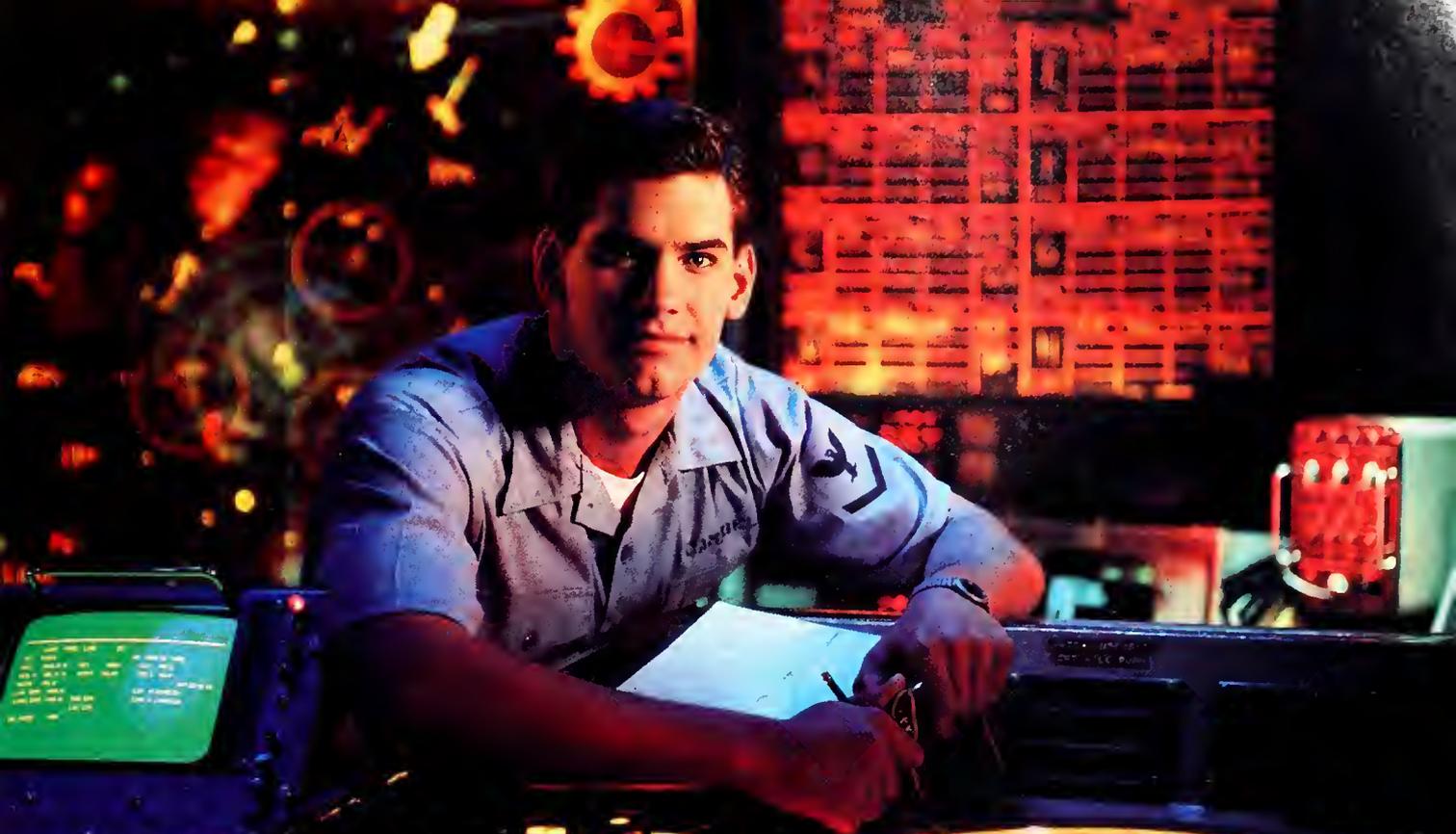
National officer **Julie Classen** met with Mr. Schwarzenegger and the rest of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in September to talk about the national FFA convention and how physical fitness could be worked into other FFA activities. Have you seen the new FFA Supply Service athletic wear...

How many times have you heard the question, "Who's your favorite teacher this year?" Almost everybody has a favorite teacher. Ag teachers tend to be the favorite of most FFA members. They seem to really care about you and treat you like an adult. Here's a tip: You keep having favorite teachers after you graduate, even from college. You just don't call them teachers. They go by names like co-worker, friend, husband, wife, pastor, boss.

My favorite teacher for the past five years has been **Wilson Carnes**, who was editor-in-chief of this magazine for 33 years. Like all good teachers, he knew his subject well and was patient with his students, even when they did things that weren't very brilliant. I miss my favorite teachers from high school and college because they made me feel like I could do anything. I'm going to miss Mr. Carnes that way too.

Since most people start reading this magazine with the Joke Page (you know who you are), it has probably taken you a while to get to this column. You may have noticed that the name has changed from "The Bottom Line" to "The Front Line." We have a new team structure at the FFA Center that we expect will help us serve you even better. The only way we can serve FFA members better is to know as much about their lives and dreams and problems as possible. We will only know that by being out there... on the Front Line.

*Andy Markwart*



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**New Audio Magazine Coming to FFA Chapters Soon**

The first issue of *The Leadership Edge*, a new "magazine for your ears" will be arriving at FFA chapters soon. The cassette tape series developed by the National FFA Organization will concentrate on leadership and personal development skills.

The audio tapes will feature news, interviews, stories and entertainment hosted by professional radio personalities.

The first issue is being mailed to chapters free-of-charge. FFA members, advisors or alumni may subscribe to receive future issues. To subscribe, call 800-582-LEAD.

**Free Yearbooks**

The 1990 Yearbook of Agriculture, "Portraits of Diversity" published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is being offered free to FFA members. The yearbook features professionals, amateurs and volunteers involved in agriculture in all regions of the country.

Representative E. (Kika) de la Garza, D-Texas, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, is making the yearbook available. Mail requests for copies of the yearbook to Jim Davis, 1301 LHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515.

**Parliamentary Law Contest Gets Trial Run**

Before the new national Parliamentary Law Contest is unveiled next year, it will be tested at the 14th Annual National Parliamentary Law Contest held in Carthage, Missouri, November 11-12. The Carthage FFA Chapter and Alumni Affiliate have been hosting the invitational contest in the past, since there has been no official national contest.

Since parliamentary law and procedure contests have slight differences in each state, a committee of FFA staff and agriculture educators from around the country have agreed on a set of national rules. The format and rules of the new contest will be used in Carthage. If any problems are found in the system, they will be corrected before the rules are distributed. Details of the new contest will be sent to FFA advisors by February, 1992.

**Board Makes Changes**

The National FFA Board of Directors, including the National FFA Officers, made decisions that will set in motion a number of changes for the organization. At their meeting in July, the board adopted a new team organizational structure at the National FFA Center that eliminates divisions and departments and creates four teams focused on customer bases of Students, Teachers, Partners and Sponsors; four shared resources teams including Human & Fiscal, Communications, Foundation Fiscal and Distribution Resources; and two cross teams of Ventures and National Convention. The FFA Alumni were identified as an affiliated team.

Members participating in the Agriscience Student Recognition and Computers in Agriculture programs may be granted a state award only once and will be considered for regional and national awards only during the same calendar year in which they placed first in state competition.

Starting in 1993, the national agricultural proficiency winners will be drawn from a national pool instead of the current regional finalist system. Awards will be classified as gold, silver and bronze. The top 10 percent of the applicants will be considered national finalists and will be interviewed during the week of national convention to determine the national winner.

Beginning in 1994, national Extemporaneous and Prepared Public Speaking contests will move from the regional finalist system to one that features preliminary, semi-final and final contest levels. State winners will be randomly divided into preliminary groups.

The board approved that all gender specific references in FFA awards, contests, activities and materials. One example is the American Star Farmer and American Star in Agribusiness (instead of Agribusinessman).

**Corn Starch Peanuts**

The FFA Supply Service has switched its loose packing material from petroleum-based plastic "peanuts" to those made from 95 percent corn starch. The new packing material decomposes in water, leaving no toxic residue behind. The peanuts don't cling to clothing either.



USDA Photo

Kenaf is expected to ease the need for wood pulp in paper production.

## Beyond Food and Fiber

Farmers are growing plants for plastics, shampoos, rubber and paper

By Jean Jensen

**P**roviding the nation with food and fiber has been the traditional role of the American farmer. Advances in agriscience research, however, are opening up new industrial markets for farm products. By the year 2000, more than 40 percent of the nation's farmers will be growing plants for non-food, industrial uses. These plants include non-food crop plants and high-tech plants created by biotechnology that provide raw materials for industry and products for medicine.

### Non-food Crop Plants

Raising non-food crops will let farmers diversify their economic base, give industry a stable and renewable source of raw materials and lessen our dependence

on foreign imports. Five non-food crops are currently available.

The *jojoba* is a bush native to the Southwest. The major commercial user of jojoba seed oil is the cosmetics industry, where the oil is processed into lotions, shampoos and creams that are easily absorbed by the skin and are excellent moisturizers. The oil is also used as a lubricant in tractor hydraulic fluids and automotive transmission fluids. The jojoba plant yields tannin, which is used in medicine and in making dyes and ink.

*Crambe* is a member of the mustard family. Crambe is processed into erucic acid, a raw material used by the chemical industry to make nylon, plastics and lubricants.

A desert bush native to the Southwest is *guayule*. As a source of natural rubber,

the *guayule* has tremendous economic potential. Right now, natural rubber is the second most costly raw material after petroleum that the U.S. imports from other countries. Recently, scientists at the University of California at Irvine have used genetic engineering techniques to clone a superior strain of *guayule* to make it a commercial crop and create a new domestic natural rubber industry.

*Kenaf* is a nonwoody fibrous plant that can be processed into paper. The paper industry is looking at kenaf as a replacement for wood pulp as the nation's forest acreage shrinks. In fact, kenaf produces five times more paper pulp per acre than trees. Newsprint made from kenaf matches that made from woodpulp in quality.

*Buffalo gourd* is a plant related to squash. The roots of the plant are a source of the sweetening agents dextrin, maltose and glucose. Scientists at the Energy Institute of New Mexico State University have shown that oil from buffalo gourd is a source of diesel fuel and ethanol.

### Industrial and Medical Products From High-tech Plants

The tremendous market for industrial products is spurring agriscience researchers to use biotechnology to put new genes into plants. These plants can then produce products for use in industry and medicine.

At the University of Wisconsin-Madison, researchers are testing a genetically-engineered variety of alfalfa that produces enzymes used in food processing, detergent manufacturing and biopulping. The alfalfa plants can be cut as usual and the enzyme-containing juice ground out of the plants and sold. Similarly, plant scientists at Washington University in St. Louis are using genetically-engineered barley to produce drugs for medicine and enzymes for industry.

The tremendous market potential for non-food farm products will create a new role for farmers in our society. ●●

# MAILBAG

## National Officer, Lesa Ann King, Has New Zip Code

Mr. Postmaster General has decided that Howe needs a new zip code. It is now 75459. Thanks for your understanding.

*Lesa Ann King  
Howe, Texas*

## A Dedication

I want to dedicate this letter to Mrs. Dana Buller at Abraham Lincoln High School. This is her last year because they are closing down the agriculture department. She has been a great teacher for many years and the kids in our chapter will miss her and the ag department.

Mrs. Buller helped us learn responsibility, caring for animals, and that school can be fun!

*Theresa Gutierrez  
San Jose, California*

## Upside Down?

I have a question concerning the address and stamp placement on the front cover. It appears to be upside down. I was wondering why?

My advisor is giving me five extra credit points for writing to you!

*Lee Roy Murphy II  
Parkersburg, West Virginia*

*It's easier for your post office to process and deliver the magazines — Ed.*

## Improving Its Image?

It has been some time since this organization has changed its name — in hopes of improving its image. Have any significant results been achieved?

This change was upsetting to myself and my husband as we have both been involved with the Future Farmers of

America as students and as agriculture instructors. But for us it was finally driven home just how improper this change was when we read an article in the May/June, 1991 issue of *Harrowsmith Country Life* magazine.

In the article, "A Farewell to Farms," the author asked, "Who will grow our food?" Of the 12 national officers in the FFA in 1986, not one was planning a career in production agriculture.

*Gina Boster  
Agriculture Instructor  
Norco High School, California*

*Student delegates voted to change the name at 1988 National Convention in order to broaden people's idea of agricultural education and FFA, and to stay current with where young people were headed in their careers.*

*A quick sampling of the officers you mentioned are in these careers: agriculture teacher, farm machinery representative, state department of agriculture staff, national FFA program manager, state wheat grower association leader, agricultural communications specialist and an agribusiness sales representative. None of them are farming, but all are playing important roles in American agriculture.*  
— Ed.

## Fought For Ag

I recently read "My Turn" by Matt Lohr (June-July, 1991, page 37) and agree with what he said. Some of my friends think that agriculture is plowing a field behind an old horse with an old plow. I explained to them that we learn a variety of things. As a result they scheduled agriculture for this year.

Last year our ag program was going to be closed because the school could no longer afford to support both industrial arts and ag. We fought for ag with the principal and school board members and they decided to keep it. I think we need to educate more people about our program.

