

**FFA**

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1990

# New Horizons

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

**Washington  
Welcomes FFA**

**Convention  
Delegates  
to Vote on  
New Creed**

*Mr. J. Carver  
District  
President*



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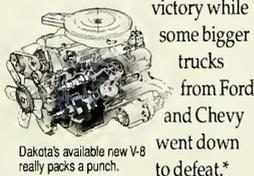
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# FFA New Horizons

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

October-November, 1990

Volume 39 Number 1

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### Red, White and Blue...and Gold!

Brad Carver of the Peetz, Colorado FFA Chapter visited the Iwo Jima Memorial and many historical sites in Washington, D.C., during his week at the Washington Conference Program. Photo by Scott Stump.

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## Magazine Staff

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*Senior Editor*, John M. Pitzer  
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## Advertising Offices

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# NEWS IN BRIEF



## New Reporter's Handbook

The new FFA Reporter's Handbook is now available through the Supply Service for \$3.50 (Item RB). The handbook was created to help chapter reporters organize their work and get more out of their year as the chapter's top communicator. The Reporter's Handbook covers public relations, writing, photography, design, special events, public speaking and much more. It also profiles some of agriculture's top communicators who got their start in the FFA.

The handbook was sponsored by the Stuart Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

## Fun with Science

FastPlants and Bottle Biology will be the focus of new agriscience activities in high schools around the country. The National Council for Agricultural Education through the National FFA Foundation, has launched a program to move science education from "textbook based" to "activity based" instruction using real world examples as they apply to the agricultural sciences. The project is funded by a \$746,380 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The project establishes a 3-year program that will utilize an Agriscience Institute for quality agriculture and science teacher teams, preferably from the same high school. During the Institute, the teams will develop new hands-on instructional materials for use in their classrooms, using FastPlants and Bottle Biology. Sum-

mer workshops will also show 4,800 to 6,000 other agriculture and science teachers across the nation how to use the activities in their classrooms.

FastPlants are rapid cycling brassicas (from the cabbage family) that reproduce from seed to seed in 35 days. Bottle Biology uses inexpensive materials to make digesters in which students can learn about food, food safety, environmental issues, composting, methane gas, bacteria, molds, insects and other studies limited only by students' imaginations.

## At the FFA Board Meeting...

The National FFA Board of Directors, including the national officers, made a number of important decisions during their annual summer meeting held July 16-19.

The board and national officers approved a new FFA Creed to be submitted for consideration by the delegates at the 63rd National FFA Convention. (See page 18 for related story.)

The board also approved a constitutional amendment to be sent to the delegates dealing with delegate apportionment. The plan, called the "Fixed 400" amendment, would set the number of delegates to national convention at 400. The delegate body would consist of two delegates from each state plus additional delegates from each state association based on the state association's percentage of national FFA membership. (See page 12 for related story.)

In the areas of Contests and Awards, the board approved a motion stipulating that members of a state contest team may be from either the same or different schools as determined by the state supervisor of agricultural education. It was recommended that all team members come from the same school.

A proposal was approved by the board to designate, beginning this year, six at-large BOAC National Finalist Chapters in addition to the four regional winners who are automatically finalists. Four national awards are to be announced, unranked, at the national BOAC conference, and the first, second, third and fourth-place awards will be announced at the national FFA convention.

The board also moved to determine the feasibility of establishing a National Parliamentary Law contest.



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**M A I L B A G**



**Pen-Friends From Korea**

I am a member of Future Farmers of Korea, attending the Cheju Agricultural High School. At a recent meeting FFCOHS decided to form a pen-pal club. We want to find pen-friends from FFA chapters in other countries.

I hope anyone interested will write to me giving his or her name, age, grade, special concerns and hobbies. By comparing this information we can match you with an appropriate pen-friend.

*Young-wook Kim, Pen-pal Club  
c/o FFA New Horizons  
P.O. Box 15160  
Alexandria, Virginia 22309-0160*

**Outdated Creed**

I strongly agree with the author's statements that the creed is outdated and extremely narrow in its scope (June-July 1990, pg 12, "I Believe...")

The FFA Creed is only one small change that must occur now if agricultural education and the FFA are to be viable in

the 1990s. There must be a philosophy that attracts students interested in horticulture, aquaculture, small equipment sales and service, interior plantscaping and the multitude of agriculturally related occupations that are available to them. Today's FFA Creed is presenting a negative influence on the majority of students entering agriscience and technology programs. Action is already ten years too late so we must move forward at an accelerated pace.

*Dale L. Schutt  
Glastonbury, Connecticut*

**Mural**

The picture of the new FFA mural is truly beautiful (August-September, 1990, pg 28-29).

I am so proud of the people who take the time to make the FFA more special.

I feel that we cannot praise Karen Kleinschuster enough on the excellent work she has produced for the FFA.

*Peggy Achilles  
Danville, Vermont*

**Donnell Duck**

It has been a wonderful experience serving as your National President and I'm looking forward to the rest of the year.

But, I do have one problem. People have trouble pronouncing my name, so I thought here is an easy way to remember it. Say it just like "Donald" Duck without a "d" on the end.

Thanks for remembering and I hope to see you soon.

*Donnell Brown  
Throckmorton, Texas*

**Oops!**

In the article "For the Birds" (pg 22, August-September, 1990) the sponsor of the Wildlife Management Proficiency Award is listed incorrectly. For the past four years, the Prudential Foundation has sponsored this award, not the FFA General Fund.

*Send letters or notes with name, address and chapter to MAILBAG, FFA New Horizons, P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309. All letters are subject to editing.*



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# LOOKING AHEAD

## Wasps Bug Shuttle Towers

The shuttle launch pads at Kennedy Space Center have become a favorite hang-out for paper wasps, and a U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist is helping NASA find ways to lure them away.

Every fall and winter for the past five years, paper wasps have been flying to the tops of the launch pads at Cape Canaveral to mate and hibernate, according to entomologist Peter J. Landolt of USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

NASA officials, concerned for employee safety and the sensitive shuttle equipment, contacted Landolt for help in controlling the problem. "We want to develop a bait-trap system that will keep the wasps off the shuttle," said Landolt.

Chemical poisons aren't a good alternative, he said, partly because of concern for sensitive equipment and partly because the space center is located on a wildlife refuge.

Male and female wasps emit sex chemicals, or pheromones, to attract each other. Landolt said he will work with a chemist to reproduce those odors, which will be used to lure female wasps into a trap. He estimates it will take about two years to develop the trapping system.

## Most Well Water Okay

The vast majority of rural wells in agricultural areas are free of contamination from several commonly used herbicides, according to the largest study of its kind ever completed.

Approximately 87 percent of the estimated 6 million wells in the survey area are expected to be completely free of any detectable levels of the five herbicides studied. Where herbicides are detected, the typical trace levels found are well below the health-based standard set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). More than 99 percent of all wells are projected to show no herbicide levels exceeding the EPA standard for drinking water quality.

The National Alachlor Well Water Survey looked at nearly 1,430 wells in 26 states. It was designed by Monsanto Agricultural Company and Research Triangle Institute (RTI) with active participation by and approval of EPA. RTI is a non-profit, independent research organization located in Research Triangle Park, N.C.



USDA Photo

**Hoping to devise a way to keep wasps away from Kennedy Space Center towers, USDA entomologists Peter Landolt (left) and Hal Reed collect specimens for study.**

## International Symposium on Sustainable Agriculture

The National FFA Organization has joined with other agricultural, conservation, industry and environmental leaders in sponsoring the first international symposium on sustainable agriculture this fall.

Growing Into the 21st Century — to be held October 8-10, 1990, in Memphis, Tennessee — will offer agricultural producers, agribusiness leaders and the public an in-depth look at economically viable, environmentally sound farming methods.

Panel discussions will highlight a variety of issues related to sustainable farming, including natural resource management, public policy, consumer concerns, profitability and technology. Speakers will include conventional and sustainable producers, agribusiness leaders, legislators, economists, university researchers, environmentalists, professional farm managers and federal agency officials.

For more information on the symposium, please contact: the National Association of Conservation Districts, 509 Capitol Ct., N.E., Washington, DC 20002.

## Midwest Ethanol Instead of Mid-East Oil

Some U. S. corn growers are saying that increased production and consumption of ethanol would be one of the best ways to lower dependence on oil from the turbulent Persian Gulf. "The current situation in the Middle East is proof our country is taking the wrong approach towards energy needs," said Lee Qualm, president of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association (SDCGA). "We rely on energy imported from a dangerous and unpredictable region of the world. Now we're going to pay for it."

For the past several years, South Dakota corn growers have been promoting the production and consumption of ethanol and have been warning the public that another oil crisis was just over the horizon. Ethanol, made from corn and other grains, is a renewable fuel source produced in the United States. Ethanol production reduced oil imports by 30 million barrels last year.

Qualm says now is the time for consumers to rally around the domestic ethanol industry. "Iraq and Kuwait account for about 8.7 percent of our imported oil. If all Americans would use high quality 10 percent ethanol blends, we wouldn't need the oil from those areas."

Every 30 gallons of ethanol used in the U.S. translates to one less barrel of oil imported. The domestic ethanol industry also helps the rural economy and the environment, Qualm added.

## Healthier French Fries

McDonalds will soon be using a corn-cottonseed oil blend to cook their world-famous french fries in response to the demands of health-conscious consumers. Following the same trend, Wendy's will be using 100 percent corn oil for its frying needs and Burger King is switching to a blend of soy and cottonseed oils.

The oils are lower in fat and cholesterol than the tropical oils and animal fats used by the fast food giants in the past. Hardee's was the first to make the switch to domestically grown, healthier oils last year. Corn, soybean and cottonseed growers will benefit from a strengthened demand for their commodities. For example, a bushel of corn contains 1.5 pounds of corn oil.



## THE BOTTOM LINE

**W**illiam Paul Gray, the national FFA Executive Secretary for 19 and a half years died July 29, at his home in Loveland, Colorado, after a long illness. He was 79.

Agriculture teacher, World War II veteran, assistant state supervisor, college professor, FFA executive secretary—these are just some of the achievements in Mr. Gray's professional career that spanned over 40 years.

An energetic, tireless worker, his happiest moments were when he was working with FFA members. He especially treasured his work with the national FFA officers, causing one to say, "His influence on our personal lives as a near second father will remain for our lifetimes..."

As an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, Mr. Gray had a special relationship with his students. It was perhaps best described by the late Elmer Johnson who once said, "As a member of the supervisory staff in Colorado, I visited Paul Gray several times when he was teaching. He did a lot of hunting and fishing in those days and he always had some of the boys with him. But, oh, they respected him." He further added that, "As a teacher he was very innovative, always getting something started...purebred livestock, certified seed and the like."

I remember Mr. Gray had a great sense of humor, enjoyed a practical joke and could keep you spellbound with his stories. But he was serious when it came to his work and FFA. When he was national executive secretary, it was not unusual for him to awaken at three or four o'clock in the morning, work at home till seven and then go to the office.

In June, 1957, Mr. Gray was appointed the first full-time national executive secretary of FFA, and held that position until his retirement on December 16, 1976, from the U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.

In 1941, Mr. Gray married the former Edna May Glover, who survives him. Memorials may be in the form of contributions to the William Paul Gray Scholarship fund at Colorado State University, which Mr. Gray started.

Mere words in a column such as this cannot do justice to the accomplishments of Mr. Gray. The most we can say is that FFA is a better organization today because of his efforts.

*Wilson Carnes*

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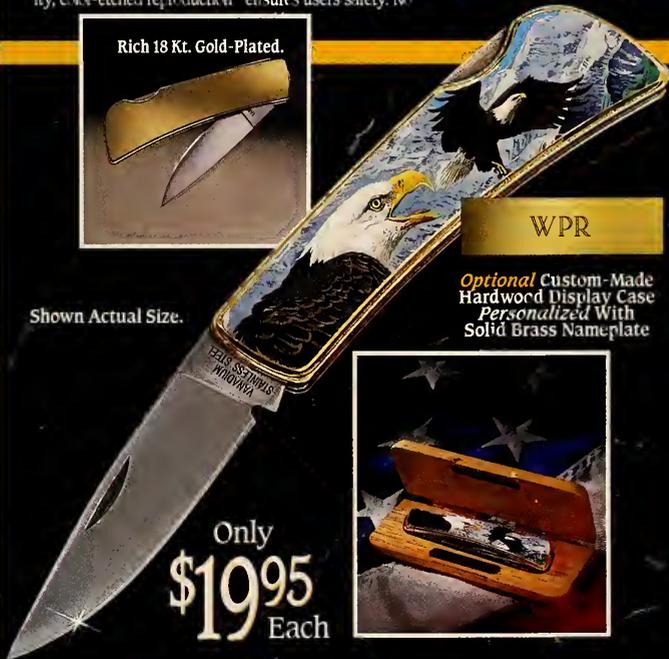
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# State Leaders Go To Work

## State officers discuss national issues, prepare for convention.

By Sue Mantey and Beth Fulton

**F**or the first time in FFA history, state FFA officers got a head start on their delegate work for the National FFA Convention at the State Presidents' Conference.

This year's conference was held at the Crystal City Marriott near Washington, D.C., from July 24-27. Two representatives from each state and Puerto Rico assembled in the nation's capitol for a week filled with leadership and delegate training sessions.

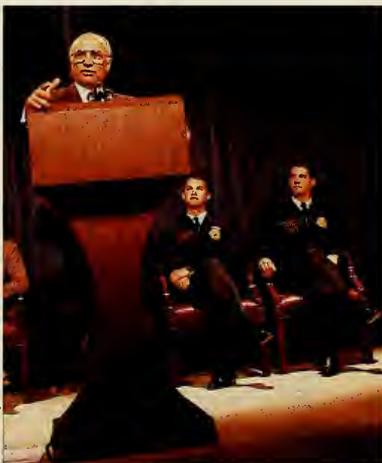
State Presidents' Conference is the first time each year's state officers meet to discuss proposals that affect members across the country. "FFA trains leaders to discuss issues and conduct business effectively," said Jody Bickel, Virginia state president. "No other organization has a delegate system like the FFA."

In the past, delegates were often unsure of their responsibilities when they arrived at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. At the 1989 convention, delegates passed a constitutional amendment that increased the number of FFA members serving as convention delegates and changed the delegate committee structure. There will be 267 voting delegates at the '90 Convention, up from the 113 at last year's convention. Under the new system, ten programmatic committees are each divided into four sub-committees. All 50 committees are chaired by state officers who attended this year's State Presidents' Conference.

"The delegates spent more time preparing for their convention committee work at this year's State Presidents' Conference than they usually do in Kansas City," said Marshall Stewart, FFA program specialist, membership development. "Students now have a larger role to play in meeting agendas and decisions.



Senator Robert Dole, Kansas, met on the Capitol steps with participants from the State Presidents' conference, Alumni State Leaders conference and the Washington Conference Program.



Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutler spoke to state and national FFA officers at the White House including Brad Lewis, center, and Donnell Brown.

Through the new system, delegates will be better educated about convention issues, will serve on broader committees and have more input in the decision-making process."

Two major issues will face the delegates at this year's national convention. They will vote on a proposed new FFA creed and a new delegate representation plan, known as "Fixed 400". (See sidebar.)

In addition to preparing for November, the state officers heard from many government leaders. State officers met with their congressmen during a luncheon where the featured speaker, U.S. Representative Fred Grandy, R-Iowa, talked about the Farm Bill and agriculture's evolving role. "Agriculture is going to change," said Grandy. "It could be by 1999 when we sit down to write a farm bill with our European counterparts. We need for Europeans to see more of our future farm-

ers and we need to see more of theirs.”

Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter spoke at the Old Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House. “You are living in a time that is a lot more historic than any of us realize,” Yeutter said. “The fact is the world is turning upside down right now in a way that hasn’t happened in decades. Some of you are going to be involved in those changes as the next decade unfolds.”

Throughout the week, the state leaders visited many historic sites in the Washington, D.C. area. They toured Mount Vernon, placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery and took a night tour of area monuments.

The Chevrolet Truck Division of General Motors Corporation presented the National FFA Organization with a 1991



White House Photo

Vice President Dan Quayle met with national FFA officers, left to right, Bill Henricksen, Brad Lewis, Dan Schroer, Donnell Brown, Scott Crouch and Casey Isom at the White House.

half-ton truck, painted in blue and gold. The truck was then presented to the FFA Alumni Association to be auctioned at national convention. Chevrolet Truck Division sponsors the FFA State Presidents’ Conference, as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

Sixty FFA Alumni members from twenty states attended the FFA Alumni

Association’s State Leaders’ Conference the same week as the State Presidents’ Conference. They attended many functions with the state FFA officers, including the annual FFA Alumni Cookout at the National FFA Center. Philip Morris U.S.A. sponsors the alumni leadership conference as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc. ...

## National Officers Propose “Fixed 400” Delegate Plan

The number of delegates each FFA Association is allowed to send to the National FFA Convention has been a sensitive topic for many years. This year’s national officer team has worked to create a plan that could resolve the issue.

At the 1989 National FFA Convention, delegates spent long, emotional hours debating a constitutional amendment to change state delegate representation. Both the FFA constitution and the proposed amendment allowed every state two convention delegates. Increased delegate representation was the issue. While the constitution allowed one additional delegate per 10,000 members, the proposed amendment would have granted each state one additional delegate for every 1,000 members. In a compromise final vote, a one delegate per 2,000 member representative system was chosen.

During the January Board of Directors’ meeting, the national officers and FFA Board of Directors agreed not to consider the 1 per 1,000 system again until 1991 in order to try the 1 per 2,000 system this November. In the meantime, the officers say they have found a better solution.

As they traveled across the country, each national officer became concerned about the uneasiness members expressed over the delegate representation issue. Together the officer team devised the plan they call Fixed 400.

Their plan was officially approved by the officers and the FFA Board of Directors at their July meeting. State delegates at November’s national convention will decide if Fixed 400 is the answer to the question of fair delegate representation.

Under the Fixed 400 plan, as national and state membership fluctuates, the total number of delegates would remain a constant 400. The number 400 was derived from the United States House of Representatives system, which is guided by 435 legislators. By slightly altering the total to 400 delegates, the plan fits the current delegate committee structure. At convention, there would be ten full committees with 40 members each. Each of the full committees would divide into four sub-committees, each made up of ten people.

Bill Henricksen, central region vice president, presented the new Fixed 400 plan during delegate workshops at State Presidents’ Conference. Reactions to the plan have been mixed. “It is an excellent idea if we can conduct business with that many people,” said Raymond Wager, Michigan vice president. “I know there are more than 400 delegates at some state conventions, but we need to know how effective it would be at national convention with the amount of work that has to be done.”

Under the system approved last year, each state receives two delegates regardless of membership. They serve as leadership delegates and chair or co-chair a full or sub-committee. This plan is also part of Fixed 400. Delegates are assigned to

committees so that no state has more than five representatives on any full committee. With Fixed 400, each state’s number of representative (additional) delegates would be redistributed each year based on the state’s percentage of national membership. “This would be the best example of equal representation, where we erase state lines and talk about the organization as a whole,” said Michael Stevenson, Montana vice president.

States pay convention costs for their delegates. “I’m concerned with the number of delegates from each state,” said Jamie Rouse, Virginia state secretary. “I’ve heard concern that associations would not have enough money to send their entire delegation if Fixed 400 passed.”

Wade Mulcock, New Mexico vice president, said delegates to the 1990 convention should not make a decision yet. “I think we should wait until convention to see if the 1 per 2000 system works,” Mulcock said. “Although Fixed 400 is a really good idea, it might get more support next year.”

The national officer team sees the Fixed 400 plan as a solution to the long-debated issue of equal representation, said National FFA President Donnell Brown. “It maintains states’ rights while allowing all to be heard equally. Fixed 400 will allow more students to be involved in the leadership of the FFA.” ...

Linda Mastin worked at the Washington State University Research and Extension Center in Puyallup prior to leading her chapter's forage experiment.



## Foraging Ahead With Science

National agriscience winner Linda Mastin and her FFA chapter solve a local mystery.

By Sue Mantey

**W**hat's your definition of science? Is it dull and boring? Do you constantly wonder if you will ever apply what you are learning to real life? Or is science exciting, challenging and related to something familiar?

For Linda Mastin, Puyallup, Washington, agriscience is both challenging and related to real life. Agriscience is applying scientific research to agricultural problems. Using agriscience, Mastin discovered that local grass pastures treated with industrial wastewater are a comparable feed alternative to alfalfa hay for sheep.

Mastin is a member of the Sumner FFA Chapter which each year harvests two grass pastures treated with industrial wastewater from a local yeast plant. The chapter wanted to know if the treated grass had better nutrient quality than the alfalfa hay fed in the area. Through their class agriscience

project, they set out to find the answer. Mastin, student leader of the project, was honored as the 1989 national winner in the National FFA Agriscience Student Recognition Program.

The pastures belong to the Fleischmann Yeast plant, which sprays on them wastewater containing processing by-

products. The by-products are high in nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous.

The pasture grass is cut for silage and baled hay. Many community residents speculated that the nitrogen waste sprayed on the hay increased its nutrient value, but no one knew for sure. Sumner chapter advisor Greg Pile thought his class could find the answer.

"Mr. Pile said if we started this project someone needed to head it," Mastin said. "I kind of happened to volunteer."

Mastin had the qualifications to lead the experiment. The summer before her junior year, she worked at the Washington State University Research and Extension Center in Puyallup as part of her supervised agricultural experience. She was responsible for running chemical analysis of forage samples, which related directly to her chapter's agriscience project.

"We really didn't know what we were getting into when we



Weighing feed carefully was crucial in collecting accurate data for the experiment.

started," Mastin said. "Mr. Pile and I talked to scientists at the Research Station. One had run digestion trials before, so we were able to get ideas and possible trial designs from him."

Teamwork and preparation were essential to the success of the experiment. Before the experiment could begin, the students had to learn about forages, digestion processes and the contents of grass and alfalfa. To accomplish this, once a week the 20 students participating in the experiment met after school in special classes.

"The classes familiarized us with the microbiology of the sheep's digestive system, how the feeds break down, and the different kinds of trials that can be done," Mastin said. "We were becoming familiar with all the things that had to do with feed digestion."