*Jason Hargroder  
Lawtell, Louisiana*

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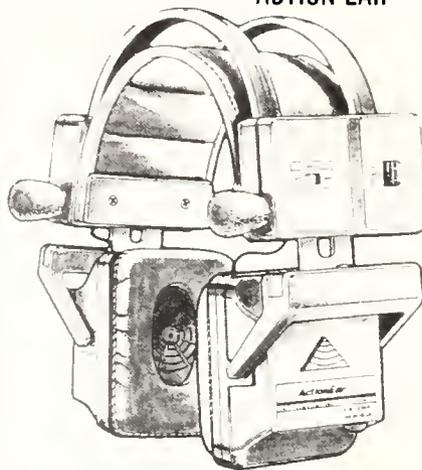
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# Livestock Judging Video A Hit



Adair-Casey FFA members answer mail from 300 livestock judging teams from 42 states that replied to their video contest.

**F**our members of the Adair-Casey, Iowa FFA Chapter have a \$300 scholarship to help them start college this fall because of a successful video livestock judging contest they helped create last year.

The contest sprung from a brainstorming session between advisor Bill Umbaugh and the 28-member chapter. After deciding that a local contest wouldn't bring in enough money, the idea of putting the contest on video and holding a national contest was born.

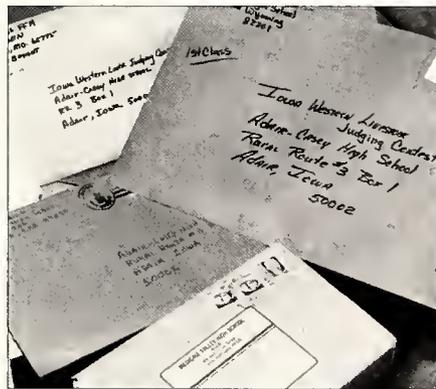
All chapter members had a hand in making the Iowa Western Livestock Judging Contest work. Different groups worked on developing the contest, videotaping the animals and financial administration. Two local banks each loaned the chapter \$500 to get the project started. The loans have already been repaid.

The chapter tapped Iowa State University instructor Chris Skaggs to help set up the videotaping of the contest. Three classes of cattle, sheep and hogs were taped for the contest. Skaggs and two others at Iowa State served as official judges.

The chapter mailed invitations to all FFA chapters in the country and 300 responded with a \$40 entry fee. All members of the participating chapters were eligible to take part in the contest.

The South Whitley, Indiana FFA Chapter captured first place and \$600 in prize

money in the first annual contest. The Albert Lea, Minnesota FFA placed second and the Ohio Valley, Ohio FFA placed third. A total of \$2,300 in prize money



was distributed to top ten winners. All chapters kept their videos to train future livestock teams.

With the success of the contest, the chapter is already making plans for next year. They are talking about sending the contest via satellite instead of through the mail on videotape. Participants would return their entries via their computers.

Whatever the format, the chapter is looking to find the right combination of a traditional agricultural learning activity, modern technology, and a way to keep sending seniors to college with a few more dollars in their pockets for tuition.

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Photo by Andrew Markwart

One of Wilson Carnes' many contributions was helping to design the National FFA Center.

# A Job Well Done

## After 36 years of service to the FFA, Wilson Carnes bids farewell

**A**griculture teachers are encouraged to nudge their students into the spotlight while they stay in the shadows. This has been the style of Wilson W. Carnes, who retired in August after 36 years of service to the National FFA Organization as administrative director and editor-in-chief of *FFA New Horizons*.

Carnes arrived in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1955, with his wife, Betty, as the new associate editor for The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine. Born in Albertville, Alabama, he had graduated with a degree in agricultural education from Auburn University after seeing active duty in Europe during World War II. He taught agriculture to his fellow veterans for a year before moving to Montgomery where he started his career in journalism working as a market news analyst for the Alabama Department of Agriculture. Before long, he was tapped to be editor of the *Alabama Future Farmer*.

It was only a few years after Carnes started work on the National FUTURE FARMER that he was named editor. He

was instrumental in guiding the magazine through many changes for over three decades. The magazine expanded from four to six issues in 1956. Profound changes in printing technology, postal regulations and computerization of records were met with Carnes' steady, calculated leadership. He oversaw the name change of the magazine to *FFA New Horizons* in 1989.

As others recognized him in the publishing industry, Carnes was elected to serve as president of the American Agricultural Editor's Association in 1975. During his term as president, he toured South America with Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz and was one of 12 agricultural journalists to meet with officials of European Common Market countries, including Belgium and Ireland.

In 1982, Carnes was asked to take on the role of administrative director of the national organization, which included management of the FFA Center, personnel management and supervision of fiscal and accounting services. He carried out those responsibilities and those of the magazine's editor-in-chief, until his re-

tirement this year.

Carnes credits his first agriculture teacher, R.E. Mitchell, as a major influence and role model in his life. He saw Mitchell as a respected professional in a small, rural town — an attractive position in the eyes of a young man growing up in the heart of the Depression.

He has viewed his role at the National FFA Organization as being supportive to the national advisors and executive secretaries, allowing them to play a more public leadership role.

His devotion to his work and dedication to the FFA prevailed in whatever he undertook. "I found it hard to half-way do something," said Carnes. "The old farm shop at Auburn University had a sign that said, 'If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right.' I felt that if I didn't have total commitment to something, I felt like I didn't do a very good job with it."

For his outstanding service, Carnes will be presented FFA's highest honor for an individual, the VIP Award, at the 64th National FFA Convention in Kansas City this November. ●●●

# A Warm Washington Welcome

## State officers meet President Bush and work together on national FFA business

By Sandra Campbell

**T**wo FFA officers from all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands enjoyed the chance of a lifetime when they met the President George Bush during State Presidents' Conference, July 22-27.

Decked-out in their official FFA dress on a scorching hot day, the state leaders converged on the White House to meet with the president during their stay in Washington, D.C. Mark Timm, national FFA president, spoke with Bush, presented him with a plaque and invited him to the national FFA convention in November.

The State Presidents' Conference was held at the Crystal City Marriott Hotel near Washington, D.C., and was led by the six national officers who conducted workshops on leadership and delegate training. During the week-long conference, the FFA leaders started work for the upcoming national convention operating in the new "Fixed 475" delegate system approved by delegates at last year's convention.

The state FFA officers attending state presidents' conference will serve as committee chairmen during the delegate meetings at the convention. The many hours of preparation in July helps get the leaders get started on work for the November meetings.

State Presidents' Conference is the first time each year the state FFA association leaders come together to discuss issues that affect FFA members nationwide. State presidents and one other officer from each state attend the conference.

In addition to their delegate work, the FFA members met with their congressmen during a luncheon held during the conference. During the luncheon, Danny Grellner, national FFA secretary, spoke

to the congressmen and the delegates on the importance of agriculture education and the FFA and their relationship to the future of education in the U.S.

The state officers also visited the National FFA Center and represented the National FFA Organization when it was

presented a 1992 Chevrolet half-ton pickup truck by Chevy Trucks. The truck was given to the National FFA Alumni Association to be sold at their auction during national FFA convention. Proceeds from the auction will provide scholarships for FFA members. ...



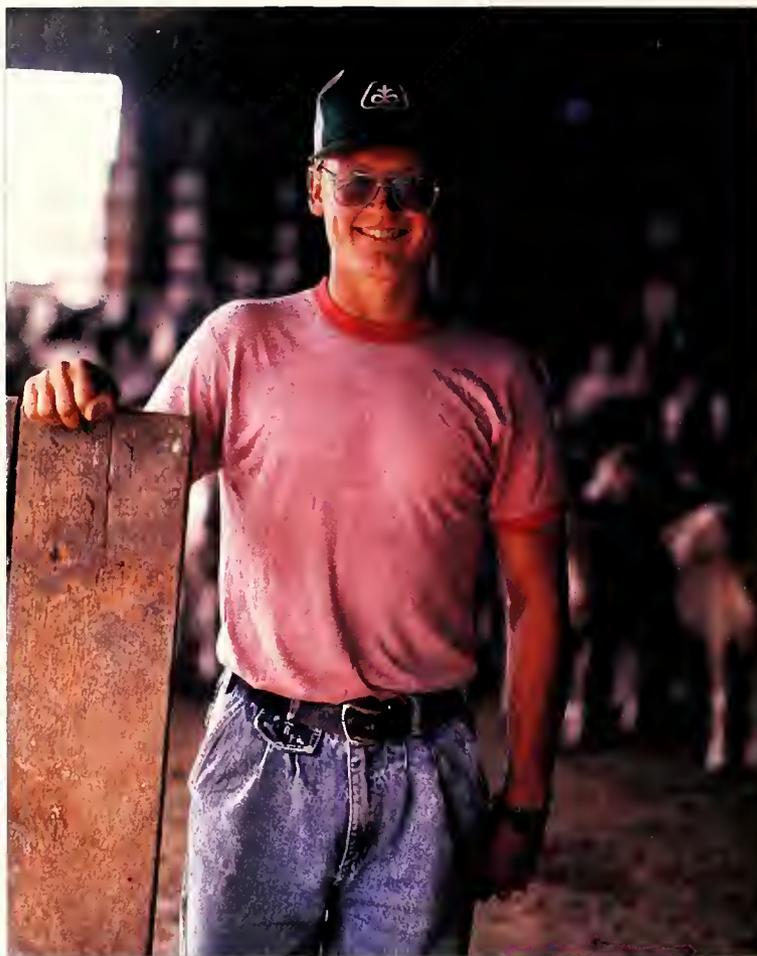
President Bush greeted national officers Matt Lohr, Lesa King, Danny Grellner, Mark Timm and Julie Classen, left to right, after posing for a photograph with all state officers.



State officers Shannon Tignor, Virginia, and Adam Thomason, Washington, talk about national issues during a delegate meeting.

State Presidents' Conference is sponsored by Chevy Trucks, a Division of General Motors Corporation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Vladimir Mounkine is one of 30 Soviets who have watched their homeland go through historic changes while studying private farming in the U.S.



Photos by Author

# The Russian Revolution

This Russian student is watching his country's growing pains from a family farm in Iowa

By Andrew Markwart

**D**uring the attempted overthrow of Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev in August, Russian agriculture student Vladimir Mounkine watched from a small town in Iowa as Soviet tanks rolled toward the Russian parliament building. Meanwhile, his parents, who live in the industrial city of Magnitogorsk, on the edge of the Ural Mountains about 1,000 miles east of Moscow, were unaware of what was happening in their nation's capital.

When the townspeople did find out what was happening in the country's capital, they went on working in the steel mills, trying to eke out a living as they have been doing for the past 70 years. Food money, not politics, ranks high on their list of priorities.

Mounkine says the lack of communication and conservative nature of most of the country will make the transition from communism to capitalism slow and, quite possibly, violent.

Mounkine, 20, is one of 30 young agriculturalists from the Soviet Union that have been in the United States since June to learn about the private farming practices and free market system

in this country. They will work on farms and in agribusinesses for one year, then return home and put into practice what they have learned. The National FFA Organization and the National Young Farmer Educational Association coordinated the homestays in the U.S.

Mounkine is learning the American agricultural system from the John Conway family in Wellman, Iowa. Their 1,000-acre grain and livestock farm in the heart of the Cornbelt is like a giant classroom for the quiet, thoughtful third-year agriculture student from the Moscow Agricultural Academy. Everyone in the family calls him "Val" and in only a few months, he has already made an impact on the family.

"Val has an intense interest in the entire system," says John Conway. "He wants to know where we buy our seed and why. Where we get our fertilizer and why. He's always asking why. It's good for me because I have to review things that I've been doing for a long time and I start asking *myself* why."

Mounkine drives tractor in the fields and feeds the sheep and cattle. He also watches the commodity markets and is learning

how to use a computer to manage farm finances.

As a student at the Moscow academy, he lived with three other students in a room half the size of the Conway's kitchen. Mounkine learned English on his own and is reading American classics like Tom Sawyer and The Old Man and The Sea while he has access to them.

The son of medical doctors, Mounkine says his decision to study agriculture was based on his observation that, "Russia needs farmers worse than they need doctors."

Mounkine says that before the Russian Revolution in 1917 that introduced communism to the country, it was on par, agriculturally, with the U. S. and the rest of the world. Farmers worked their land with machines not too different than what was being used in American fields.

Over time, people flocked to the cities to escape the difficult life of working on a government collective farm. Both the cities and the rural areas suffered as a result. Under communist rule, people were taught that in order to avoid having a very rich class and a very poor class, the government should own everything and everyone would be cared for.

In reality, people lost their motivation to work, since they had no ownership in their businesses and the standard of living for the masses dropped to a level most Americans would call poverty. He says that when food and clothes are available, there is no selection. Bread is usually available once a week.

### **My Generation**

Life for teenagers, especially in rural areas, is difficult. Schools are poor because the best teachers move to the city. There are no computers and the books are old. It is unusual for rural students to go to college. The young people are called on to help in the fields during planting and harvest times, usually without pay. There are no organized sports at school and little entertainment outside of the major cities.

But Mounkine is optimistic about the role that young people will play in his country's future. He says that it may be the teenagers that have the most effect on real change in the country. "More and more young people want capitalism." He says they are also interested in the pre-communist history that, until now, has been forbidden to study.

### **Back on the Farm**

Mounkine says that the new private, independent farms will spring up in areas where the people held on to their tradition of private farming, even if it was caring for a garden. Most of these areas are on the western side of the Soviet Union, such as the Baltic Republics and the Ukraine.