The experiment began in October and ended in mid-May. Mastin bought four Dorset lambs and fed them in groups of two. Her goal was to find out if the lambs would gain more weight on the treated grass or the alfalfa hay.

The lambs were kept at the school and were fed by Mastin's classmates in the mornings. Mastin fed them in the afternoon. For 24 days, the length of the actual experiment, Mastin carefully collected the data needed. She recorded the amount of feed eaten, the feed left over in the lambs' pens and each lamb's daily weight. She also collected and weighed the manure from each lamb.

After Mastin finished collecting the samples, she ran tests on the feed and manure to determine what nutrients were actually digested. Based on the rate at which the lambs gained weight and the laboratory test results, Mastin concluded that, when compared to alfalfa, the treated grass was an equal, if not better, feed.

Mastin would like to feed the treated grass to her 80 Dorset and Shropshire sheep. However, there is not enough grass grown in the plant's pastures to feed all her sheep. The Sumner chapter gives the treated grass it harvests to people in the community. "They seem to be pleased with the results," Mastin said.

"This experiment fit with Linda's traits as a hard worker, and an academically



As owner of 80 Dorset and Shropshire sheep, Mastin knows the importance of high quality forages.

disciplined and research oriented student," said Pile. "Linda is a very hard worker who is used to living by a schedule from the time she gets up until the time she goes to bed."

The agriscience award is just one of Mastin's many FFA accomplishments. For two years in a row, her peers voted to honor her with the chapter's leadership award. "Linda doesn't let her goals interfere with helping others. She is always donating time for something," Pile said.

In 1989, Mastin was named the Washington FFA state proficiency winner in sheep production. She was a member of her chapter's parliamentary procedure and livestock judging teams. Mastin has also participated in an exchange trip to Japan.

This fall, she will attend Lin-Benton Community College in Oregon to study either animal science or agricultural business. After two years there, she plans to transfer to Oregon State University. Although Mastin is still undecided about her college major, she says her FFA experiences will have an influence on her final decision. "This science project has given me a push in one direction," Mastin said. "I'll see if that is the right direction for me, and if it's not, I'll go back and find something else." ...

The Agriscience Student Recognition Program is sponsored by the Monsanto Agricultural Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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*"This experiment fit with Linda's traits as a hard worker, and an academically disciplined and research oriented student."*

*— Greg Pile, advisor*



Tammy Bieber, center, administers anaesthesia to a golden lion tamarin while veterinarians examine it. The tamarin is a small, rare monkey from Brazil.

Photos by Author

# Smithsonian Summer

Three FFA members explore careers in exciting places.

By Sue Mantey

**S**ummer job. For most high school students, it means flipping burgers, pumping gas or babysitting. For three FFA members, it meant working behind the scenes of some of Washington, D.C.'s biggest attractions.

Tod Bevitt, Tammy Bieber and Crystal Trotter spent five weeks this summer combining practical experience, technical training, history and big city life into one fantastic summer job. They worked where most people only visit.

They participated in Intern '90, a Smithsonian Institution program created for graduating high school seniors. Students selected for Intern '90 investigated various careers by working

alongside Smithsonian professionals. Tammy and Crystal interned at the National Zoological Park, while Tod explored archaeology at the National Museum of Natural History.

## Monkey Business

Crystal Trotter, from the Chaparral FFA Chapter in Anthony, Kansas, has her sights set on veterinary school. She interned in a city she had never seen to learn more about the veterinary profession. "I knew I wanted to major in veterinary medicine," Crystal said, "but I wasn't sure if I wanted to specialize in exotic animals."

On her first day, co-workers introduced Crystal to monkeys, apes and orangutans. It takes apes a long time to accept strangers, Crystal explained. "The apes threw food at me and spit on me at first."

As the weeks flew by, Crystal encountered a wide range of experiences. Her responsibilities included cleaning pens, observing behavior patterns and preparing food. "Monkeys eat a variety of foods," Crystal said. "Carrots, lettuce, sunflower seeds and horse meat are all part of their diet. They even get Purina Primate Chow." Having judged livestock and dairy cattle in FFA contests, Crystal found she could apply her knowledge of cattle and horses to the primates. Every animal needs care and attention, she said.

This fall Crystal will attend Fort Scott Community College, with plans to transfer to Kansas State University. "I still don't know if I want to specialize in exotic animals," Crystal said, "but I now know I like working with these kinds of animals."

Tammy Bieber, of Bowdle, South Dakota, is also interested in becoming a veterinarian. Her position at the animal hospital



Crystal Trotter worked with apes, monkeys and orangutans at the National Zoo.

was an opportunity to observe clinical care. "I wanted to get hands-on experience to find out what kind of vet I would like to be," Tammy said. "I think I would much rather work with large animals than exotics. The zoo animals have too many unique diseases. It would be difficult to understand all of them."

The animal hospital staff treat everything from tropical birds and iguanas to panda bears. The hospital has a padded area strong and comfortable enough to house larger animals such as tigers and apes.

A special attraction at the zoo is the golden lion tamarin, a small monkey from Brazil. The monkeys are frequently blood tested for their health records. Tammy learned to administer anaesthesia while a veterinarian examined the tamarin.

She went on daily rounds with the zoo keepers as they checked the larger animals' health. Tammy also played with the first test tube tiger, which was on loan from the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, Nebraska.

Her college plans are to attend South Dakota State University and major in pre-veterinary medicine.

### Pottery and Arrowheads

Most visitors to the Museum of Natural History view exhibits ranging from dinosaur skeletons to Indian tools. They never see the majority of the museum's collections, which are tucked away in cabinets on the third floor. That is where Tod Bevitt spent his internship.

One of Tod's main duties was re-housing ancient pottery and other artifacts. "Re-housing is going through each individual drawer to improve how the pieces are packed," Tod said. "We also inspect the pieces for damage."

He assisted visiting researchers by showing them the col-

lections. One of these tours was for a German television station filming a documentary on Pueblo pottery.

Tod also catalogued incoming collections. "One of the best parts of working at the Smithsonian was the chance to see artifacts not found in my home state," said Tod, a Mission Valley FFA Chapter member from Burlingame, Kansas.

"I have always been interested in old things," Tod said. "When I was a freshman in high school, I went on my first archaeological dig, near my hometown."

"This internship has really helped me define some career decisions," he said. This fall, Tod will attend Coffeyville Community College on a scholarship he received for involvement on his FFA meats judging team. He plans to transfer to the University of Kansas and major in archeology.

**Tod Bevitt helped inventory ancient artifacts in the Museum of Natural History.**



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# New Creed or Same Creed?

## Convention delegates to vote on a new FFA Creed.

By Andrew Markwart

**A**s the National FFA Organization continues to change to stay current with its membership, the changes are not coming fast enough for some members and too fast for others. Such is the case with a proposed new FFA Creed.

The proposed creed (see box) resulted from the work of a committee that studied the Official FFA Manual and suggested revisions to make the manual easier to read and more appropriate to current FFA members. The committee was given permission by the FFA Board of Directors to propose changes to the current creed and compose new creeds.

Bill Stagg, FFA director of information and chairman of the Manual Revision Committee, said that the group took a "back to basics" approach in studying the creed. "The committee began its deliberations by considering what a creed is, how it is used in FFA and what values or themes it should contain," said Stagg. "All possibilities were explored, from a minor rewrite of the current creed to a completely new creed. After examining drafts of each approach, the committee felt strongly that a new creed would best meet the criteria established in a fresh, contemporary way. At the same time, the committee sought to retain some of the 'look and feel' of the creed by E.M. Tiffany."

The committee chose a creed written by committee member Shirley Sokolosky, of Owasso, Oklahoma. As a member of the FFA in Missouri, Sokolosky competed in the state creed speaking contest, served as state secretary and received the American Farmer Degree. She later worked as a counselor at the Washington Conference Program and has served as editor of the national FFA convention *Proceedings* for the past three years.

The proposed creed was approved by the FFA Board of Directors and National Officers at their July meeting to be put on the agenda for delegate consideration at the national convention.

The week following the board meet-

### **Proposed FFA Creed**

*I believe in the future of agriculture. Ours is an industry rich in tradition and ripe with promise. As farmers before me diligently coaxed life from this land, I will dedicate myself to the tasks before me. The legacy left to me is one of honor and I shall strive to preserve and strengthen the dignity of American agriculture.*

*I believe a career in agriculture is a worthy undertaking. In choosing agriculture, I embrace a purposeful way of life based on productive work, progressive thought, calculated risk and a commitment to education. I welcome these challenges, for I know such a life yields endless rewards.*

*I believe I am responsible for the well-being of the earth. I stand ready to make wise choices which will enhance life for my fellow human beings and preserve the world's precious resources. I accept eagerly this charge, for the future literally depends upon me.*

*I believe that building my self-esteem and developing my natural talents are among the most valuable contributions I can make to my society. A nation's wealth is found in its people, and I must seek to become a well-rounded citizen, a person of solid character upon whom this country can lay its mantle of leadership.*

ing, the proposed creed was presented to all state FFA presidents during the State Presidents' Conference held in Washington, D. C. These same state officers will be voting on the issue as delegates at the national convention. FFA members are being urged to share their views about the proposed creed with their state officers.

Sokolosky says that it is important for

current FFA members to stand back and look at the proposed creed from a different perspective as they formulate their opinions. In an upcoming article in the November issue of *The Agricultural Education Magazine*, Sokolosky says, "We must analyze FFA as if we had never set eyes on it before. We must see it

*(Continued on Page 57)*

*FFA members are being urged to share their views about the proposed creed with their state officers.*

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# Red, White, and Blue...and Gold!

Washington Conference Program draws members to leadership training.

By Jeff Johnson

**F**rom June 11 through August 7, FFA members "...from Maine to Hawaii" and every state in between came to our nation's Capitol for the Washington Conference Program.

WCP has been changing the lives of FFA members since its beginning in 1969. Over the past 21 years, this program has developed into much more than just another leadership school. Imagine combining all of the excitement of the National FFA Convention, all of the creativity of Saturday Night Live, and all of the emotion of a good Whitney Houston song into one conference. That is an idea of what the Washington Conference Program is like. It's a chance for FFA members to find out how far they really can go — in the FFA and beyond. Members develop a greater sense of what it means to live in America and what they can contribute to their families, communities and FFA chapters. WCP is not simply a week of touring and learning in Washington, it is a feeling; a feeling shared among FFA members who become part of a nationwide team dedicated to making a difference.

Cody Lawson, a 1990 WCP participant from Nevada, said, "In that one short



Photos By Jeff Johnson and Scott Stump

It was a long journey from the sandy shores of Honolulu, Hawaii to the marble steps of the Capitol in Washington, D.C., for FFA members Patrick Pampo, Theresa Puu and Davelyn Villegas, left to right.



Congressman Connie Mack, center, met with Erin Freel, left, and Dana Devine of the Lake Weir Sr., Florida FFA Chapter on the steps of the Capitol. Mack was one of the many congressmen who met with FFA members from their home state.

Two members of the West Grant, Wisconsin, FFA Chapter pause at Arlington National Cemetery to reflect on the sacrifices made by many to preserve freedoms in the United States.