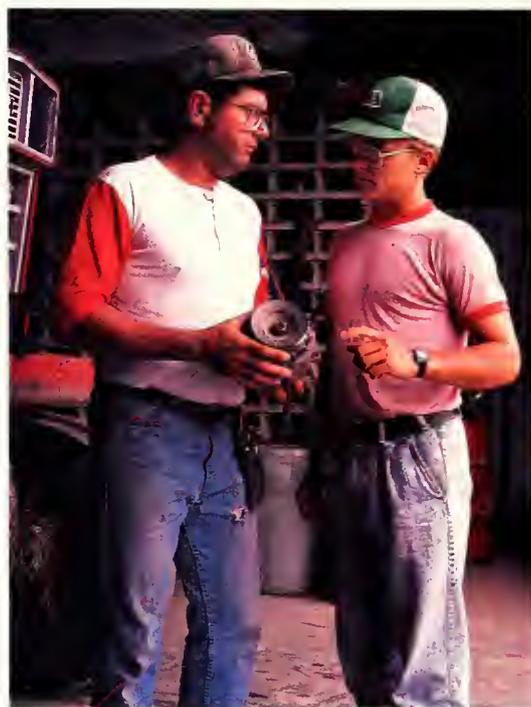
He has hopes that Russian President Boris Yeltsin will ease restrictions and provide incentives for people to take up private farming. The popular Russian leader has been in favor of moving toward a private farming system well before the sweeping changes in Soviet government that started in late August.

Only one of the 30 Soviets who came to the U.S. with Mounkine is a private farmer. "Yeltsin must begin the agricultural reforms beginning with the (collective and state farm) managers. You just can't release the restrictions and expect a new system to work," says Mounkine.

Besides the culture shock to moving to a market economy, Mounkine says that one of the biggest challenges his country has is the haggard condition of its transportation systems and utilities, something taken for granted by many here in the U.S. "After a couple of weeks, we asked Val what was the one thing that impressed him the most in the U.S., figuring it would be airplanes or skyscrapers or something like that," says John Conway. "He said, 'you have a road that takes you anywhere.'"



Vladimir, center, with his host family, the Conways. Left to right are Collettee, Kelley, Cathy, Brenna and John.



An alternator that Conway will have fixed by evening chores would take two weeks to repair in Russia, "if you are lucky" says Mounkine.

Mounkine hopes that road takes him to a university in the U.S. to study agricultural business and marketing next year. "It is my dream to study in the U.S. if I am to be the most useful for my country," he said. He plans to spread the word about private farming and the market system when he returns home. "Our people know how to work hard," he maintains. "We can compete. We just need organization."

He warns that the changes in the Soviet Union have just started and, most likely, we haven't seen violence end. Change comes slowly to a country that is so huge and whose society is so interwoven into the old communist system. "There have been big changes, but they are only a small step in the right direction. Three generations have grown up with no model of independence," he cautions. "People who lived their whole lives in the Soviet system can't change quickly." ...

# Farm Manager

By Shirley Sokolosky

**C**hrista Limberger has faced some big tasks since she became a farm manager. There was that 2,000-pound bull that had to be broken to lead, not to mention a fence to build that required 300 post holes. And then there's the solitude of always working by herself.

But Limberger wouldn't have it any other way. She is an animal lover who has turned her fondness for four-footed creatures into a career.

"I am fortunate because I have always had a way with animals," she says. "One who wouldn't come up to anyone else would come up to me."

How did Limberger channel her interests and talents into a career? The road began on her family's farm in north central Connecticut, near Ellington. There she cared for sheep, cattle, horses and hogs, and worked for a stable. As a member of the Rockville FFA, she won the state proficiency award in diversified livestock production. After high school, she earned a two-year ag degree from the University of Connecticut and worked for 1 1/2 years at a farrow-to-finish swine operation.

Fearing that her chances for advancement were slim, Limberger decided on a bold move — she enrolled in Texas A&M University as an animal science major. She completed her bachelor of sciences degree in 3 1/2 years and was ready to look for a job.

A professor from the University of Connecticut told Limberger about a position at a 60-acre Polled Hereford operation near her hometown of Ellington. Soon she found herself with a job and 60 purebred cattle to look after. Limberger says that landing a management position in the livestock industry requires some aggressive job hunting. She says that for females, there aren't many opportunities.

"I've had to push," she says. "Owners tended to not take me seriously or tended to pamper me." Limberger advises young women that farm management includes some hard physical labor, and that they need to be prepared to prove to farm owners that they can do the work.

Limberger's days begin at 7 a.m. and end when the work is done. Her job description includes all field work, breeding the cows, maintaining equipment and fences, record keeping, livestock feeding and care as well as working with local 4-H members to learn to fit and show their animals. In summer months, she concentrates on working with the farm's show animals daily — washing, haltering, walking and working their hair coats. Spring is the busy season, when Limberger must contend with calving and planting at the same time.



## Professional Profile

**Name:** Christa Limberger

**Career:** Farm Manager

**High School FFA Chapter:**

Rockville, Connecticut

**College:** University of Connecticut,

Texas A&M University

Training for a farm manager's job must be both practical and academic, says Limberger.

Activities like livestock judging taught her to view animals as individuals; she finds identifying cattle and telling them apart quite easy. Limberger is asked to judge at shows and fairs, which helps her "income-wise."

How important is a college education?

"It gives you the edge," says Limberger. When she first arrived at the Polled Hereford farm, she had to prepare a health plan, a feeding program and get a routine going.

"Because of my education, I knew what the animals needed. I knew what kind of vaccinations were needed, the value of implanting," she says. "This helped me explain to the owner what I wanted to do."

Limberger believes that the opportunities for personal advancement are there for the taking. "Some day," she says, "I like to have something of my own." She envisions owning a cattle reproductive services business. For now, however, she is quite content with the task of caring for livestock.

"I've haven't ever wanted to do anything else," she says. "It makes all the mud and manure and bruises worth it."



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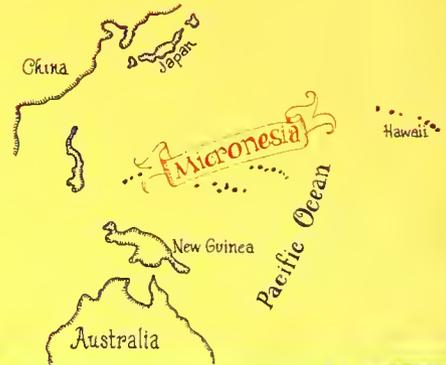
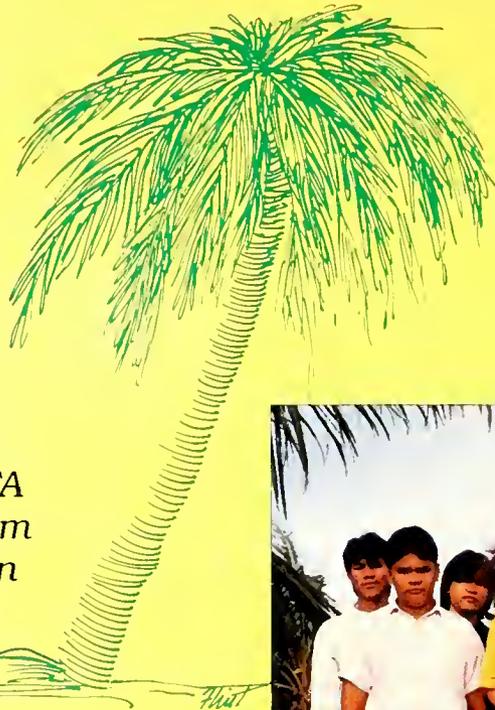
# FFA's Excellent

By Shirley Sokolosky

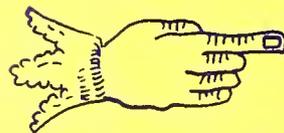
**A**t this year's national convention, FFA members will witness a rare and special event. Two new state FFA associations, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands, will be issued their charters.

Also, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will officially become "affiliate chapters."

Confused already? You're probably not alone. We all have a lot to learn about our new members across the sea. Come along on this two-page journey as we explore these fascinating, little-known parts of the world.



These FFA members from the John F. Kennedy High School in Guam helped their island get the association charter.



## Where is Micronesia?

The best way to understand Micronesia's location is to use a world atlas. Find Hawaii and then look southwest for Micronesia, a group of over 2,000 islands. Still lost? Find Australia, then Papua New Guinea and look above and to the right. According to the National Geographic Society, these islands cover an area "about the size of the continental United States but with less land area than the state of Rhode Island."

# New Adventure

## Are the Virgin Islands in the Pacific?

No. The U.S. Virgin Islands are on the other side of the globe. They can be found in the Caribbean Sea, southeast of Florida. On your atlas, find Puerto Rico and look to the east. There you'll see the islands of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix.

## Aren't the Virgin Islands already part of FFA?

Yes, sort of. The Virgin Islands have had affiliate status for years. As of this year, they will officially become a state association at national convention this November.

## Why will Guam be an association while the other Pacific islands are affiliate chapters?

The FFA constitution requires an association to have at least four chartered chapters and a total of at least 125 members. They must also receive federal education funds. An affiliate, on the other hand, would have fewer chapters and members than the required number.

## Why would a place that is so far away be part of FFA?

Distance doesn't matter. Their government's relationship with ours does. Under an agreement with the U.S., the islands are "freely associated" with the United States. They receive services from agencies like the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Northern Mariana Islands chose to be a commonwealth, which means their people are U.S. citizens and they receive more benefits from U.S. government agencies. Much like Puerto Rico, they are a part of our country, but are territories rather than states.

## Life on the islands

When you think about tropical islands deep in the Pacific, you may have visions of deep blue seas brimming with fish, lush foliage and sweet juicy fruit hanging from the trees.

The beauty of the islands can be

misleading, because economic problems plague the people. Many people are jobless, especially the youth, and many drop out of school, says Patricia Chapman of the Micronesia Institute in Washington, D.C.

"They want money for things that aren't available — TVs, cars and flush toilets — they want the things we want," says Chapman.

Poor nutrition is a major health problem. Junk foods, canned meats and fish, and rice have replaced the fresh fruits, vegetables and fish that once made up the Micronesian diet. Nutrition has suffered to the point that the life expectancy for men is only 40 or 50 years.

Fresh produce is hard to find. If you can find it, you may not be able to afford it. A watermelon in Guam may cost as much as \$30, a cabbage in Chuuk is \$4.50 per head.

## A seed is planted

How did FFA get involved in Micronesia in the first place?

FFA and USDA representatives traveled to the islands on a fact-finding trip in 1987, and 17 students came to America as part of the World AgriScience Studies program. Grants from the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Interior paid for the trips. The next year, more students came and a workshop for adult leaders was held, funded by a Department of Interior grant.

An American high school agriculture teacher named Steve McKay from the Anderson Valley Agriculture Institute in Boonville, California, went on the original fact-finding trip in 1987. As Agriscience Teacher of the Year, he told the islanders about his innovative programs. He found that telling them wasn't enough. He could see that they needed agricultural education and FFA in their communities.

In the years since McKay's first visit, he has helped bring agriculture to life on the islands. As recipient of a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, McKay has helped provide training for teachers. He travels to the

islands frequently to offer two precious commodities — support and experienced guidance.

"They can come to the U.S. and get lots of good ideas, but it's hard to go home and implement them. They fight an uphill battle," says McKay. With his assistance, new FFA chapters are taking part in BOAC, creating their own judging contests and planting community gardens.

McKay is thrilled by the hope he sees in the people. "I love them," he says simply. "I want to work with them."

## Banana judging and the biggest yam in Yap

Judging contests have taught vital lessons to many FFA members: how to recognize superior breeding, identifying characteristics, thinking under pressure. It will come as no surprise to all you judges, then, when you hear about the innovative contests underway in the islands.

Steve McKay hopes that banana judging will excite students and encourage production. Taking part in awards competitions will teach record keeping and planning — all new to the islanders.

Contests can help solve

*(Continued on Page 45)*

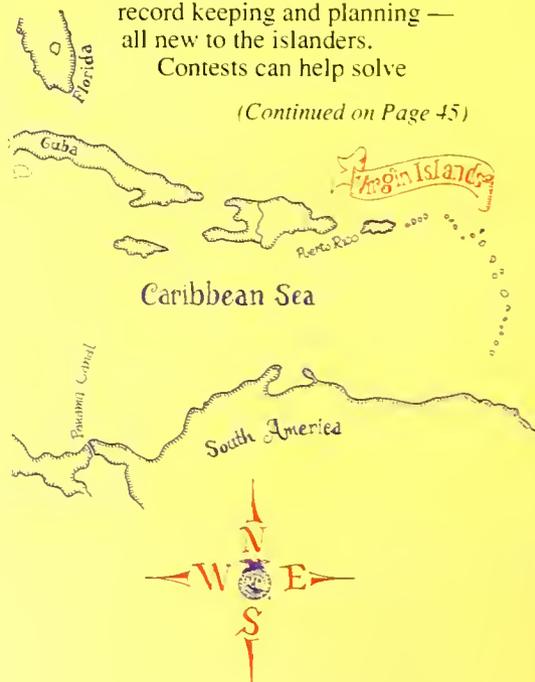




Photo by Brad Lewis

Senator Robert Dole talks with Washington Conference participants on the steps of the U.S. Capitol.



Photo by Sara Brasch

Over a thousand FFA members learn leadership skills during a week in the nation's capital.

# A Week to Remember

**F**or seven weeks this past summer, FFA members flocked to Washington, D.C., for a week of leadership training, personal development workshops and sightseeing around the nation's capital.

The Washington Conference Program hosted 1,439 FFA members and 118 advisors over the seven one-week conferences. Skills such as communications, goal-setting and teamwork were the focus of workshops and activities conducted by a staff of 10 past state FFA officers.

Most FFA members visited their congressmen while in Washington. Other visits included the U.S. Capitol, Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, the National FFA Center, and Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington. ...

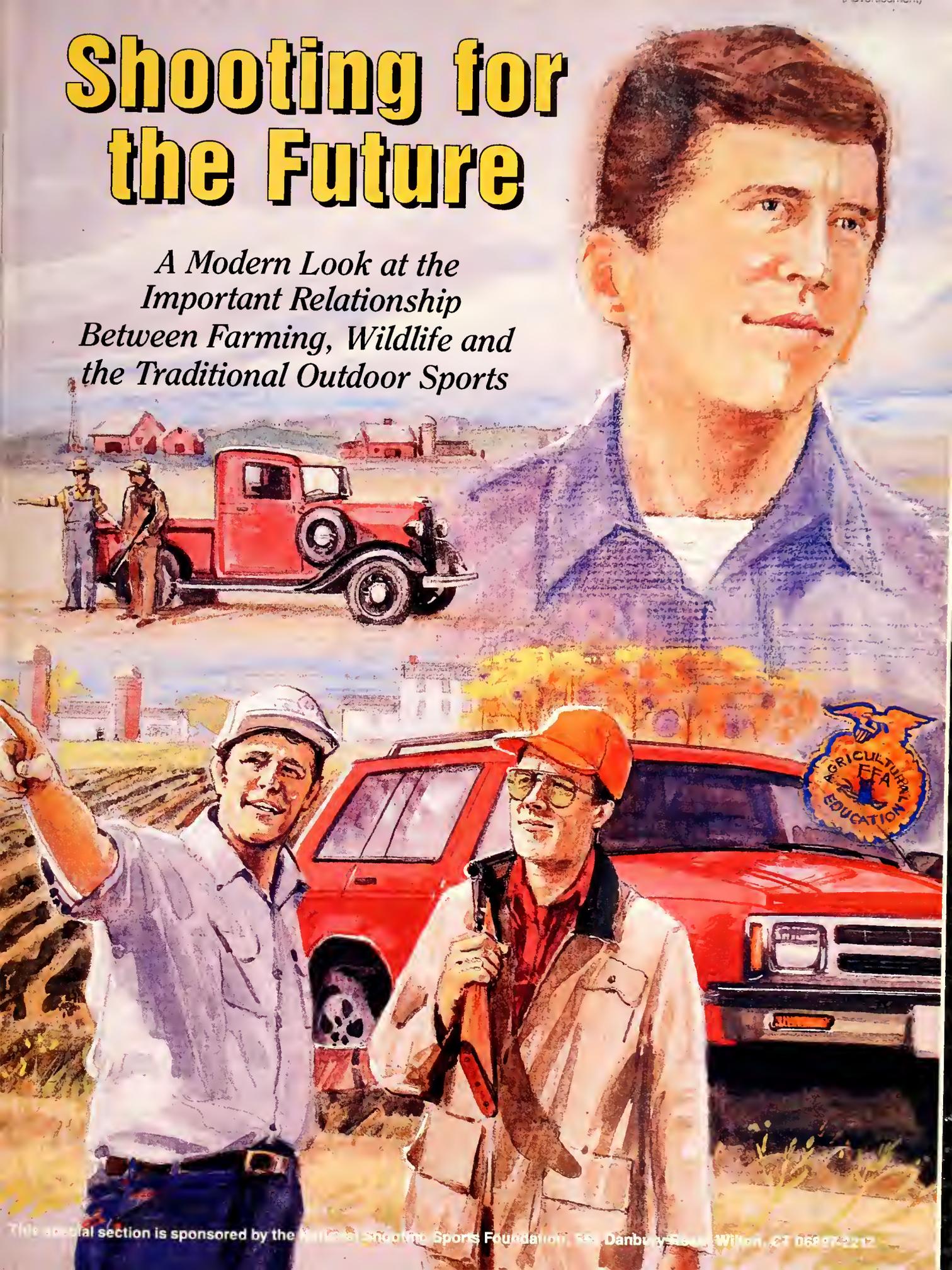
Visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was an emotional time for many attending WCP.

Photo by Brad Lewis



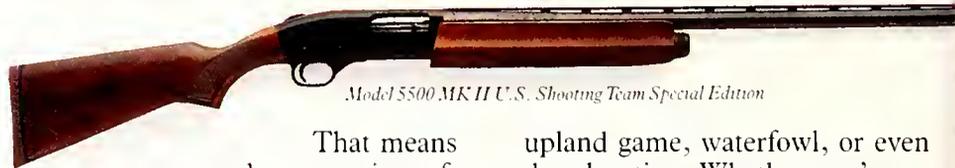
# Shooting for the Future

*A Modern Look at the Important Relationship Between Farming, Wildlife and the Traditional Outdoor Sports*





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# Shooting for the Future

by ROBERT T. DELFAY, Secretary, United Conservation Alliance

## *A Modern Look at the Important Relationship Between Farming, Wildlife and the Traditional Outdoor Sports*

**F**arming, hunting and recreational shooting are important and valued American traditions that have enjoyed a strong spirit of cooperation between farmer and sportsman.

Members of the Future Farmers of America will play an important role in shaping the future relationship of the hunting and farming traditions and in maintaining the spirit of cooperation between farmer and hunter.

More than half of all hunting in America is done on privately owned lands. Throughout this nation's history, the relationship between hunters and landowners has been a friendly and mutually beneficial one. In return for access to their private land, farmers often receive game or donated services from hunters.

As with any relationship, the farmer/landowner partnership can have its difficulties and, too often, "No Hunting" signs are the result. Occasionally, unethical and unlawful hunters create problems for the landowner and jeopardize the future of the traditional hunter/landowner relationship. It's important that leaders of the agricultural industry and of the hunting fraternity not let these bad apples spoil the whole bushel.

Research reported by the National Shooting Sports Foundation indicates that more than 70% of landowners think hunters respect the rights of others.

And among game wardens, whose job it is to check up on hunters during the hunting season to be sure they are obeying hunting laws and regulations, more than 9 out of 10 think that hunters respect the rights of others.

Too often, it is the behavior of the irresponsible hunters that causes land to be posted against hunting, denying hunting opportunity to the majority of hunters who are good sportsmen. About 10 years ago, a survey by the Future Farmers Association indicated that

nearly half of all farmland was posted. The figure may be higher today. Yet it may be time to consider removing some of those "No Hunting" signs. While it is obviously important that some areas remain posted for safety or security reasons, taking down "Posted" signs can often open up new cooperation and valuable relationships with hunters in your community.

Hunter behavior is just one question that must be considered in evaluating the future relationship between the farmer and hunter. Another is the hunter's impact on wildlife. In this case, there is almost universal agreement that the billions of dollars that hunters contribute to wildlife conservation each year are an important and desirable ingredient in the overall wildlife management picture.

The National Wildlife Federation's official policy on hunting states, "We support hunting because, under professional regulation, wildlife populations are a renewable natural resource that can safely sustain taking. Although we understand the moral philosophy of those who feel that hunting is wrong and that wildlife populations should be protected completely, the real and fundamental problem facing wildlife is not hunting but, instead is habitat degradation and destruction."

The National Audubon Society also recognizes the acceptability of hunting. Their official statement says, "The National Audubon Society, since its origin at the turn of the century, has never been opposed to the hunting of game species if that hunting is done ethically and in accordance with laws and regulations designed to prevent depletion of the wildlife resource. We have made this clear repeatedly in official statements of policy and it remains Audubon policy."

Providing dramatic evidence of the hunter's positive role in conservation

and wildlife management is the tremendous recovery that many species of wildlife have experienced throughout the 1900s. On the brink of extinction at the turn of the century, species such as white-tailed deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, wild turkey, wood duck and others are now abundant. White-tailed deer have increased from 500,000



animals in 1900 to nearly 20 million today. Elk have gone from some 40,000, mostly in the Yellowstone Park area, to some 800,000. Wild turkey has increased its numbers nearly four-fold in the past few decades and now totals some 4 million.

Those who live and work on the farm have traditionally enjoyed the hunting and shooting sports and have traditionally played a key role in making those sports available to others in their community. This relationship will take on added importance in the years ahead, but will also carry added benefits for both sides, as farmer and hunter shoot for the future, together.



# Here's Something to Shoot For

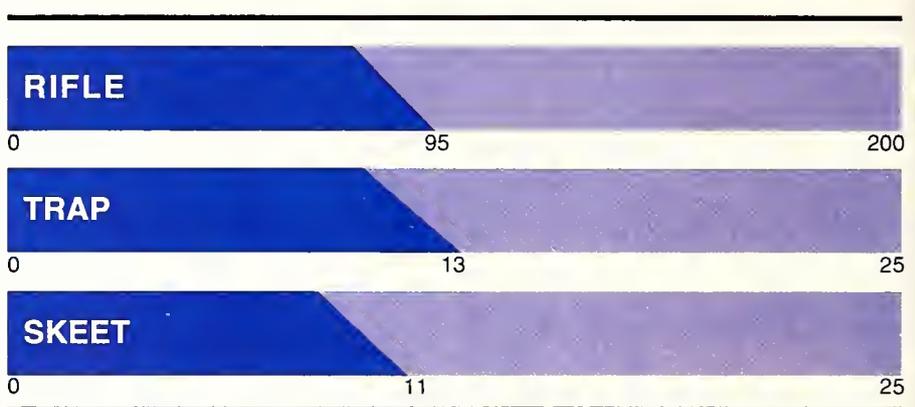
by MIKE LAWRENCE

**D**oug Howery had a right to brag about his basketball shooting skills. No one in our school had ever scored more points in a single game or a season. But, when Doug bet he was also the best rifle shooter in our group, I knew I had him.

"Doug, you're a good athlete and a good friend, but we went to Boy Scout summer camp together, remember. You would have done better if you threw basketballs at those targets." "Everybody misses," Doug replied, "but I'll bet you I'm way better than most guys." "Okay, Davey Crockett," I said, "you've got a bet and I know just how to settle it!"

I had just read in one of my hunting magazines about how some organization tested a bunch of hunters to find out how good the average guy shot a rifle, shotgun and handgun. That afternoon, I found the magazine. An association in Connecticut, called the National Shooting Sports Foundation, had recently tested 200 hunters and published the results so every hunter could compare his shooting scores to the national average. For example, the average hunter would hit 13 out of 25 clay targets in trapshooting and 11 out of 25 skeet. But rifle was what we were most interested in.

To determine the average hunter's rifle shooting ability, they used the standard NRA 50-yard small-bore rifle target and had each shooter fire 20 shots from the standing position. The average score

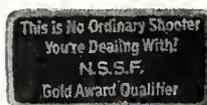
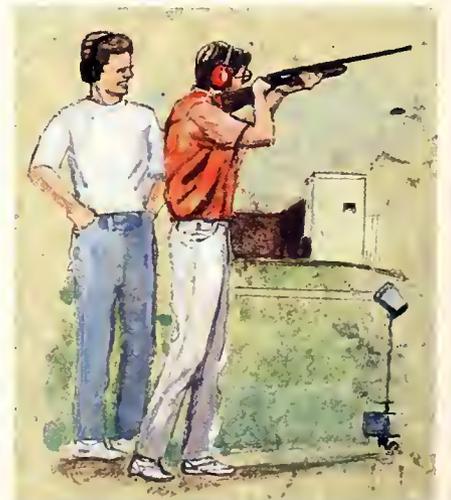


turned out to be 95 of a possible 200. Before he started, Doug was pretty confident. "Heck, that's less than 50%. I could do that with my eyes closed."

As it turned out, Doug might have done better with his eyes closed. He finished with a score of 68 out of a possible 200, a new respect for how hard it is to shoot a rifle from the standing position and a promise that the next time he tried he'd beat the average.

I didn't tell Doug that if he had beat the average, the National Shooting Sports Foundation would have sent him a "This Is No Ordinary Shooter You're Dealing With" cap or patch. And I didn't have the heart to let him see mine.

For more information, you can write the National Shooting Sports Foundation at 555 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897. Ask for information on the "How Well Do You Shoot" program.



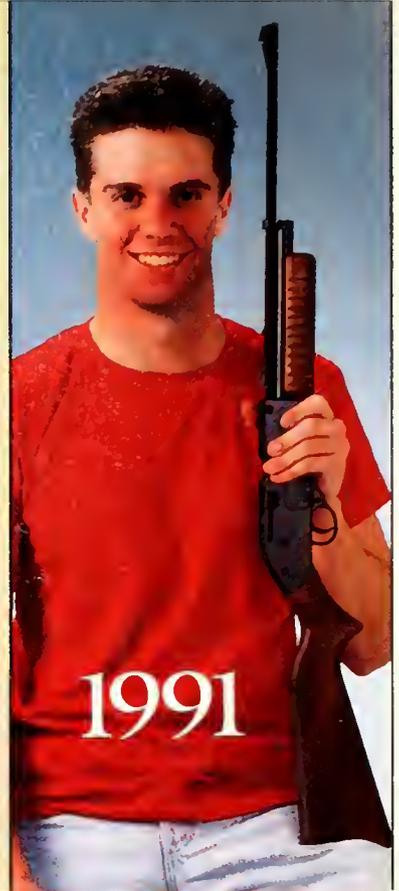


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## Getting Along With Hunters On Your Land

**T**he farmer glanced over at the old border collie, marvelling at the dog's new full, shiny coat. What a difference from six months ago.

It was six months ago that the farmer had commented to Steve, one of the hunters on the place, about the border collie's loss of hair and the fact that the vet couldn't figure it out.