How do strangers become friends? Sometimes it starts with a balloon bustin' ice breaker. Robin McLean, Grahamsville, New York and Pam Maynard, Okeechobee, Florida lock into a good time early in the week.



"The confident ones" — a show of strength from the delegation from Chillicothe, Missouri. Left to right are Matt Rardon, Shane Baxter, John Sidden, Frank Stedem and Jarrod McGinnis.

week I learned so much about myself that its almost unbelievable. Now I have all the self-confidence I need. I left all the doubts I had about myself in D.C."

Now that the summer is over, stop and look back at the new friends you have made, the exciting and impressive places you have been and the new attitude you are taking back to school with you. You say I'm not describing you? Well, I probably would be if you had attended WCP.

Next summer is not so far away. What will it be? Another three months of hanging out at the mall, cruising McDonalds and working for Uncle Bob — or an investment in you and your future? Who knows — the Washington Conference Program could be just what you need to turn those 'summertime blues' into summertime blues and golds. ...

Johnson was a 1990 WCP counselor and 1988-89 national FFA secretary.



The Washington Conference Program causes FFA members to seriously think about their goals and what they plan to do with their future.



On the lighter side, Holli Bowman of the Caledonia, Michigan, FFA Chapter discovers flower power.



Tanya Knutson of Crosby, North Dakota, is caught in the act of having a fun time.



Becky Pfenning of the Hobart, Oklahoma, FFA Chapter made new friends from all over the country.



A sign of the times... WCP participants toured the National FFA Center in nearby Alexandria, Virginia, and bought souvenirs at the Supply Service.

# One Ewe At a Time

When it comes to raising sheep, Lance Moore is all business.

**L**ance Moore was five years old when he stumbled upon his first farming opportunity.

"I was helping my dad with a bunch of cows on the summer range," recalls Moore, of Coalville, Utah. "We came upon a dead ewe with four lambs standing around her. We took the lambs home and contacted the owner. He said that if I would take care of them, I could have them," says Lance, now 19. "For eight weeks I bottle fed those lambs. After they were raised, I traded them for two registered Suffolk ewes."

That was enough to hook Lance on the sheep business. "Ever since I was old enough to walk I was interested in agriculture," adds the North Summit FFA chapter member. He has come a long way since. Last year he won the FFA Western Region Sheep Production Proficiency award, and next month he will walk across the stage at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City to receive his American FFA Degree.

Lance had about 60 brood ewes by the time he started FFA as a high school freshman in 1985. He had doubled that number by the time he won his proficiency award. But his business grew one ewe at a time.

"I didn't have the money to buy expensive sheep. Everything I got I traded for, in the form of farm labor," Lance says. "Many times my dad would buy the sheep and I'd work off the loan.

"My goal was to upgrade every year — cull poor quality ewes," Lance explains. "I kept many of my own stock for replacements."

Raising livestock on a 20-acre ranch 30 miles south of the Wyoming border, Lance and his father, Scott, would rent government-owned rangeland to pasture livestock. "My dad taught me everything I know," adds Lance. But some of the most important practices Lance learned not out in the fields, but at a desk with a recordbook and computer.

"Solid management practices are necessary for successful sheep operations," he says. "But it's impossible to improve without production records. Good records are essential to profits."

In fact, Lance thinks good records were

**Lance Moore gets help rounding up sheep and exercising lambs from Kate, his Border Collie.**



one reason why he won the proficiency award. "If you haven't managed your operation wisely it will show in your records," he says.

But there were times when even good records couldn't prevent disasters. "I vaccinated for diseases prominent around here and gave supplement for deficiencies," Lance recalls. "But one year I lost almost half of my lamb crop to white muscle disease.

"If you don't have healthy sheep, you don't have producing sheep, and if your sheep aren't producing, you're not making money," he adds.

To boost income, Lance learned to shear sheep, a difficult, dirty job. But it cut costs and enabled him to earn more money by shearing other farmers' flocks.

Now a sophomore animal science major at Utah State University, Lance is less involved in the day-to-day management of his flock. But he does hold club lamb sales to stay involved.

"Club lambs are my main source of income. I cater to the buyers, many of whom are new to the sheep business," he

says. "I sold about 30 head this year, including a champion and reserve champion."

Like most livestock people, Lance says he has had some good years, some bad. "But the key to success is learning from both," he says. One lesson he learned well is the value of quality.

"Quality, in sheep, is much better than quantity. I don't believe in feeding anything that isn't worth keeping. One time I had a couple of black sheep, just as a novelty. They didn't make any money — so they went down the road," he grins. "There's no sense in putting money into sheep that won't bring you returns or improve flock quality. That's my basic management philosophy." ...

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



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In five years, proficiency winner Stephen Knutson increased his herd of cattle from 43 to 172 head.

## All In the Family

Stephen Knutson is making his mark in a family of high achievers.

**T**he name Knutson has certainly become familiar to Montana FFA officials. It seems like every time you hear the name it's because another Knutson is being recognized for farming or FFA achievements.

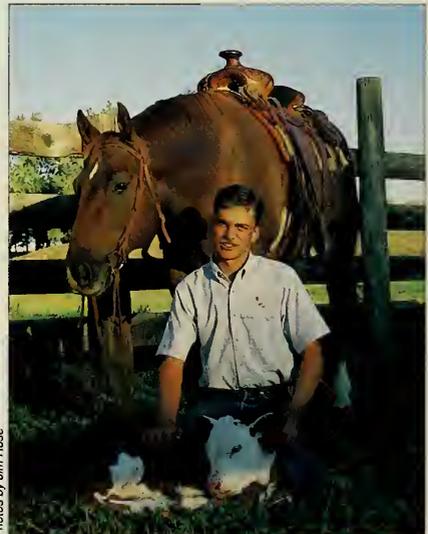
The latest Knutson to have his name at the top of the award list is 21-year-old Stephen, who earned the national FFA Beef Production Proficiency award two years ago. He proved the honor was no fluke by winning the western region Diversified Livestock Proficiency award in 1989, when he also earned the American FFA Degree.

Certainly impressive accomplishments, considering only a handful of FFA members ever make it to even the state level of FFA competitions. But then, Stephen Knutson had a few good examples to learn from.

His father, Pete, now a rancher and auctioneer, was a national FFA officer in 1956. Mother Karen is treasurer of the Knutson's hometown Clyde Park FFA Alumni chapter, the largest in Montana. Sister Kim earned the national Sheep Production Proficiency award in 1985 (she later participated in Work Experience Abroad and interned at the National FFA Center).

Stephen's younger brother Scott was a Star State Farmer and earned second place in the regional Beef Production Proficiency competition. He and Stephen were teammates on a national livestock judging team, finishing 21st overall. Stephen was the top individual livestock judge in Montana two years ago. Scott

*(Continued on Page 37)*



Photos by Jim Rose

**The Knutson family's diversified ranch includes registered Hereford cattle and Quarter Horses.**

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# A Stamp of Approval



## Federal and state Duck Stamp programs help fund waterfowl research.

By Scott Abernathy  
Midway, Oklahoma FFA Chapter

For countless generations vast numbers of waterfowl have migrated in North America. The sights and sounds of that migration come to where you live in regular cycles. Many of the birds migrating past your home were hatched just last summer above the Arctic Circle. Have you ever stood outside on a cold November night and heard the high, wild migration cry of a vee of geese silhouetted against the moon?

We seldom pause to consider how much we rely on the natural cycles within our biosphere. Sometimes we are too busy to even note their passing. But the sobering question remains, "What if they had not come?"

We are stewards of our biosphere. There is an ever-increasing need for us to be aware of the cycles that support our lives. And so, we ask the second question, "What did I do to help?" There is a great reward in seeing the cycle of waterfowl migration when you know you've made a difference.

There is a simple thing you can do to help. Most state Wildlife Conservation Departments have instituted their own Duck Stamp programs. You can buy the

one your state issues at the same place you buy a hunting or fishing license. Your state Wildlife Conservation Department uses Duck Stamp money to do some notable work specifically for waterfowl in your state.

Just this year, Colorado became the 46th state to issue its own waterfowl stamp. Colorado waterfowl hunters over the age of 16 will be required to purchase one of the \$5 stamps in addition to the Federal Duck Stamp which costs \$12.50. An estimated 50,000 hunters will purchase the Colorado Duck Stamp each year. That program will generate about \$250,000 annually to be used by the Colorado Division of Wildlife to buy land and improve existing waterfowl habitat in Colorado. There is also a collectible art program which is expected to generate an additional several hundred thousand dollars.

The state Duck Stamp program offers the opportunity to make a contribution to ongoing professional waterfowl conservation. Anyone can purchase their state duck stamp whether they hunt or not. Duck Stamps are collectible art. They represent a contribution to professional waterfowl management.

A good example of how that money is spent is found in my home state of Oklahoma. This is my third year as a member of the Midway High School FFA Chapter in Council Hill, Oklahoma. For the past two years I have worked with the Wildlife Explorer Post at Northeast Regional Headquarters, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, with their summer goose round-up. The department has established a breeding stock of Giant Canada Geese in northeastern Oklahoma. Each summer the goslings are rounded-up and banded. The Giant Canada Goose was once thought to be endangered, but now through careful management and proper habitat, the Giant Canada Goose has a future. Duck Stamp money made that possible in Oklahoma.

State programs are generally modeled on the original Duck Stamp concept instituted by the federal government. You can buy the Federal Duck Stamp at any U.S. Post Office. Federal Duck Stamp revenue is spent for comprehensive, multi-national waterfowl conservation efforts. The money spent each year for state and federal Duck Stamps goes directly toward waterfowl conservation.

Each year's Duck Stamp artwork is determined by contest. Artists submit waterfowl pictures for judging, and the winner is printed that year. A Duck Stamp collection soon becomes an art collection. Like most art, the Duck Stamp soon appreciates above its face-value cost. An enjoyable aspect of the Duck Stamp is finding out what your collection is worth on the market.

Most importantly, your Duck Stamp is a tangible reward for being a steward of our biosphere. You can ask the November sky the questions, "What if they had not come?" and "What did I do to help?"

As you watch the vee of ducks or geese beat steadily southward, you know you had a part. As a great cycle of life sweeps high above your home and onward out of sight, you have the answer to the questions, and a beautiful work of art as a reward.

# Wildlife On Your Land— A Partnership For Success

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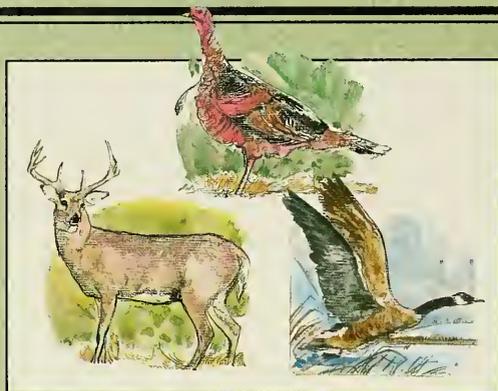
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## WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Sporting Clays: The Ultimate In "No-Till" Farming
  - Adding Wildlife To Your Harvest — A Crop You Can Afford
  - Building Relationships With Hunters On Your Land
  - Firearms Safety Depends On You — Make No Mistake About It
- 
- 



# Adding Wildlife To Your Harvest



**M**ost people who work the land for a living have already tried just about every management plan available to squeeze out the highest yield possible. And with every new technique, there seems to be a trade-off — gain here, lose there. But what if you could add another crop that would “put food on the table” and provide the opportunity for recreation close to home? There is a way.