"Are you feeding him a lot of table scraps?" the hunter asked.

The farmer nodded.

That could be the answer.

"I had the same problem with one of my dogs. Seems too much fat from the table scraps can cause that problem for some dogs. Once I cut out the leftovers, the rash cleared right up."

It proved to be good advice, the farmer recalled.

Granting hunters access to wildlife on your land is a big decision, but knowing that those same sportsmen might be able to return the favor in other ways down the road helps to make the decision easier. Aside from giving you a hand hauling hay, fixing up an old barn or



mending a fence now and then, hunters can be a big help. And whether you've allowed access to wildlife for years or are thinking about granting permission for the first time, safety should be a key concern when building a relationship with a hunter.

Most sportsmen are more than happy to abide by your rules. In fact, according to a recent survey, 7 out of 10 landowners think hunters respect the rights of others and more than 9 out of 10 game wardens, whose job it is to check up on hunters during the hunting season to be sure they are obeying laws and regulations, felt hunters respect the rights of others.

Most hunters know to close gates behind them and are familiar with the rules of safe gun handling. Here are some additional hunting safety tips to consider:

- Discuss in advance where hunters may hunt and point out roadways, neighboring houses or barns to be aware of.
- Let hunters know about any "off-limits" areas where your livestock or those of a neighbor might be grazing.

Most hunters are more than happy to follow your guidelines in exchange for the right to hunt on your property. And you're likely to make some special friends who might be able to return the favor down the road.

# *Kinder? Gentler? No Way.*



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# If You Knew What He Knows

**Don Swanton shares some secrets about getting started with livestock**

**S**tarting a livestock project can be a scary venture. There is so much to know about keeping animals healthy and safe. The business end can be mysterious too.

For the past eight years, Don Swanton, Goose Lake, Iowa, has been testing and trying lots of products and methods and asking a lot of questions as he built up his purebred Suffolk sheep business. We asked Swanton, 20, to share some of the secrets that helped make him the national FFA sheep production proficiency winner in 1990.

**Get support.** Swanton says the first mistake beginners can make is not involving other people who can help the effort. "Make sure your parents want you to have the project. If they don't support your project, you'll never get it off the ground."

**Set goals.** "Everything relates back to goal setting. Know what you want to do and work toward that. Have the gumption to get it done."

**Find the experts.** Tapping into the right people makes all the difference says the animal science major at Hawkeye Tech in Waterloo, Iowa. "When you decide what species you want to raise, talk to all of the sheep people in your area. Find out as much as you can."

"Get information from your local extension office especially if there are sheep specialists in your area. The better you get to know a specialist in your area, the faster you will get new information. There is a lot of new technology that wasn't out there years ago and you have to stay up on that. You have to use the new technology that is available."

**Don't be shy.** "Don't be afraid to walk up to someone you look up to and talk to



**In 1990, Don Swanton didn't have the biggest sheep project in FFA. He had the best.**

them. Those people are usually more willing to talk to young people than anyone else. It makes them feel good. If they can help you any way possible, they're going to do it. Don't stand in the corner. That's how you make contacts.

"Go to different people's operations and see how they do things and take bits and pieces of information from their operations. That's what I've done, whether it's feeders, waterers, bedding, whatever. Take the best parts of other producers operations and combine them into yours."

**Read.** "There is always new information coming out that can help you. You have to constantly read publications. At the extension office, they have thousands of specialists who have written pamphlets and some will be in your project area. You just need to ask for them."

"The American Sheep Industry Association puts out the Sheep Industry Handbook for about \$30 that tells you how to get started. It's the bible for the sheep industry."

Swanton also subscribes to about five sheep industry publications and other gen-

eral agriculture publications.

**Buy from someone you know.** "Go to someone you trust that will make you a good deal to get you started — someone who knows you and your parents. There are people who will take you under their wing because they want to help you."

**Don't get too fancy.** "For sheep, you don't need fancy facilities. Put your money in your livestock, not in your facilities. Put your emphasis on genetics, health and vaccination programs. That's the important part. The facilities will play a role later, once you've established a good foundation herd."

"Get started in the commercial industry. Purebreds are expensive. Make your mistakes with the commercial animals that aren't as costly. You need to find out if you like raising sheep and that you want to continue."

**Good records aren't so hard.** "Starting out, you don't need a computer for your recordkeeping program, you just need to be accurate. Keep the records in a notebook or a shoebox, but make sure they're accurate."

"Put in all the information you need so you know if your flock is making money or losing money. Then if you decide that you want to invest a little money and buy a computer, it is easier and you get a lot more information out of that data you put into it."

**Watch for health problems.** "Keep a constant eye on things. If the first signs of sickness show, treat it right away before it has a chance of taking off. Catch things before they're problems."

"Invest in vaccinations and a good health program. In the long run, it will save you a lot of money. It's cheaper to avoid a problem than to have to fix a problem."

**Lookingback.** "It would have made things a lot easier if I had known about all that information starting out. I would have done some things differently. It's a matter of working smarter, not harder." ...

The Sheep Production Proficiency award is sponsored by the American Sheep Industry Association and Kent Feeds, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

These eight FFA members have spent hundreds of hours and big money to build their businesses. There is some good advice in what...

# The Stars Say...



**Name:** Robert Tonn, 20  
**Award:** Southern Region Star in Agribusiness  
**FFA Chapter:** Elton, Louisiana  
**SAE:** Started a custom fertilizer application and feed mixing business with the money he earned by working in his family's farm supply center. In the process, he now owns 30 percent of the farm supply business as well.

**On doing your homework:** *"Through the FFA I learned about soils, forages, feeds and nutrition. This knowledge prompted me to start my own business to assist the community with their needs."*

**Name:** Lola Lang, 21  
**Award:** Western Region Star in Agribusiness  
**FFA Chapter:** Mount Vernon, Washington  
**SAE:** Started a pony farm 12 years ago with her mother. Grown from one pony to 50 horses. Services include trail rides for kids and adults, children's birthday parties, riding for the physically challenged, pony rides at malls and school riding lessons and summer day camps.

**On job satisfaction:** *"I really enjoy working with the handicapped children. It is very rewarding to see the confidence they gain when they get on the horses."*

**S**ome FFA members are born into families that are already firmly rooted in an agricultural business. Gradually, they work their way into the operation and become a major player. Others start their businesses from scratch, with nothing more than a good idea and a determination to see it come to life.

Whatever the case, these eight regional Star Farmers and Stars in Agribusiness have invested the time, effort and their own money into a business they can call their own.

What does it take to become a finalist in the Star's competition? Here are quick profiles of what the 1991 Stars did in their businesses and their thoughts on some specific topics.





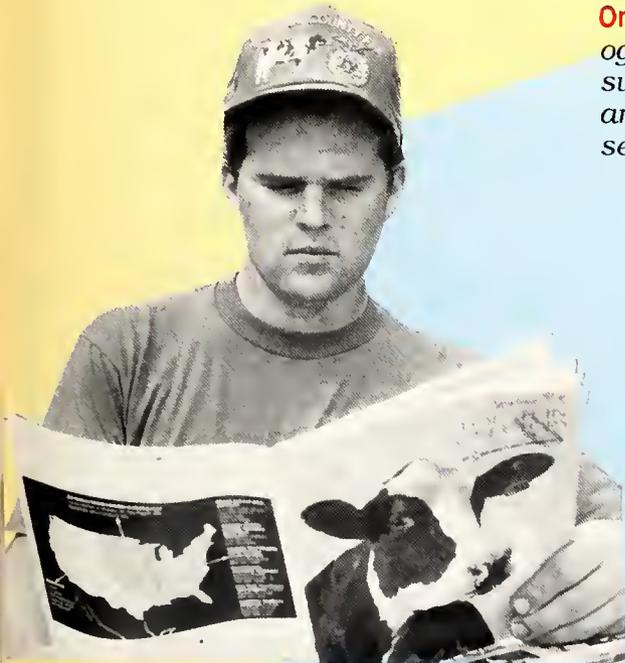
**Name:** Todd Schmitmeyer, 19  
**Award:** Eastern Region Star Farmer  
**FFA Chapter:** Versailles, Ohio  
**SAE:** Started his own swine operation even though his family operated a dairy farm. Started with 18 breeding swine and 83 market hogs. Now owns 68 breeding swine and 801 market hogs.

**On international travel:** *“Going to Europe allowed me to compare production techniques. We have about the same facilities, but they have a definite genetic advantage with the breeds of swine they have available over there.”*



**Name:** Adam Schumacher, 21  
**Award:** Central Region Star in Agribusiness  
**FFA Chapter:** Heron Lake-Okabena-Lakefield, Minnesota  
**SAE:** Sells young evergreen trees to soil conservation districts, private nurseries and the Department of Natural Resources. Started with 20,000 seedlings. Now sells over 140,000 trees each year. Supervises 15 part-time employees.

**On a winning combination:** *“Combining opportunity, technology, applied educational knowledge, goal-setting and support from my family has enabled me to develop a large and successful wholesale nursery business within a short seven-year time span.”*



**Name:** David DeLoach, 22  
**Award:** Southern Region Star Farmer  
**FFA Chapter:** Putnam County FFA, Eatonton, Georgia  
**SAE:** Half-owner of family dairy farm. Started with 47 dairy cows, 17 heifers and 14 calves. Now has 202 cows, 76 heifers and 30 calves. Also owns half of the business' land and buildings. Receives a premium for high-quality milk.

**On improving:** *“In the future, I would like to increase the number of registered cows within the herd, because then I will have the opportunity to market purebred cattle as well as milk.”*

(Continued from Page 29)



**Name:** Kent Erickson, 21  
**Award:** Western Region Star Farmer  
**FFA Chapter:** Ferndale, Washington  
**SAE:** Is a partner with his father and older brother in the family's 550-head dairy operation, Ro-Dar Farms. He has increased milk production per cow by 2,600 pounds while holding the line on the feed cost per pound of milk.  
**On attending college:** *"I believe the information learned in class will greatly enhance my ability to make profitable management decisions."*



**Name:** Shane Theriault, 18  
**Award:** Eastern Region Star in Agribusiness  
**FFA Chapter:** Caribou, Maine  
**SAE:** Started a lawn care business with the help of his father and brother. Offers services such as mowing, fertilizing, weed spraying, aerating and lime application for lawns. Clients include homeowners, businesses and schools.  
**On being a professional:** *"The quality of your work is key in this business. If you charge a professional rate, you have to have good quality work. We're not just the kid next door."*

**Name:** Blake Johnson, 21  
**Award:** Central Region Star Farmer  
**FFA Chapter:** Holdrege, Nebraska  
**SAE:** Started his own farm, separate from his family's. Owns 120 head of cattle and 442 acres of pasture land. Raises corn and wheat. Has 173 acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, and the entire farm is covered by a conservation plan.  
**On the environment:** *"The environmental issues are very important as we look to the future. Agriculturalists are going to have to become better managers."*



Can you find the \$25,200 in this picture?



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# When Horses Fly



Schorno has been to Japan a dozen times delivering livestock.

## Glenn Schorno and his family ship horses and other livestock to the Far East

By Lynn Hamilton

**M**ost FFA members who move livestock use a truck and trailer. Not Glenn Schorno — he rents a 747 jet.

He's not shipping livestock across the state, or even across the country. The final destination for his animals is the Far East, where a booming market exists for American livestock.

Schorno, of the Yelm, Washington, FFA Chapter, works with his family in Schorno Agribusiness and Pacific Rim Quarantine, one of only two livestock quarantine facilities on the West Coast. Since his family started the business in 1969, they have exported various types of livestock around the world, including Korea, Turkey, Iran, China and Malaysia.

The Schornos ship nearly 1,700 horses to Japan each year. "We're the largest exporter of horses from the United States,"

says Schorno. In Japan, the horses are purchased by trading companies, which then sell the animals to work on farms.

Schorno Agribusiness prides itself on being a reliable business partner, which is a major factor in their success in the ever-changing export world.

"When you've got the business, you have to perform while you can," says Schorno. The Schornos have never missed a shipment to the Far East. "At \$177,000 for a one-way rent for a 747, you don't like to miss a shipment," he says.

But meeting the plane on time means long hours of work prior to departure. The young draft horses must be purchased from midwestern farms at least a month in advance and brought to the quarantine facility. The horses are kept there a minimum of 30 days. During that time, they are tested for diseases specific to the coun-

try where they will be shipped, and monitored daily for good health.

When the quarantine period is up, the animals are fitted with halters and tagged for identification. Semi trucks deliver them to a nearby airport, where they are loaded into large wooden crates. The crates hold three or four horses, and are large enough for the animals to move around comfortably.

Just before the horses are loaded onto the plane, the veterinarian checks their identification and shipping numbers. A scissor lift hoists the crates onto the plane, and the animals are on their way. A full plane can hold about 110 horses.

Glenn says the horses have less stress in the air than on the road. "With flying, the ride is constant — there is no stopping and starting, except for takeoff and landing." Horses are more prone to stress than other livestock, but the Schornos lose very few horses in shipment.

The horses aren't the only ones on the plane — a member of the Schorno family accompanies each load. Glenn has been to Japan a dozen times, though he usually has to hop right back on a plane to return home.

Glenn, who won the 1991 Western Region Agribusiness Sales/Service Proficiency Award, is now a junior at Washington State University majoring in agribusiness. He plans to continue in the export business after graduating.

He says he enjoys doing business with the Japanese. "They're very good to work with." The Schornos used to deal on an order-by-order basis, but are now on six-month and yearly contracts with the trading companies.