The same land that produces your other crops can also put meat on the table — turkey, upland gamebirds, venison and all game species alike — for you, your family, friends and customers.

Farm management affects both numbers and types of wildlife on your land. Habitat is altered whenever you:

- Plow, plant, cultivate and harvest a crop.
- Grow and cut timber.
- Stock a range with sheep, goats or cattle.

While many of these standard farming practices can damage habitat for some forms of wildlife, there are modifications in these practices that will attract a broader range of other native species and provide additional recreational opportunities for you. Here are some simple management projects you can use that can create better habitat for wildlife and be beneficial to your land, too.

■ **MOWING** — If you've got a fallow or abandoned field, mow it annually to prevent establishment of woody plants. By keeping woody plants down, putting the field back into production will be less difficult and you'll be stimulating weed and forb growth that will be used as forage for wildlife. By only mowing strips or parts of fields each year, additional wildlife attracting “edge” cover is created. On your regular hayfields, try to wait until after the peak of nesting season before mowing and take extreme care when mowing the first 25 yards from the field edge. Rabbits, quail, pheasants and sometimes turkeys nest in hay fields, but most of the nests are located around the field edge. Don't sacrifice the quality of your hay, but if you're not sure whether to mow this week or next, making it next could make a big difference for some wildlife.

■ **BURNING** — Prescribed burning in abandoned fields also prevents the establishment of woody plants, making conditions suitable for seeds already present to germinate and produces habitat favorable to quail and other gamebird and songbird species.

■ **FOOD PLOTS** — The worst areas of your place — draws, wetlands, stony areas, rock outcrops, utility right-of-ways —

highly erodible areas that make crop production difficult are prime sources of food and cover for many game species. By creating small food plots in these areas, fenced away from cattle, using oats, elbow rye and overseeded with arrowleaf clover, you can provide supplemental food during the winter for deer, turkey and other game. You'll also prevent erosion and improve the appearance and value of your place.

■ **SPILLAGE** — On intensively managed farms, much food can be provided for wildlife without changing practices. Whether planting milo or sorghum as silage or seed, strips left standing around field edges provide excellent winter feed for many game species. While it would be foolish to suggest you leave a cash crop unharvested, milo fields that are combined usually have much waste seed left on the ground anyway and can be considered an investment toward more pheasant, quail or dove on your winter dinner table.

■ **COVER CROPS** — Certain mixtures of grasses or legumes used in a cropping system to reduce erosion, add organic matter to the soil and produce forage or hay can also benefit wildlife. For example, cereal rye and vetch provide winter forage for deer, wild turkey and geese. They can also provide high-quality forage for haying or fall grazing.

■ **WEED CONTROL** — You can create a good food supply and save money at the same time by scaling back on weed control chemicals. By not spraying around edges of crops and in the corners of fields, native plants such as ragweed, fox-tail, millet and some smartweed provide forage beneficial to dove, quail and other small game species.

■ **BRUSH CONTROL** — Bush-hogging strips through fields, rather than entire areas, once weeds mature, makes the seed more available to game species and creates more “edge” cover effect that attracts and holds game. It also creates fire-breaks that can be essential during dry seasons. Leaving brush that wildlife desire — browse, mast, grasses and forbs — will create habitat diversity and lessen competition for livestock forage.

■ **FIXING FENCES** — Fence rows allowed to grow up with native vegetation provide some of the best food and cover for wildlife and reduces competition for forage with livestock, without taking land out of production. It also provides wildlife with travel lanes where they may move from one area to another without being exposed to predators.

■ **DEFER GRAZING** — To insure against over-grazing, it's recommended that pastureland be rested periodically to maintain a quality forage base. If properly planned and applied, deferred grazing maintains or restores wildlife habitat. Along drainageways and creeks, deferred grazing during the nesting season of quail could result in bigger coveys during hunting season.

■ **LEAVE A TREE** — When harvesting or improving a timber stand, leave some mature dead or decadent hardwood trees to provide cover for small game and birds. You can also create additional forage in wooded areas that is suitable for both livestock and wildlife by cutting paths through trees to help stimulate growth of native grasses and legumes.

By using some of the suggestions above, you'll be able to add wildlife to your harvest and some tasty meals to your menu.

For more information on how you can increase wildlife on your land in conjunction with existing agricultural production, write to the Wildlife Management Institute, 1101 14th St., N.W., Ste. 725, Washington, D.C. 20005.

# SPORTING CLAYS —

## *The Ultimate In No-Till Farming*

**W**ho says you can't farm clay? Fact is, you can turn a cash crop out of this kind of clay just about anywhere on your land, without tilling, disking or combining!

No, we're not talking about the type clay where weeds won't even take — we're talking about Sporting Clays, a relatively new shotgun target game that's sweeping the nation. Because demand is so great for new places to shoot this exciting game, sportsmen's clubs are looking to landowners for opportunities to create new Sporting Clays courses. And those opportunities, including leasing of shooting rights to a local club or perhaps even constructing a course of your own, could mean cashing in on an otherwise non-productive piece of property.

Typically, shooters pay between \$20-65 for a "round" of Sporting Clays consisting of 100 clay targets. For an enterprising landowner, a Sporting Clays course could become a potentially profitable cash crop since ideal terrain for Sporting Clays includes land generally considered non-productive for agricultural purposes. And you can decide in advance how often Sporting Clays can be shot — daily, weekly or twice a month — whenever it is convenient for you.

In Sporting Clays, shooters face shots similar to actual hunting situations, with courses designed around the natural lay of the land. For example, a pair of clay targets might be hurled up and away from behind a brushpile, resembling a pair

of flushing quail. Another target layout or "shooting station" might feature a pair of clay targets zipping overhead at treetop level, just like a couple of doves. Because each of the five or 10 various shooting stations (depending on the size of the land) that make up a course is adapted to fit the natural lay of the land, no two Sporting Clays courses are alike.

The amount of land required for a Sporting Clays course varies, depending on the number and type of shooting stations. A typical course will incorporate between five and 10 stations covering an area of between 40-50 acres, although it's possible to set up a course in a much smaller area, providing safe shooting zones are ensured.

In addition to the income potential, the relationships you can build with sportsmen coming to shoot Sporting Clays on your property could be invaluable down the road. Shooters come from all walks of life, from doctors and lawyers, to mechanics and construction workers — many of which would be glad to return a favor in exchange for the chance to shoot on your place.

A recently published guide, "Developing New Places To Shoot," offers some insights into shooting range development, from financial assistance to zoning and community support. Copies of this informative booklet are available for \$1.00 each from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, Dept. SC, 555 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897-2217.

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For rugged design, BB and pellet capability, and loads of shooting action, get the Outbacker, the airgun for some backyard fun. For a free copy of Crosman's *AirGun News* write to: Crosman Airguns Rts. 5 & 20, Dept. FF90, E. Bloomfield, NY 14443.



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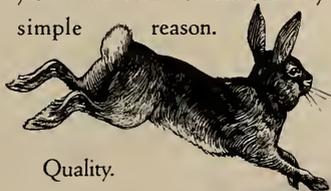
# When we say nobody makes a better 22, we're not just shooting off our mouths.

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Not real guns.

You think steel is tough? Not as tough as when we get through with it. It's called forging, and it's the way most of the critical parts





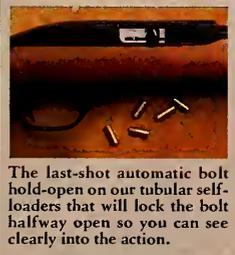
When a self-loader offers everything our Model 60 (right) does, it automatically becomes the world's most popular 22.

No wonder the Model 39's (39AS left) are the best lever action 22's in the world. We've had over 100 years to get them right. Both models now feature hammer block safeties and rebounding hammers.

they are all solid steel. Unlike the cheap composite barrels with steel liners you see on some 22's these days. And thanks to Micro-Groove,<sup>®</sup> a special kind of rifling process

that produces less bullet distortion and a better gas seal, most other 22's don't even begin to come close to a Marlin for accuracy.

And just to be absolutely sure all our 22's are every bit as accurate as we say they are, every single one is sighted-in on our test range, verified with closed circuit TV and personally signed by our test targeters.



The last-shot automatic bolt hold-open on our tubular self-loaders that will lock the bolt halfway open so you can see clearly into the action.

After that huge hammers compact and orient the grain structure into the rough shape of the part. Finally, each part is machined and then heat-treated. All of which results in greater strength and resistance to wear. As for our barrels,

crowned muzzles. Cross bolt safeties on all our self-loaders.

Rustproof, brass inner magazine tubes on our tube-loading models. And lots of new features on our bolt actions.



Our new bolt action 22's come with a re-shaped bolt handle to accommodate a larger, more powerful scope.

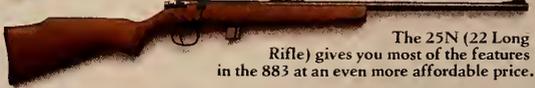
Of course, no one offers you a greater variety of 22's to choose from. 14 different models in all. Including lever action, self-loading and



The 39TDS comes apart and goes back together in seconds. Plus it comes with a floatable Cordura<sup>®</sup> case.



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# Firearms Safety Depends On You — Make No Mistake About It!

**H**unting and target shooting are among the safest of all sports and a tradition on most farms and ranches. These rules are intended to make them even safer — by re-emphasizing and reaffirming the basics of safe gun handling and storage and by reminding each individual shooter that he or she is the key to firearms safety.



You can help meet this responsibility by enrolling in hunter safety or shooting safety courses. You must constantly stress safety when handling firearms, especially to children and non-shooters. Newcomers in particular must be closely supervised when handling firearms with which they may not be acquainted. *Don't be timid when it comes to gun safety.* If you observe anyone violating any safety precautions, you have an obligation to suggest safer handling practices, such as those outlined here.

• **1 Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.**

This is the most basic gun safety rule. If everyone handled his firearm so carefully that the muzzle never pointed at something he didn't intend to shoot, there would be virtually no firearms accidents. It's as simple as that, and it's up to you. A safe direction means a direction in which a bullet cannot possibly strike anyone, taking into account possible ricochets, and the fact that bullets can penetrate walls and ceilings. Make it a habit to know exactly where the muzzle of your gun is pointing at all times, and be sure that you are in control of the direction in which the muzzle is pointing, even if you fall or stumble.

• **2 Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use.**

Firearms should be loaded only when you are in the field or on the target range or shooting area, ready to shoot. Firearms and ammunition should be secured in a safe place, *separate* from each other, when not in use. Unload your gun immediately when you have finished shooting, well before you bring it into a car, camp or home. Whenever you handle a firearm, or hand it to someone, always open the action immediately, and visually check the chamber, receiver, and magazine to be certain they do not contain any ammunition. Never assume a gun is unloaded — check for yourself! Never pull or push a loaded firearm toward yourself or another person.

• **3 Don't rely on your gun's safety.**

Treat every gun as though it can fire at any time, regardless of pressure on the trigger. The "safety" on any gun is a mechanical device which, like any such device, can become inoperable at the worst possible time. Besides, by mistake, the safety may be "off" when you think it is "on." The safety serves as a supplement to proper gun handling, but cannot possibly serve as a substitute for common sense. *Never touch the trigger on a firearm until you actually intend to shoot.* Keep your fingers away from the trigger while loading or unloading.

• **4 Be sure of your target and what's beyond it.**

No one can call a shot back. Once a gun fires, you have given up all control over where the shot will go or what it will strike. Don't shoot unless you know exactly what your shot is going to strike. Be sure that your bullet will not injure anyone or anything beyond your target. No target or animal is so important that you do not have the time before you pull the trigger to be absolutely certain of your target and where your shot will stop.

• **5 Use correct ammunition.**

You must assume the serious responsibility of using only the correct ammunition for your firearm. Read and heed all warnings including those that appear in the gun's instruction manual and on the ammunition boxes. Improper or incorrect ammunition can destroy a gun and cause serious personal injury. Use only ammunition that exactly matches the caliber or gauge of your gun.

• **6 If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, handle with care!**

Occasionally, a cartridge may not fire when the trigger is pulled. If this occurs, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Keep your face away from the breech. Then, carefully open the action, unload the firearm, and dispose of the cartridge in a safe way. Any time there is a cartridge in the chamber, your gun is loaded and ready to fire — even if you've tried to shoot and it did not go off.

• **7 Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting.**

All shooters should wear protective shooting glasses and some form of hearing protection while shooting. Exposure to shooting noise can damage hearing, and adequate vision protection is essential. Shooting glasses guard against twigs, falling shot, clay target chips, and the rare ruptured case or firearm malfunction.

• **8 Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting.**

Before you load your firearm, open the action and be certain that no ammunition is in the chamber of the magazine. Then glance through the barrel to be sure it is clear of any obstruction. Even a small bit of mud, snow, excess lubricating oil, or grease in the bore can cause dangerously increased pressures, causing the barrel to bulge or even burst on firing, which can cause injury to the shooter and bystanders.

For a free copy of the booklet "Firearms Safety Depends On You" write to NSSF, Dept. FFA, 555 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897-2217.



# 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 hunting 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:

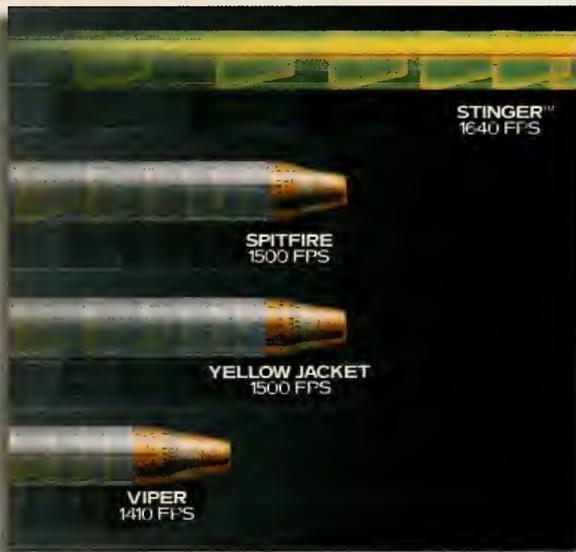
- Discuss in advance where hunters may hunt and point out roadways, neighboring houses or barns to be aware of.

- 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.

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## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STINGER™ AND OTHER HYPERVELOCITY RIMFIRE AMMO? AT LEAST 140 FEET.



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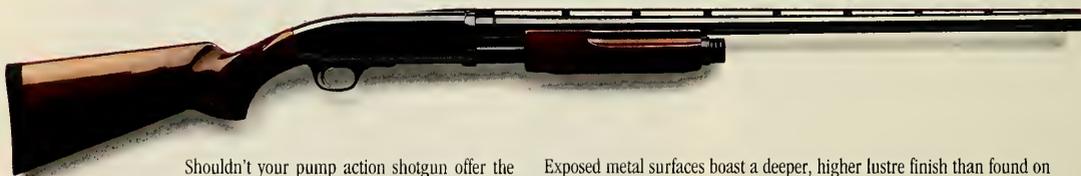
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## All In the Family (Continued from Page 26)

earned the same award the next year.

Now a sophomore at Southwestern Missouri State studying agriculture economics, Stephen credits his parents for support and encouragement in FFA. But even with family help, the Knutson kids earned every honor, explains Jim Rose, Clyde Park FFA Advisor. They took out loans for their livestock projects, bought their own feed, and built livestock enterprises pretty much from scratch.

"Their dad gave them the opportunity, but he didn't hand them the livestock," says Rose. Adds Stephen: "He got us all started but we had to pay him back. He gave me one of my first registered Hereford cows as a loan. When I sold my first calf I paid him back."

Stephen took out a junior agricultural loan through the Montana Department of Agriculture. "It's a program that tries to encourage development of agriculture in the state, and help people get started," Stephen says.

It worked with Stephen, who started his agriculture program in 1983 with 49 registered Suffolk breeding sheep, four registered Hereford cattle, 39 crossbred beef cattle and two registered Quarter Horses. By 1988 he had doubled and tripled those enterprises, to 105 sheep, 27 registered Herefords and 145 crossbred cattle.

Along the way he developed a vaccination program, learned artificial insemination techniques and discovered the value of good recordkeeping skills.

"Like many who achieve at that level, Stephen is different than most kids," Rose says. "He'd spend 3-4 hours everyday with his livestock and records."

Stephen sells most of his livestock through private sales. "Because my father has an annual bull sale, I have a direct, immediate market for registered and some commercial bull calves," Stephen says. Any lightweight calves are kept for yearlings or sold at a local auction.

Most of his sheep buyers are repeat customers. "Most of my customers prefer to buy directly from me because they then have the opportunity to visually inspect the herd mates, the facilities and the ancestors of the stock," explains Stephen.

Extensive culling helps Stephen maintain good quality animals to show off to potential buyers. "Quality is more important than numbers," he says. "I have found that honesty and sincerity are important in achieving customer satisfaction." \*\*\*

The Diversified Livestock Proficiency award is sponsored by Cargill, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

October-November, 1990



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# Agriculture's New Professionals

## State Legislator

By Diane Crosby

In 1971, Roger Byrd was an eleventh grade FFA member at Jeff Davis High School in Hazlehurst, Georgia. That year, he was elected FFA state president. Eight years later, he faced another election. At the age of 25, Byrd defeated a veteran legislator and won a seat in Georgia's House of Representatives.

Although Byrd was one of the youngest to ever be elected to Georgia's legislature, his election was no overnight success story.

"Being elected was really a life-long dream fulfilled," says Byrd who was often teased by college friends when he mentioned "government" as a career goal. "I suppose they thought it was strange to actually want to be involved in politics."

Through FFA, Byrd had gained the skills to match his desire. The son of a farmer, he joined FFA in ninth grade and soon became actively involved in public speaking. After a chapter-wide assignment to write and give a speech, Byrd knew he had found his niche. Each year during FFA competition, his skills improved. Eventually he ended up at state competition. Although he did not win the state public speaking contest, he did come home as state president.

His year as Georgia FFA president took him all over the state as he gave speeches in places he'd never been before. Traveling, speaking and conducting meetings formed a firm foundation for his career in government work.

Byrd studied business administration at Abraham Baldwin College and continued study through Brewton-Parker College and Georgia Southern. He then accepted a job as personnel manager for a local manufacturing plant, where he remained four years.

Yet, Byrd still had his eye on government and his dream.

He carefully watched the activities of state government. Finally, in 1980, the political field appeared plowed and ready. Byrd threw his hat into the ring that year along with several others. One by one, the

other candidates withdrew. Byrd was eventually left with one opponent, a veteran legislator.

Byrd was comfortable as he found himself again traveling, giving speeches and meeting the people in rural south

Georgia. He felt deeply about the issues affecting Georgia's farmers. On election day, Roger Byrd saw his dream of government service come true.

Ten years later, Byrd still serves in Georgia's House. He has, in fact, run un-

opposed during the last five elections. His popularity stems from his dedication to his roots. Byrd serves on the influential Agricultural and Consumer Affairs Committee and Industry Committee. He chairs



Former Georgia FFA president Roger Byrd was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives when he was 25.

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*"I suppose they thought it was strange to actually want to be involved in politics."*

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the subcommittee for Economic Development and Tourism.

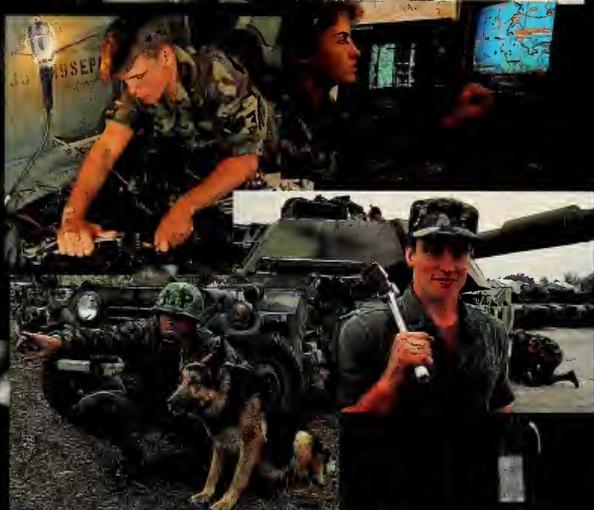
One of his most cherished accomplishments was his introduction of FFA Day at the capitol.

"We bring forty or more of Georgia's most outstanding FFA students in official dress to Atlanta, where they serve as pages in the House for the day. It's great to see all those blue jackets moving through the legislature performing such an important function."

Although his work often finds him on the road and away from his wife, Rhonda, and their country home, serving as state representative is a satisfying experience. His biggest reward comes from working with the people of his district and serving as a go-between for people and state.

Byrd says, "That's the reward. I never have to wonder, 'Have I done any good?' In a job like this, you can feel secure about having done something, and what you've done has made a difference." ...

**A FEW YEARS IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST SCHOOLS  
CAN REALLY PAY OFF FOR A LIFETIME.**



If you're like a lot of high school seniors, you may know what you want out of life, but maybe not how to get it. Well, if you're looking for high-tech skill training and a competitive edge, you'll find the direction you're looking for in the Army.

Qualify now for the Army's Delayed Entry Program, and training in any of over 250 fields will be waiting for you when you graduate—guaranteed in writing up to 12 months in advance.

Then when your commitment is over, you can either take what you've learned and pursue a career in the civilian world, or receive advanced training and pursue a career in the Army. It's your choice.

Sure, deciding on what you want can be tough, but getting it doesn't have to be.

For more information, call: 1-800-USA-ARMY.

**ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.**

# CHAPTER SCOOP

During National FFA Week, Carroll Fort Wayne, **Indiana**, FFA sells donuts. Everyone who buys a donut gets a free FFA pencil.

New officers of the Wamogo Chapter in Kitchfield, **Connecticut**, went on a three-day camping trip to get better acquainted and prepare for the year.