This success is due in part to the Schornos making sure their foreign customers' needs are fulfilled. He enjoys talking to the traders when he accompanies the horses to Japan, and tries to find out more information about their future livestock needs. "As Americans, we might think they want the same things we would — but we have to learn what the customer wants." ●●●

The Agribusiness Sales/Service Proficiency Award is sponsored by Chevrolet Motor Division-Trucks, ICI Americas Inc., SmithKline Beecham Animal Health and Northrup King Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

# Sports Champions

By Chris Feaver

**J**oe Montana. Quarterback. NFL legend. Say his name slowly and deeply and with great reverence. Joe Montana. He is not compared with the football quarterbacks of today. It is a given that he is in a different class. He is only compared with the games' all-time greats.

Yet, if you look at him, he is the most unlikely of great football heroes. He is not very big in football terms (6-2, 195 pounds). Though he is agile, he is not very fast. His arm strength is near the bottom of all quarterbacks in the NFL. So what is it about Montana that possibly makes him the greatest player of all time?

Opponents say it is a savvy and knack for the game that few have ever displayed. He has an ability and style and the absolute confidence to make opponents miss him while he is firing the football at just the right moment to just the right place. Montana, at 35 years-old, has the highest rating of any quarterback in NFL history. He has led the San Francisco 49ers to four Super Bowl titles. He has been on seven Pro-Bowl teams, and has won three Super Bowl MVP Awards.

But perhaps his greatest asset, and what helps to add to his legend the most, is his ability to lead the team to comeback victories. For example, in the 1989 Super bowl against Cincinnati, Montana drove the 49ers 92 yards in 3 minutes and 20 seconds to snatch victory away from the Bengals and give San Francisco a 20-16 victory. During The Drive, Montana completed eight of nine passes, including the 10-yard touchdown pass to John Taylor with 34 seconds left in the game. Montana says that during the final drive, he was so nervous he nearly hyperventilated. His teammates say he was so cool he was identifying movie stars in the stands during the huddle.

But that comeback is just the tip of the iceberg. Since becoming the 49ers starting quarterback in 1981, Montana has led the team to 26 comeback victories. Fans and players alike have come almost to expect it. If San Francisco is close, late in the game, their opponent better not let the 49ers get the ball, because Montana will probably beat you.

Montana's heroics were not just limited to the pros. In his final college game at Notre Dame, he led the Fighting Irish from 23 points down in the final 7:37 to win the 1979 Cotton Bowl 35-34 over Houston.

Seeing his heroic exploits, one might think that Montana has been able to do almost whatever he wanted from day one. But that has hardly been the case. It is not just during the football games that Joe Montana mounts comebacks. Growing up in Monongahela, Pennsylvania, Montana was benched as a quarterback in his junior year, before coming back. At Notre Dame, Montana was benched constantly. At one time, he was the team's seventh string quarterback, before finally winning the job for good his senior year. The pros were not overly impressed by Montana. He was not drafted until the third round while other quarterbacks, such as Jack Thompson and Steve Fuller, went earlier. In 1986, he had to have back surgery. Doctors doubted he would ever be able to play again. He came back before the



Joe Montana

season was over and led the 49ers to the playoffs.

When last the public saw Joe Montana, he was being taken from the field of San Francisco's Candlestick Park after being badly injured in the NFC title game against the New York Giants. Montana had led the 49ers to a 14-2 regular-season record. After his injury,

the Niners lost the game 15-13, missing out on a chance to win a third consecutive NFL title. Many feel that if Montana had been able to stay healthy for the rest of the game, San Francisco would have been able to pull it out.

This season, talk around the league is that the San Francisco dynasty is through. The team is old and has lost much of the talent from their previous Super Bowl victories. But they still have Montana, though he has been bothered by a sore elbow this year. And nobody believes that Joe Montana has run out of comebacks yet.

...

# CHAPTER SCOOP

FFA in Fessenden, **North Dakota**, constructed a mini-jail during a carnival to help raise funds for new playground equipment for the elementary school.

When elementary students left the Ag Awareness Day event held by Mineral County, **West Virginia**, FFA each received a pamphlet and a certificate for attending.

Junior officers of the Verdigre, **Nebraska**, Chapter make up the membership development committee. Each year the three junior officers go talk to the eighth graders about enrolling in agriculture and joining FFA.



Members of St. Johnsville, **New York**, FFA are growing various herbs such as dill, parsley, and anise in the school greenhouse to sell to local customers.

**Bryan, Texas**, members collect newspapers from local radio stations to recycle.

The new Alumni Affiliate for the Alexandria, **New York**, FFA Chapter was joined by FFA members to pick up 10 bags of litter from the streets of the community.

The FFA car wash in New Smyrna Beach, **Florida**, will support *Jennifer Kelly's* campaign for state officer next summer.

*Cindy Fletcher* attended the school board meeting on behalf of the Fullerton, **California**, FFA when the board passed a resolution recognizing National FFA Week.

Door prizes at Laredo-Martin, **Texas**, FFA banquet were vegetable baskets filled with produce grown by the members in the school garden.

Greenville, **Ohio**, FFA recognized 19 members for perfect attendance at chapter meetings.

Riverton, **Kansas**, chapter officers held a car wash and rummage sale. They raised enough money for new officer jackets and pins, plus one night's lodging for the team at national convention.

Members in Jefferson, **Missouri**, painted the lines and numbers at their high school parking lot.

Waller, **Texas**, FFA hosted a banquet for the buyers and sellers at the chapter's project show in April.

*There is a spot in this column for your chapter's useful idea for recruiting new members, raising more funds, having fun at a chapter meeting, getting more committee participation, promoting FFA, developing a program of activities. Just send it to "A Hot Scoop" Idea, Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309.*

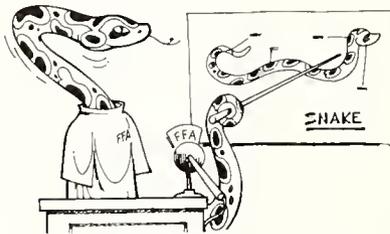


At the annual FFA banquet in Nokomis, **Illinois**, the chapter officers presented their advisor with a gift to complete his official dress — a pair of FFA boxer shorts. They also gave him an official FFA advisor's jacket.

The 15 seniors in the Gilman, **Wisconsin**, FFA took a senior trip to Mackinaw Island, Michigan, with money raised from a scrap steel recycling project.

Bridgewater, **South Dakota**, FFA members had a chapter get-away in Sioux Falls at the end of the school year.

*Mindy Reinhart*, reporter for Douglas, **Oregon**, sent news that members from her chapter visited the Camas Valley Chapter banquet. "We enjoyed the speaker and program, thought the set up was nice, and appreciated the friendship shown us."



The Genoa, **Ohio**, FFA hosted a guest lecturer who spoke on reptiles' natural habitat, diet, body weight and length, and the way snakes adapt to captivity. *Michael Jacobs* brought a Burmese Python and a Tree Boa.

Chapter members of Des Lacs-Burlington, **North Dakota**, worked eight-hour shifts for the annual KMOT-TV Ag Expo. They answered the phone, provided message service to exhibitors and showed guests to their destinations.



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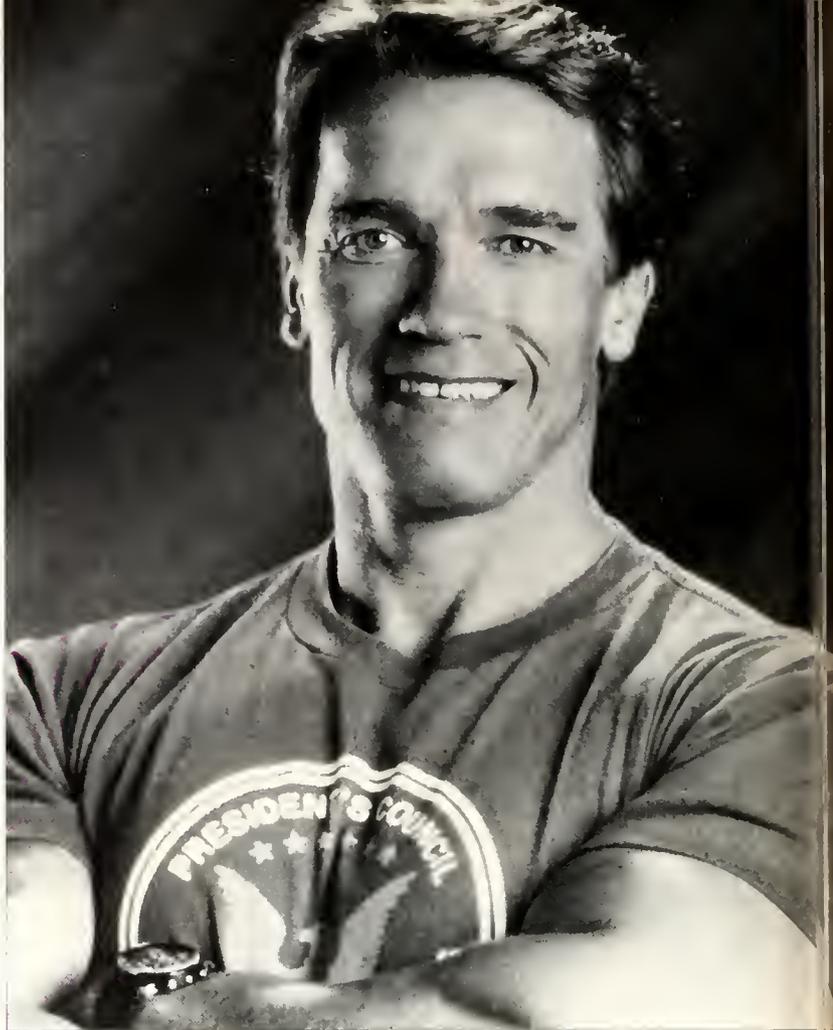
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# We're Gonna Pump You Up!



Arnold Schwarzenegger

## **Terminator 2 star Arnold Schwarzenegger will put national FFA convention guests through physical fitness workout**

**Y**ou can almost hear the threads of 20,000 FFA jackets straining at the thought of film star/body-builder Arnold Schwarzenegger leading FFA members in a physical fitness workout during the Thursday afternoon session of the 64th National FFA Convention.

The convention, held November 14-16 in Kansas City, Missouri, will be the site of national FFA award announcements, national contest finals, the National Agricultural Career Show and an exciting list of convention speakers, including Schwarzenegger.

The former five-times Mr. Universe will conduct what could be the largest organized exercise class ever when he puts FFA members assembled in the Municipal Auditorium through a personal physical fitness routine. The star of this summer's hit *Terminator 2*, and other

films such as *Total Recall*, *Conan the Barbarian* and *Twins*, also serves as chairman of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

### **Speakers**

Other speakers include Captain Gerald Coffee, former Vietnam prisoner of war; Jerry Clower, country comedian; Jack Parnell, former deputy secretary of agriculture and motivational speakers Dave Roeber and Scott McKain.

### **More Highlights**

Here are a handful of other highlights at this year's convention: Guam and the Virgin Islands are expected to receive their state FFA association charter at this year's convention.

More FFA members than ever (475 in

all) will serve as delegates to the convention representing their home states. The delegates work together in shaping the direction of the National FFA Organization.

The new Agricultural Sales Contest will be held for the first time on the national level.

A new team of national officers will be elected at the closing of convention. The registration fee for the national FFA convention is \$20.

### **Special Meal Events**

Tell mom not to worry about you getting plenty to eat. A number of special meal events are open to all members and advisors.

*National FFA Alumni Banquet* — November 13, 4:45 p.m., Bartle Hall, Room 213. This banquet is for everyone attend-

ing the Alumni National Convention and anyone else who are interested. The big Alumni fund-raising auction follows. Price is \$10.

*National Chapter Recognition Luncheon* — November 14, noon, Bartle-Grand Hall. This event honors chapters who are gold, silver or bronze winners in the National Chapter, Safety and BOAC award programs. Price is \$10.

*American FFA Degree Recipient Luncheon* — Friday, November 15, noon, (serving lines open at 11:30 a.m.), Bartle Grand Hall. This luncheon honors American FFA Degree recipients. Price is \$10.

*National Leadership Dinner* — Friday, November 15, 5 p.m., Bartle-Grand Hall. Join chapter and state FFA officers, past Washington Conference Program and Made For Excellence participants for a fun meal and an inspirational address by Dave Roever. Price is \$10.

Tickets can be purchased through the mail. They are not refundable but are transferable. Make checks payable to: "National FFA." Checks must accompany the ticket order. Do not send cash. Tickets must be picked up at the Special Meal Ticket Booth in the lobby of H. Roe Bartle Hall located next to convention registration.

List each meal and the number of tickets desired and return with check to: Meal Tickets, National FFA Center, Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309-0160.

## Career Show

The National Agricultural Career Show attracts hundreds of exhibitors representing agribusiness, universities, military services and others. The grand opening will be at noon on Wednesday, November 13.



## National FFA Convention November 14-16

October-November, 1991

## American Royal

FFA members attending the American Royal rodeo get a \$2 discount for performances for November 13-16. Performances include: Mark Chestnut, Wednesday, November 13, 7:30 p.m. — \$8, \$10 & \$12; Shenandoah, Thursday, November 14, 1 p.m. — \$6, 7:30 p.m. — \$8, \$10 & \$12; Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Friday, November 15, 1 p.m. — \$6, 7:30 p.m. — \$8, \$10 & \$12; Charlie Daniels Band, Saturday, November 16, 1 p.m. — \$6, \$8, \$10, 7:30 p.m. \$8, \$10 & \$12.