Members of the Cherokee, **Alabama**, Middle School Chapter formed a group called CALS (Children Against a Littered State). They have involved other youth in the plan to use Saturdays for really cleaning up their adopted highway.

Liberty Benton FFA in **Ohio** built a ramp so handicapped children could ride horses as part of their therapy.

When Dayton, **Oregon**, celebrated old-timers day, the agribusinesses were ready, thanks to FFA. The chapter provided ballons, streamers and signs for local firms in the community to help build spirit for the day.



The Upper Sandusky, **Ohio**, FFA has taken on the challenge of giving their high school a "face lift."

Essex, **Massachusetts**, members were the labor force for a 60,000-piece mailing for the state Special Olympics.

After the officer planning meeting in June, the Hampshire, **West Virginia**, advisor cooked hot dogs for the team.

Twin Lakes FFA in Monticello, **Indiana**, holds its chapter banquet in early summer after judging contests, spring school events, state contests and much of the field work for farmers have been completed.

On one of the last days of school, the Woodham, **Florida**, FFA has a cookout to say farewell to seniors. It starts when school ends at noon and includes the usual hot dogs and hamburgers plus wild game like deer, fish and alligator.

FFA is designing a fitness trail at Edison, **Ohio**. It's a mile and a half with seventeen stations to work all areas of the body.

Judith Gap, **Montana**, FFA held an exchange program with the Alexis, **Illinois**, FFA so members could experience life on farms and ranches in different states.

The junior FFA in Greenville, **New York**, had a busy year. They held their own dance, fun fair, car wash and Christmas banquet.

Orlando-Colonial, **Florida**, FFA held an auction to raise money for chapter operation. They sold restaurant and entertainment gift certificates, new and used items and many plants.

Officers of Bronson, **Florida**, Chapter went on a shark fishing trip.

FFA was on hand when Iowa's Governor, Terry Branstad, visited in New Sharon. The chapter was recognized along with Tim Guyer for working on the community's development committee.

Liberty, **Oklahoma**, FFA and Young Farmers had a cookout and swim party this summer.



FFA members and guests who attended the Chancellor, **Virginia**, Chapter banquet witnessed a very unusual event! A friendly mouse interrupted the evening by dashing back and forth across the stage.

All the officers of the Bradley Chapter in Cleveland, **Tennessee**, attended a Washington Leadership Conference in July. Expenses for the trip came from sponsors and a barnyard sale.

Carnations sold by Gilroy, **California**, FFA on junior high and senior high graduation nights were a fundraiser for travel to national convention.

Any member who achieves perfect attendance at Tri-Rivers Career Center Chapter meetings in Marion, **Ohio**, gets a free FFA cap.

Highlight of the parent/member picnic in Yoder, **Wyoming**, was the annual world cup miniature golf championship.



Orange Grove, **Texas**, FFA parliamentary procedure teams were chosen by a commercial company to be filmed in a 30-minute how-to video produced and marketed to educators.

Bristol, **Massachusetts**, FFA members planted flowers in plots around a condominium complex that was a historic textile mill before conversion into residential housing.

The Narbonne Chapter in Harbor City, **California**, won the Los Angeles Beautiful Contest for the third year. It's a large landscaping competition.

Slocum, **Texas**, FFA took a field trip to Granada Ranch to observe embryo transplants.

Let us hear from more states like Nevada, Utah, Mississippi, North and South Dakota, South Carolina, Maryland, Virginia, Nebraska, Maine, Rhode Island, Louisiana and Vermont.

A full-page advertisement for Wrangler. The main image shows a smiling cowboy wearing a black hat, a pink, black, and white striped long-sleeved shirt, and black jeans. He is holding a white lasso in a large loop. To his right, an acoustic guitar is leaning against a white wooden fence. The background is a dark, textured wall. In the bottom left corner of the image, there is a small line of text: "A Wrangler Company • LEADER IN QUALITY APPAREL SINCE 1890 • WRANGLER".

*Shane Hammby, Mercury recording artist and pro rodeo cowboy, with his rope, guitar, and other tools of the trade; a Wrangler "Brushpopper" shirt in neon pink, black, and grey and Stay Black Cowboy Cut jeans.*

A Western original wears a Western original.



Cowboy Cut Jeans & Shirts

# Another News-Making Convention

## Thousands waiting to hear results.

Every FFA chapter will be anxiously waiting for news from the delegate business sessions to be held during the 63rd National FFA Convention, November 8-10, 1990, in Kansas City, Missouri. Two major issues will come before the delegates — a proposed new creed and another attempt to settle the delegate apportionment debate.

As reported on page 18, a proposed new FFA Creed will be considered. It is an issue that is expected to generate considerable debate and should be of interest to every member and advisor in the FFA.

The delegates will also face the representation question again. Details of the "Fixed 400" delegate plan are on page 13.

However there is a great deal more than the debate and delegate action which will be exciting for FFA members. President Donnell Brown wrote, "Your national officers are looking forward to the excitement, as you and other FFA members and guests join in this celebration. We're anticipating the eight intriguing sessions to be the convention's core of excitement."

### Speakers

Speakers confirmed for this year include motivational speakers Zig Ziglar, sponsored by DVB Enterprises through the FFA Foundation; W. Mitchell and Jerry Johnson. Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter and inner-city high school principal Joe Clark will address the convention as well as Amway Corporation President Rich DeVos. Former national FFA secretary and current Special Assistant to President George Bush, Fred

McClure, will also speak.

The theme for the 63rd National FFA Convention will be "FFA — Leadership for a Growing Planet" launching this environmental theme for FFA leading up to FFA Week next February.

Attendance is expected to soar to 24,000 for this year's convention including members, advisors and guests. The registration fee is \$20 for all.

### Meal Functions

The following meal functions will be available for chapters attending the 1990 Convention:

**National FFA Alumni Banquet** — November 7, 4:45 p.m., Bartle Hall, Room 213. This banquet is for all those attending the

Alumni National Convention that day, as well as advisors, FFA members and convention guests who wish to purchase tickets. Following the banquet the Alumni will hold their fund-raising auction. Ticket price is \$10.

**American FFA Degree Recipient Luncheon** — Friday, November 9, 12:00 Noon, Bartle-Grand Hall. Buffet for American FFA Degree recipients, their advisors, families and friends, and any others interested. (American FFA Degree candidates get one free ticket at the meal ticket booth, Bartle). Price is \$10.

**National Leadership Dinner** — Friday, November 9, 5 p.m., Bartle-Grand Hall. Join chapter and state FFA officers, past Washington Conference Program (WCP) participants, and past Made for Excellence (MFE) participants for this special leadership program. Price is \$10.

Tickets must be picked up at the Special Meal Ticket Booth in Kansas City's H. Roe Bartle Hall lobby.



FFA members around the country will be eager to get the news about what was decided at national convention.

### American Royal

The national officers will lead the annual parade to kick off the American Royal Livestock and Horse Show on Saturday, November 3, before the convention. Also, two FFA members - a young man and a young woman - will be chosen American Royal Ambassadors.

Another convention week highlight is the American Royal's rodeo. FFA members will receive a \$2 discount on American Royal rodeo performance prices. Performing during convention week will be Garth Brooks on November 7; Sawyer Brown on November 8; Wild Rose on November 9; and Chubby Checker on November 10. Tickets range from \$6-12. Ticket sales will be in the lobby of Bartle Hall.

### Chiefs Football

The Kansas City Chiefs will play the Seattle Seahawks at 12 noon on Sunday, November 11 at Arrowhead Stadium. Tickets are \$14 each. For more information, call (816) 922-4233.

### Alumni Activities

The National FFA Alumni Convention is scheduled in conjunction with the FFA convention. It is held in H. Roe Bartle Hall, located next to the Municipal Auditorium where FFA sessions are held.

The Alumni will meet in Room 209, Wednesday, November 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. The annual Alumni banquet begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by the popular fund-raising auction.

Alumni leadership workshops will be held in Bartle Hall on Thursday and Friday. This year's workshops will be lead by former national officers Jeff Johnson, Kelli Evans, Terri Hames, Warren Boerger, Kevin Ochsner, Dana Soukup, Scott McKain and Mark Mayfield.

### Career Show

Grand opening for the National Agricultural Career Show will be at noon on Wednesday, November 7, in the main exhibition area of Bartle Hall. Hundreds of exhibitors bring information to share with members and advisors who attend the convention and career show. •••

# Litton Center Salutes FFA Success Story

By Barbara Magerl

Located on the northern edge of Kansas City, at Smithville Lake, is the Jerry Litton Visitor Center. Exhibits and programs there salute Jerry Litton, who rose from being a shy Missouri farmboy to one of the most promising Congressmen of his era. All who knew Litton well truly believe he would have become president.

In high school he enrolled in debate to overcome his shyness, and joined the FFA. This combination set the pattern for success: he won fourth place in the national FFA speech contest, earned the American Farmer Degree and was elected national FFA secretary.

In his position as secretary, he visited President Truman in the White House. The fifteen minute appointment stretched into an hour-long discussion. Nineteen year old Litton took Truman's lesson on grass roots politics to heart.



Jerry Litton Visitor Center, Smithville Lake, Missouri.

As a teenager Litton convinced his father to begin breeding Charolais, a breed little known in the U.S. at that time. Within eight years the Litton Charolais Ranch won more than 1,000 events across the country. Many of these silver trophies are on display at the Center. Clips from a film about the Ranch, narrated by Chet Huntley, indicate the Littons' success.

In 1972 Litton ran for Congress and won by a healthy margin. Thus began an outstanding national career through which

he promoted the interest of farmers across the country, educating many leading government figures from his vantage point as a former FFA member and a farmer.

Litton married his childhood sweetheart and had two children. All were killed in a plane crash on August 3, 1976 en route to Kansas City. Had he lived, Litton would have learned that he had just won his Senate primary election by a two-to-one margin.

Upon request the center shows a twenty minute film, narrated by Walter Cronkite, in their fifty seat theater. The visitor center is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Little Platte River flood control project.

The Center is located about 15 minutes from either I-29 or I-35, near Highway 92.

Small groups are always welcome and arrangements can be made for larger groups by calling ahead to Ed Wells, Project Manager, (816) 532-0174. Regular hours at the Center are 8-4 weekdays and weekends. ●●●

## Mr. Inspiration By Walt Shaw

Gridley is a farming community in the agricultural rich Northern Sacramento Valley about two hours driving time from Sacramento, California's State Capitol.

Jeromy Sannar is a product of this region, a farming family and the FFA. Jeromy was this past year's sentinel from the California Superior Region and graduated from Gridley High School in June.

Jeromy Sannar is a lot like other FFA members except he only has one hand. Jeromy said he doesn't consider a missing left hand a real handicap. He played junior varsity football, rides horses, has a job, raised lambs for his FFA project and kept his grade point average at 3.5.

Jeromy gives credit to his parents, grandparents and the rest of his family for his positive attitude as a child but credits the FFA, his agriculture teachers and the director of the Superior Region for making his high school years more productive and fulfilling.

He said that before FFA, he was shy and hated to make presentations before class or crowds but through FFA he has



Photo by Author

**Jeromy Sannar raises lambs for his FFA project, played varsity baseball and kept a 3.5 grade point average.**

overcome his reserved feelings.