Tickets will be on sale in the lobby of Bartle Hall, Wednesday through Friday.

## Alumni Convention

Orion Samuelson of WGN Radio, Chicago, will be the featured speaker at the National FFA Alumni Convention held Wednesday, November 13. The convention begins at 9 a.m. at Room 209 Bartle Hall and finishes with the annual Alumni auction in Room 212 where a Chevrolet 4-wheel drive 1992 pick-up truck and other exciting items will be sold to the highest bidder.

## Looking Good



The national officers are asking all FFA members to make sure they come to Kansas City with a complete set of official dress. For guys, that includes black pants, white shirt, official FFA tie, black shoes, black socks and the FFA jacket zipped up to the top.

Official dress for female members include a black skirt or black slacks, white blouse, official FFA blue scarf, black shoes and the FFA jacket zipped to the top.

Door checkers at the Municipal Auditorium and at the Career Show will be checking for official dress. At the biggest FFA event of the year, why not look your best?

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# FFA Chapter Launches Recycling Project

**This Arkansas FFA Chapter, working with their Alumni, is taking the lead in recycling pesticide containers**

*By Jeff Tennant*

**H**ere's one you haven't heard: What do you get when you cross an FFA chapter president's concern with an FFA Alumni chairman's motivation?

In the case of Greene County Tech in Paragould, Arkansas, you get one of the largest, most ambitious service projects ever undertaken by Tech's FFA members and Alumni.

"When Tech FFA president Terry Griffen showed up in my office one day," recalls local Alumni president Tommy Jumper. "I knew something special was on his mind. I soon found out I was right."

Living in a productive, delta agricultural community, Griffen originally called on Jumper for help on an FFA speech about food safety. Terry left that day, though, with much more than speech material — he took home an idea that is drawing on the full resources of one of Arkansas's largest (175-plus members) FFA chapters and Alumni affiliates.

"Terry said he was frustrated that respect for the chapter seemed to be waning at the school," recalls Jumper, manager of a Cleveland Chemicals agricultural chemical and fertilizer store. "He thought the chapter should come up with a very dynamic project, one that showcased FFA members' ability to accomplish great things. With concern for the environment on everyone's mind, a container recycling project seemed a natural fit."



**Greene County Tech Alumni members help in the recycling program by processing the pesticide containers through the granulator.**

Photos by Author

Certainly, interest in pesticide container recycling is on the upswing throughout the U.S. A typical program includes these steps:

- a container "granulator" is made available
- collection sites are identified and containers collected
- volunteer operators and State Plant Board officials gather at a designated site to begin processing collected jugs
- granulated container "chips" are bagged and moved to a warehouse for pick-up, then
- container manufacturing companies buy the granules, eliminate any pesticide residue, and re-form containers utilizing 50 percent "new" plastic and 50 percent recycled granules.

Container recycling involves an expensive "granulator" machine, but success of the procedure also requires knowledgeable volunteers to conduct an educational program for farmers, set up and receive containers at collection points and operate recycling equipment.

That's where FFA comes in.

"We originally thought FFA could handle the project entirely on their own," says Tommy Jumper. "The school was concerned, however, about student liability, so Alumni members stepped in. We're actually running the machine and helping with finances, but FFA members are very much involved in all other aspects of the project."

## **A Major Hurdle**

Jumping one of the project's major hurdles — purchase of a granulator — enables Tech FFA to see firsthand the supportive attitude among area agribusinesses toward FFA activities. Through much assistance by Tommy Jumper, other Alumni members and the Arkansas Agricultural Pesticide Association (AAPA), contributed nearly \$14,000 for the machine.

"When the chapter first began talking about a granulator," recalls Larry Ramihun, chairman of AAPA's special projects committee, "we felt FFA's in-



**Tech FFA members distributed recycling information to farmers.**

volvement would spell success for a recycling effort. AAPA agreed to help raise money for the equipment needed, and we tapped on major distributors and chemical manufacturers for input. The response was extremely gratifying."

Ramthun, agricultural consultant for Farm Services Inc. (FSI), a seven-store farm supply cooperative affiliated with SF Services, Inc., took his role one step further. He also helped organize the chapter's first on-site recycling event, held on FSI's grounds. The Fertilizer Institute's *Dealer Progress Magazine* recently named FSI a regional winner of the "Environmental Respect Award." The award is sponsored by Du Pont Agricultural Products, and honors environmental stewardship among U.S. fertilizer/ag-chemical dealers.

With strong support among area agribusinesses and a granulator in place, Tech FFA members are gearing up for a massive educational campaign this fall. Tech teachers Terry Waits, Jerry Gilliam and Charles Harvill play major roles as well — at the first recycling event, all three donned gloves and goggles and went to work feeding and running the granulator. The foundation, though, for the project begins with collecting containers — and that means *work*.

### Hitting the Coffee Shops

"Now that school has started," says Tech FFA Historian Lee Lenderman, "we'll start putting our plans into action. We'll probably split up into teams and distribute our educational materials about container recycling. We'll visit farmer meetings of all kinds, hit the coffee shops, ag businesses — wherever we can get the word out about recycling."

Only about 15 percent of Arkansas's

containers are recycled now, says Tommy Jumper, so education is needed. "Once word is out," he says, "we believe we can recycle as much as 40 percent of the state's usage. It's best to start out with a manageable amount, however, to allow us to work out any bugs in the system."

The recycling project, says chapter advisor Terry Waits, provides many positive experiences for FFA members. "How often do you get a project," he asks, "that provides students with farm safety education, direct contact with farmers and agribusiness leaders, public speaking opportunities, plus the satisfaction of helping improve the environment? Working as partners with our Alumni members is yet another bonus."

Though not immediately a money-making project, recycling could eventually generate funds for FFA activities, Waits says. And, while that would be an added advantage, "breakeven" will suffice, he says, due to the project's major goals of community and farm service.

"One of the key elements of this project," adds Griffen, "is getting farmer cooperation to provide the containers for granulation. Success of the program rests in large part on the producers. Their job in this is to rinse their containers thoroughly soon after emptying, keep the containers on hand for later dumping and then get them to our granulator. This is what our educational program will emphasize this fall."

The recycling procedure is relatively simple, Griffen says, prompting him to envision a broader involvement by other FFA chapters and Alumni affiliates. While Advisor Waits foresees greater FFA involvement, the program is uniquely original at this point. "To my knowledge," says Du Pont's Dr. Ralph May, "this is the first effort by an FFA chapter to introduce a project like this. I've never seen a chapter take on a recycling project of this magnitude, and they're to be commended."

May, national coordinator of recycling programs for the National Agricultural Chemicals Association, sees the Paragould effort as an example of FFA involvement around the country. "I'm excited about the opportunities available in farm-related recycling," he says, "for both chapters and Alumni affiliates."

"This is the kind of project that can excite our members for a long time," concludes Advisor Waits. "Every time they see a load of empty containers, they'll think about environmental protection and safety. We're glad to be on the ground floor of an important service to our community, our environment and the business of agriculture." ●●●

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# State Degree Day

**Arddrie Williams has put up with long bus rides and other obstacles to pursue her FFA dreams**

**A**t 4:50 a.m. an alarm goes off in Arddrie Williams' mind, just as it has every school day for the past four years. Her real alarm clock is just a back-up.

The walls of her room reflect Arddrie's personality. Posters of Guns n' Roses and Michael Jordan hang next to Hereford, Angus and Quarter Horse pictures.

This is a special day for Arddrie, who lives on the south side of Chicago. She will interview for her state FFA degree this afternoon.

As she gets ready to go to the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), the morning routine is the same: Out of bed by 5 a.m. Wash up and eat breakfast. Starting at 5:30, watch the Flintstones and get dressed at the same time. Leave the house at 6 a.m. and walk in the dark to the bus stop where a city bus picks her up at 6:05. Ride the bus to the subway where she usually meets her friend and long-time locker partner, Patty Norwood (who stayed over last night cramming for the state degree interviews). Take the subway to another city bus and ride it to the bus stop across the street from school.

The commute is just one of the obstacles Arddrie, 18, has endured since she started at the Chicago agriculture school as a freshman. The constant teasing ranks pretty high. "A lot of people say, 'Chicago School for what kind of Sciences? You're going to be a farmer?'" says Arddrie, who is studying food science at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville



**Before the sun rises, Arddrie Williams, left, waits for the bus with Patty Norwood.**

***Arddrie rides two busses and a subway on her way to school every morning.***



starting this fall. "That used to really get on my nerves, but it doesn't bother me any more. Now, if somebody makes a crack about agriculture, I say, 'Hey, you like to eat and you're wearing clothing aren't you? You owe all of that to people like me who want to learn more to improve things for you in the future.'"

She says the magnet agricultural high school has helped in more ways than just a career direction. "If I hadn't gone to CHAS, I either would have been a cheerleader or gotten into a lot of fights," she says with a grin. "Being on the livestock judging team is a big difference."

After a full day of classes, Arddrie and about ten other CHAS FFA members ride a bus to a community college for their state degree interviews. They pour over their notes, trying to pick up any last-

**Arddrie thinks about her interview as she rides a city bus.**



**“A lot of people say,  
‘Chicago School for  
*what kind of*  
Sciences? You’re  
going to be a  
farmer?’”**

In a school where the FFA chapter serves as the student council, official dress doesn't draw much attention.



**Arddrie makes last-minute adjustments just before the big interview.**



**The review committee of agriculture teachers and a state officer ask tough, direct questions. Arddrie's studying pays off with confident answers.**

minute knowledge. After a nail-biting waiting period, Arddrie is one of the first to be interviewed.

The questions are direct, but her homework pays off in the form of well-thought-out answers. Her many FFA activities speak for themselves, including a Work Experience Abroad trip to Japan.

Four months later, on the campus of the University of Illinois-Champaign, Arddrie Williams left the stage at the Illinois FFA Convention with her state degree in hand. She was beaming, her family was proud, but her neighbors will probably never understand. ...



**Arddrie talks with Patty about the interview and their chances of getting the degree.**

*Story and photos by  
Andrew Markwart*

# FFA IN ACTION



Learning to climb trees safely includes some rescue training. It is also frightening sometimes, but always fun.

Arizona

## Hauling Hay

Antelope, Arizona, members participated in the hay hauling contest at the county fair. Each team was made up of three members exhibiting at the fair.

The object of the contest was to load 14 bales in the back of a Ford Ranger and drive through an obstacle course. The team with the fastest time won. Deductions were made if a door was left open, if bales fell out or if a bale was broken open.

The chapter had three winning teams enter the event. Tyson Stuhr, Bryan Lambert and Bryan Johnson made up the team called "Red Bearded Boogie Bail Buckers". They placed first in the men's division. The second place team was "Tres Amigos" which consisted of Ryan Stuhr, Clint Hathaway and Rad Ramsey. The Antelope girls team was Cristy Webster, Karli Johnson and Stephanie Kissel. They were called the "Tragic Trio" and took second in the girls division. (From the *Antelope FFA Newsletter*) ...

Ohio

## Sign Posts



Members of New Bremen, Ohio, FFA put up signs in support of an area school building levy. Jason Alig and Amy Poeppelman designed the signs which encouraged citizens to vote yes. Mike Moeller and Scott Rodeheffer did most of the painting on the signs. Members helped dig holes and set up the signs near the four main roads leading into New Bremen. (From *The Ohio FFA News*)

Ohio

## Learning the Ropes

It's the last day before spring break at Maplewood Joint Vocational School in Ohio and the members are swinging from the rafters — literally.

A natural resources student dangles by a 1/2-inch rope about four feet from the steel beams of the natural resources management area. He hesitates, then throws back his arms. He finds himself hanging upside-down in the climbing saddle — with his head pointed right at the concrete floor.

Learning to climb trees like a professional is sometimes scary, often tiring, but always fun. At Maplewood, students are taught by an instructor from The Davey Tree Expert Company, Mr. Dick Jones. He has put in many hours as a tree climber and trimmer and teaches others how to take to the treetops safely in Davey's tree care and climbing seminars, available for the students and their instructors.

When he first teaches students, he teaches on real trees — really tall trees, in fact, growing in an old cemetery across the street from the Davey headquarters in Kent, Ohio. This is the same spot where John Davey developed his climbing skills while founding the company in the late 1800s.

The objective of the seminar is to give young people an idea of what our field of arboriculture is all about," Jones says. Students have the opportunity to think about a career, experience some of the work and use the experience as part of their planning."

Students at Maplewood have tall praise for Mr. Jones and have awarded him with the Honorary Chapter Degree for the support of their program. (Shalleen Sinclair, communications assistant, Davey Tree Expert Company) ...

# MARKETPLACE

Wisconsin

## Leave Your Mark On the Wall



The New Glarus, Wisconsin, Chapter has developed a tradition for the senior class members to leave a gift in the agriculture classroom. Each year since 1987 the senior ag class has created some painting or design for the classroom wall.



One class incorporated the classroom clock as the hub of the tractor they painted for future generations to enjoy.



Also the class is allowed to leave their name and class year in a solid blue emblem adjacent to their work.

(Continued on Page 44)

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(Continued from Page 43)

Louisiana  
**Crawfish Lessons**

The Crowley, Louisiana, High School research farm provides the FFA members, as well as other students and adults from the community, an opportunity to observe and learn more about agriscience.

This summer the chapter hosted a tour for about 200 agriculture teachers who were in Louisiana for a regional meeting of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. The FFA members gave demonstrations around the farm and pond.

Tour stations included the wheat and soybean variety tests; square-foot gardens; the crawfish operation; bee keeping and honey production; animal farm; and shop tour.

The two-acre demonstration crawfish farm is small compared to commercial operations which can range from 40 to 400 acres. It is maintained by students who do all the work. The pond has been seeded and is producing some to sell. Members take orders for crawfish and profits from sales are used for future research projects.

Local companies support the chapter farm and pond. They have donated much equipment, feed, and one company donated the artificial bait students use to trap the crawfish.

According to advisor Louis Cramer, "If we're going to teach agriculture, we have to include aquaculture. We hope students will be starting out on a higher technical level when they leave here."...



The Crowley members demonstrated a crawfish combine in the school pond as an example of how farmers harvest crawfish.



Stephen Lemell, left, and Marcus Mathiew, standing in the water, demonstrated the use of a paddle wheel in a crawfish pond to maintain oxygen in the water.



Brad Thidodeaux demonstrated the use of a vibrating grader that crawfish farmers use to sort out the large crawfish in order to get the premium prices.

Ohio

**Students Against Dirty Water**

Ever wonder what the signs "no swimming" really mean? Students representing agricultural education in schools around Toledo, Ohio, attended a water quality congress to learn more about the subject. They tested water at different sites on the Ottawa River and Swan Creek.

After preparing a combined report on their test results, students met as work teams to find ways of correcting the problem or ways to let people know there is one.

In agricultural issues, Troy Deal from Lake High School and Rich Henneman from Libbey High School learned about farming practices that cause pollution and ways to stop it.

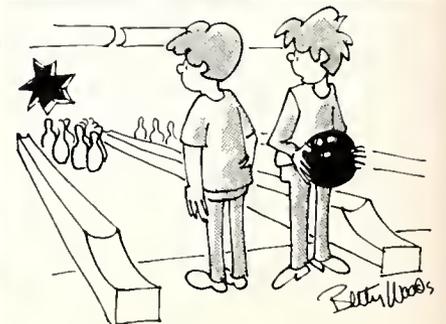
In art and advertising, Leslie Bitz from Libbey High and Tom Doyle from Rogers High School made posters to positively stress the importance of clean water and cleaning up pollution.

In conservation, Ivole Caudill from Rogers and Tony Ferrari from Woodward High helped plan the idea of adopting sections of the Ottawa River and Swan Creek and cleaning up both.

In landuse planning, Mike Dufer from Waite High School discussed ideas about the land around the River and Creek as well as planned building projects on existing flood plains.

In law and legislation, Shawn Monaghan from Bowsher High learned about the legal ways of stopping the pollution from illegal dumps and old leaking dump sites.

In parks and recreation, Joe Periat from Devilbiss High learned what needs to be done so water recreation can return to area watersheds. (Leslie Bitz) ...



"Aim lower."

# MY TURN

*Mark H. Timm*



Mark Timm

The number one selling T-shirt in Japan last year carried the slogan, "We're #1." In the United States, our number one selling T-shirt boasted "Underachiever and proud of it." Our country has an attitude problem. What are we going to do about it?

Young Americans have the potential to make a difference in today's society by getting involved and taking action. If you want to change something, or make a difference, remember it all starts at the local level. You don't have to do everything on a grand scale. Even the biggest ideas and projects get down to individuals taking action. The popular environmental phrase "Think Globally, Act Locally," reminds us that the most important impact we can have is in our own hometowns or neighborhoods.

The FFA is a huge national organization of 7,800 chapters and over 380,000 members. This national organization is only strong if the individual members and chapters are active. As an FFA member, if you don't like something, take action and change it. "Complainers" don't accomplish anything. It is the "doers" that make the difference.

When I look at my FFA career, it was the national FFA convention in 1985 that inspired me to get more active in my chapter. I worked hard in the South Putnam, Indiana, chapter to earn a trip to Kansas City, Missouri. I was only a freshman, but that week was a revelation about what I could accomplish in the FFA.

I took the motivation and leadership skills I had absorbed from that convention back home and dug into my chapter's activities. Thousands of FFA members will experience the same discovery I did six years ago at the 1991 National FFA Convention in November.

An event like a convention helps you see lots of opportunities, but it still comes down to a personal decision, "Do I want to make a difference in my FFA chapter/school/hometown or not?" You don't need a convention to make that choice.

This country was founded on the involvement of the local citizen. In America we have the freedom of choice and the right to vote. Other countries are starting to catch on. For the first time, the Soviet Union, Romania and eastern Germany are just beginning to experience the same kinds of freedoms we take for granted. The people in these countries have fought and suffered to be involved in steering their countries, yet in the the last U.S. presidential election, only 50 percent of the people of voting age took the time to cast their vote.

In the book "The Best of Success," Michael Korda says, "Success on any major scale requires you to accept responsibility...In the final analysis, the one quality that all successful people have...is the ability to take on responsibility." As the future of America and the FFA, you are going to be called upon to take action and accept the responsibility. What are you going to do with it? ...

---

**Our country has an attitude problem.**

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## FFA's Excellent Adventure



(Continued from Page 19)

problems too. Raisers of yams have traditionally cut down trees to make room for planting. Trees were lost and erosion resulted. In Yap, a contest was started to see who could grow the largest yam in a spot where no tree had been cut down. Since a yam can grow as big as 1,500 pounds, it is a source of great local pride to win such a contest. Over time, McKay hopes methods will change.

### Jerome's cabbages and tapioca fries

The new program has already started changing lives. After coming to America to work with a midwestern cattle operation, Jerome Falabthin spent three weeks in California at McKay's agriculture institute. He returned home to Yap, ready to launch a cabbage project. Growing cabbages for three hotels on the island should produce a healthy annual income for Falabthin, about \$20,000 a year. He is experimenting with the notion of substituting tapioca for the more expensive potato in making french fries.

While Falabthin would like to come to the U.S. for college, he's seen the opportunity that exists in the islands. He is likely to return rather than settle in the U.S. This, says McKay, is the key to improving the quality of life there. If the young people see that there is money to be made in agriculture, the supplies of fresh foods will increase along with the demand as islanders get used to eating such things. Eventually this could spur tourism and raise the standard of living.

### An FFA United Nations

In mid-August Steve McKay and the staff at Anderson Valley were busy. McKay was off to Hawaii to greet students on their way to California. About 18 students from Thailand, American Samoa, the Philippines, the Virgin Islands and from Micronesia: Belau, Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan, Chuuk, Kosrae and the Marshall Islands were on their way to Anderson Valley. After months of study, these young people will return to their islands to help with projects like community gardens and aquaculture.

Since California exports many of its agricultural products to Micronesia, McKay says it is in the mainland's best interest to start getting involved with the islands. "Trade-wise, we're connected with these people," he says, "developing their agriculture benefits all of us." ...

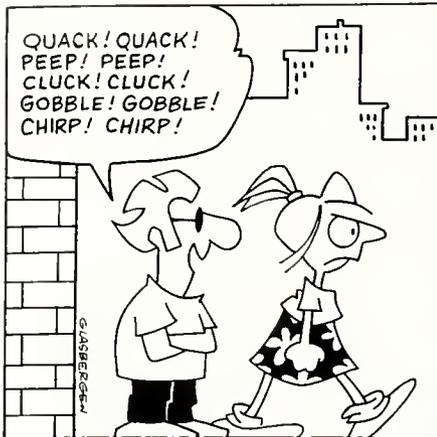
# JOKE PAGE

A father was teaching his teenager how to drive. As the teenager tried to slow the car, the brakes failed.

"What do I do?" the teen cried. "What do I do?"

The father took a deep breath and said, "Try to hit something cheap!"

Ben Van Dyke  
Hermiston, Oregon



Cynthia thought Vince was cool, but hated his use of fowl language.

A motorist was traveling along an old country road when he came upon a stream of water that ran through the middle of the road. It prevented him from getting across. The motorist looked out his window and saw a farmer along side the stream.

"Think I can make it across?" yelled the motorist.

"Shucks. Guess you can," replied the farmer.

The motorist nodded and proceeded to drive across. His car began to sink and the motorist barely escaped with his life.

"What did you mean I could get across!" yelled the angry wet motorist.

"Shucks," said the farmer, scratching his head, "It only reaches to the middle of the ducks."

Daphne Curtin  
St. Paris, Ohio

Bill: "Have you ever seen the Rockies?"

Bob: "Yes. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5!"

Derrick Johnson  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The Greenhand was late for school, and the superintendent, seeing him slip in, detained him and asked the reason. The Greenhand studied for a moment, then blurted out. "I started to go fishing instead, but my father wouldn't let me."

The superintendent smiled and said, "A wise man your father. He was quite right not to let you go. Did he explain to you why?"

The Greenhand nodded. "Oh, yes, Sir. He said 'there wasn't enough bait for the both of us.'"

Marvin Quick  
Spencer, West Virginia

Q: Why are there goose bumps?

A: So the geese don't speed.

Charity Peters  
Tecumseh, Oklahoma

"What's bothering Barb?" asked one lady at a bridge party. "She looks furious."

"Oh, she's trying to reduce," another lady said. "She just weighed herself on one of those scales with the new speaking attachment—and when she stepped on it, the voice said, 'One a time please.'"

Kevin Spear  
Creswell, North Carolina

One day Billy came home from school. His face was bruised.

"You've been fighting again," his mother said. "Didn't I tell you that when you get angry, you should close your eyes and count to 100?"

"Yes, you did," Billy said. "But the other guy's mother told him to count to 50."

Ryan Keplinger  
Moorefield, West Virginia

## Charlie, the Greenhand

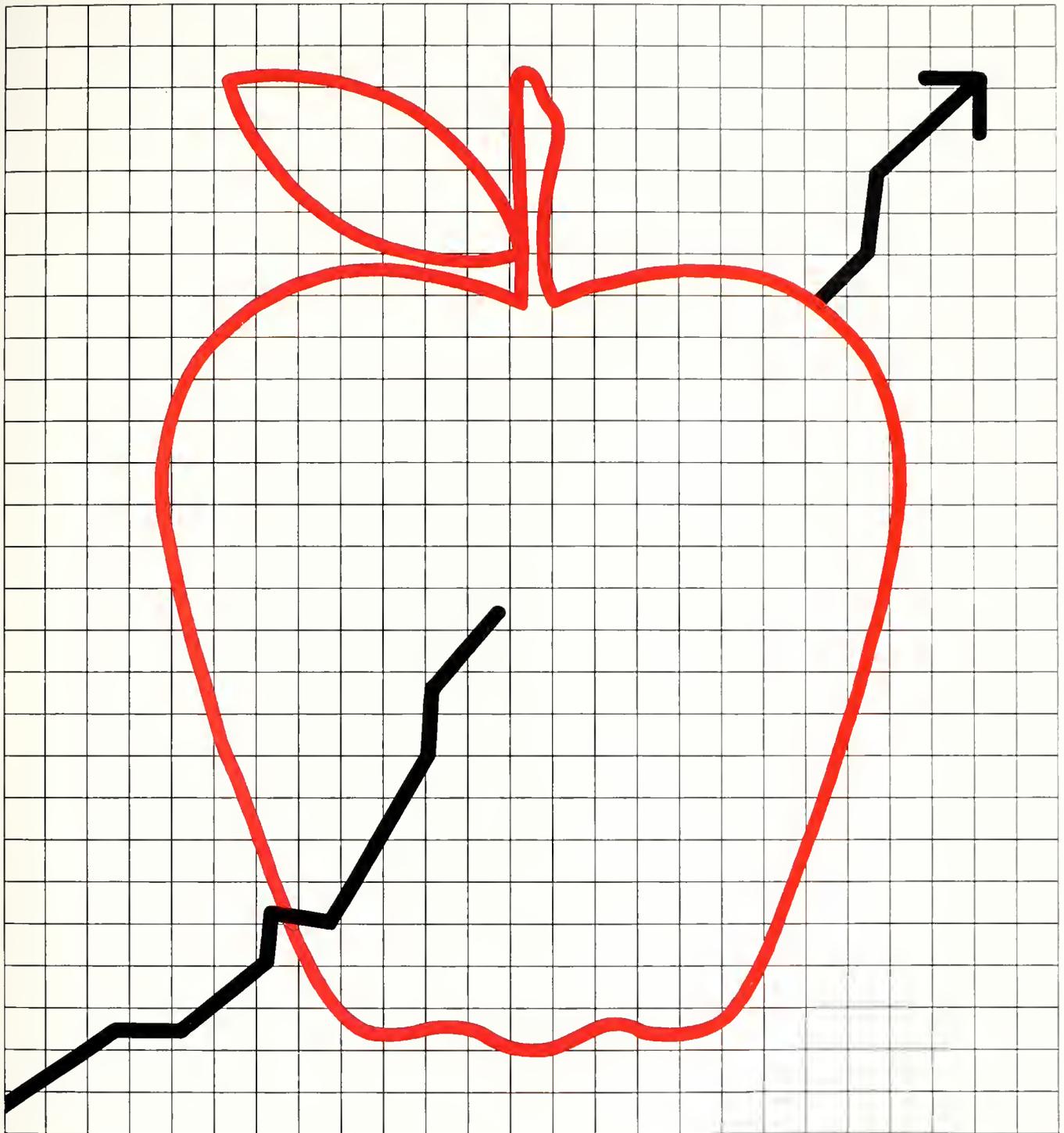


"Charlie, you were a Greenhand in 1955 when I first started on this magazine. I'm retiring, but you're still a teenager. What's your secret?"

### NOTICE

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