Jeromy also says the FFA program gave him a chance to make some money with his project and most importantly develop a real comradeship with other students. He says the friendships he has made will last for the rest of his life.

Jeromy plans to major in agricultural

business. He plans to spend the next two years at Butte College, complete his general education work and later continue his under-graduate work at California State University-Chico.

Jeromy says that right now he is still not sure what field of agricultural business he will go into but knows the future of all aspects of agribusiness can be a lucrative field for properly educated young people.

Jeromy says his missing hand has not been a severe problem for him, it has just taken a little longer to adapt to some types of activities, like baseball. He started playing baseball when he was eight and had to learn to take off his glove, throw the ball and replace the glove much like California Angel's pitcher Jim Abbott. Sannar is just as fast at this motion as players with two hands. Among other high school sports, Jeromy played on the varsity baseball team.

Jeromy says he considers himself fortunate and feels that those with physical disabilities should not use them as an excuse but should consider it as a challenge to overcome. ●●●

# Building a Dream

## Meet the 1990 Regional Star Farmers and Agribusinessmen.

By Beth Fulton

It takes vision and dedication, hard work and smart decisions, to reach the top ranks of FFA. Eight members, four farmers and four agribusinessmen, have spent the last five or more years striving to establish themselves in agriculture through their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs. They have been chosen from 1,056 American FFA Degree candidates and named the FFA's 1990 regional stars of America.

On November 8, two of these young entrepreneurs will

receive even greater honor when they are named Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman of America at the 63rd National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

Whether they spend their days selling computers, buying watermelons, milking cows, landscaping, harvesting crops, growing flowers or raising pigs, each of them has diligently worked to build a dream for themselves. Like all FFA members, each of these young people has a unique story to tell.

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**Brian Bingham, Western Region Star Agribusinessman**—"Without agricultural education and the FFA, I wouldn't have my own business today," says Brian Bingham. Bingham, 20, of Glendale, Arizona, is the owner of a successful landscaping business but wasn't involved in agriculture at all until high school.

Soon after he enrolled in agricultural education, Bingham became interested in plants. His Peoria FFA Chapter advisors noticed that interest and encouraged him to begin growing plants in the school greenhouse.

Bingham had found his niche. As a sophomore, he started his own business, designing and installing commercial landscapes, while also working at a local nursery to gain experience. During his junior and senior years, he managed the school greenhouse, which grossed more than \$30,000 each year.

Bingham Landscape Maintenance Service is the result of those experiences. According to John Mulcahy, Bingham's FFA advisor, Brian has a reputation for being honest and hard-working, and is a respected landscaper in the community.

"People want quality and are willing to pay for services," says Bingham. He continues improving and expanding his business and plans to eventually add a landscape materials nursery.

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**Jody Germann, Eastern Region Star Agribusinessman**—Fourth-generation horticulturalist Jody Germann brings his own progressive approach to a deep-rooted family tradition. Germann, 20, of Bowling Green, Ohio, says "My parent's business, Klotz Flower Farm, is where I developed my love for horticulture."

As part of his high school SAE, he started a nursery to grow materials that his parents had difficulty keeping in stock. He also worked part-time at the family business arranging flowers and maintaining the facilities.

In 1988, Germann added a living display of Klotz products to the business. "We have found that customers really enjoy walking through the display," he says. The display allows customers to see what their purchases will look like when established and growing.

Germann introduced many new practices to keep the wholesale and retail business modern and efficient. He uses temperature control to regulate plant growth and added a complete retail line of organic products to meet growing customer demand.

A member of the Bowling Green FFA Chapter, Germann attends The Ohio State University Agriculture Technical Institute. He plans to work in landscaping before returning to Klotz Flower Farm.

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**Allen Lewis, Southern Region Star Farmer**—A lifelong love of farming made choosing a career easy for Allen Lewis. “Farming has always been my first love,” says Lewis, 22, Gates, Tennessee. “I knew what I wanted to do after graduation—I wanted to farm.”

Lewis and his father raise over 1,400 acres of cotton, soybeans and wheat. He also custom harvests cotton and contract finishes hogs. Lewis’ diverse farming enterprises earned him the distinction of winning two national FFA proficiency awards, the national Fiber Crop Proficiency and the national Diversified Crop Proficiency awards.

As a national proficiency winner, he toured farms and agribusinesses in Europe for three weeks in 1987 and 1989. He says the experience opened his eyes to different ways of farming.

Conserving land and resources is important to Lewis. “In the future, farmers will have to conserve their money, plant just enough seed and not waste chemicals or till the soil too much,” he says. He uses terraces, grass waterways, contour farming and grass strips to reduce erosion.

A member of the Halls FFA Chapter, Lewis plans to continue farming full-time, concentrating on improving the efficiency and yields of his farming enterprises.



**Todd Lotter, Central Region Star Farmer**—When he was ten, Todd Lotter borrowed \$750 from his father to buy six pigs and equipment. Eleven years later, he and his father are partners in a 1,500-head swine feeding operation.

Lotter, 21, of Monroe, Indiana, farms over 300 acres of beans, corn and alfalfa. He owns 115 acres and has built up an impressive inventory of farm buildings, machinery and farm equipment.

Dairy cattle are the most recent of Lotter’s farming enterprises. In April of 1989, a neighboring dairy farm went up for sale. After calculating his financial prospects in dairying, he decided to purchase the farm. Lotter milks 63 cows and owns more than 70 dairy heifers, steers and calves. He has made several improvements to the buildings and grounds of the dairy farm, including remodeling the barns to make them more efficient.

In addition to his own farming, Lotter does custom plowing and baling and works as a laborer for other farmers. “This hands-on experience has been very beneficial in increasing my level of knowledge and confidence, as well as helping me gather more capital,” he says.

Lotter says he plans to expand to 100 milking cows with a herd average of 18,000 lbs. of milk per cow while increasing the size of his cropping program. Lotter is a member of the Adams Central FFA Chapter.



**Morgan Ott III, Eastern Region Star Farmer**—Morgan Ott III says he “watched and wanted” to be a part of the FFA for as long as he can remember. As soon as he was old enough, he enrolled in agricultural education and joined the Cedar-Lee Junior High School FFA Chapter. “My advisor, Mr. Carroll Payne, was instrumental in providing me with a solid foundation and an immense appetite for the FFA,” says Ott, 21, of Bealeton, Virginia.

Ott grew up on his parent’s dairy farm and began showing dairy cattle and goats as a 4-H member. As a Fauquier High School FFA Chapter member, Ott drew upon his early 4-H dairy showmanship experiences, winning a gold showmanship award at the 1986 National FFA Convention.

In March, 1988 Ott and his father became partners in Marshfield Holsteins. His responsibilities include caring for the calves, feeding the 90-cow milking herd and managing their more than 300 acres of crops.

Agricultural education helped this fourth generation dairyman learn welding and how shop equipment works. He now uses those skills to repair and maintain his farm equipment.

Ott serves on the Virginia FFA Alumni Board of Directors. His future plans are to further modernize the farm’s buildings and continue improving his dairy herd. ...



- Has your FFA advisor made a big difference in your life?
- Is your agriculture teacher different from all your other teachers?
- Does your advisor work long hours to make your chapter better?

The editors of *FFA New Horizons* have heard many stories of how FFA advisors have played an important part in their students' lives, so we've decided to run a special section in an upcoming issue just for these special people called...

### Salute to FFA Advisors!

We want to hear about your advisor and what he or she means to you and your FFA chapter. Tell us what makes your advisor different or unique.

Send your comments to:  
**"Salute to FFA Advisors"**  
**FFA New Horizons**

P.O. Box 15160

Alexandria, VA 22309-0610

Be sure to include your full name, address and phone number. All comments need to be received by

**November 20, 1990.**

### Milking a Good Idea

High school agricultural marketing courses are expected to start popping up around the country as soon as teachers get their hands on a set of new teaching materials distributed by the National Council for Agricultural Education.

"Marketing: Reaching Today's Consumer," uses the example of marketing milk to teach the concepts of advertising, promotion and public relations. The materials were sponsored by the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board (WMMB) through the National FFA Foundation.

"Product promotion and marketing is a topic about which ag students say they receive little or no training," says Mike Kawleski, WMMB director of Producer and Industry Relations. "Traditionally, their instruction has focused on production techniques, rather than how to market those products."

He notes that since nearly half the agricultural students have non-farm backgrounds, the course provides an opportunity to reach future consumers, as well as future agricultural leaders. Copies of the course have been mailed to 8,000 agricultural educators in the United States.



Outdoor-tough Justin Ranch Roper steps you through the messiest chores with ease. Cushioned insole and nonslip heel for comfort. Oil-tanned leather, threads, and neoprene insoles are treated to resist barnyard acids. Sealed seams and needle holes for water resistance. Justin Ranch Roper—as tough as the outdoors.

AMERICAN MADE BOOTS SINCE 1879

# WHAT'S NEW

## In Safety

Working around dangerous equipment is no place to take chances. But there is a good chance that you, a family member or close friend could be seriously injured in the coming year while working at home, at a job or in the school shop.

One way to reduce the risk of injury is to protect yourself with some of the sleek, comfortable, new safety products that feature modern design and exciting colors. Besides that, all products on this page meet strict federal safety requirements.



A



B

A) Quick welding jobs call for as much eye protection as long-term projects, so Sellstrom introduces the hand held IRON MASK. It can be used with either hand and protects the welder from intense light and sparks. Sellstrom Manufacturing Co., P.O. Box 355, Palatine, IL 60078.

B) Does Bo know about broken toes? That's what could happen if heavy objects are dropped on the feet of someone wearing regular athletic shoes. But the Walker Shoe Company has come out with SAFETY FIRST, an athletic shoe with a tempered steel toe. They are available in soft black or white leather with blue trim for men and pink trim for women. They are offered in HiCut (shown here) and LoCut styles. Walker Shoe Co., P.O. Box 1167, Asheboro, NC 27204.



C



D

C) When moving parts or flying particles are part of the working environment, eye protection, such as the Norton 180 Safety Spectacles, is a must. These smart impact-resistant glasses are made of tough polycarbonate and feature precision optics. North Safety Equipment, 2000 Plainfield Pike, Cranston, RI 02921.



E

E) Do you like your lungs the way they are? Protect them from ammonia, pesticides and other respiratory hazards with respirators. The half-mask model shown here from Pro-Tech Respirators, Inc., features a lightweight facepiece and low breathing resistance for comfort and safety. Pro-Tech Respirators, Inc., P.O. Drawer 339, Buchanan, MI 49107.



F

F) Heavy metal musicians will tell you that noise can be a major hazard in the workplace. Eardrums don't heal well, either. That all can be avoided by wearing personal hearing protectors like the H9A set by Peltor, Inc., pictured here. Peltor Inc., Peltor Park, 63 Commercial Way, East Providence, R.I. 02914.



G

here, for excellent glare reduction. Willson Safety Products, P.O. Box 622, Reading, PA 19603-0622.

D) The Spectra line of protective sunglasses by Willson features tough, lightweight construction and a wide variety of interchangeable tinted lenses, including their exclusive double gradient mirrored gray lens shown

G) Where fire hazards exist, flame resistant clothes are the coolest fashion around. Normal cotton and polyester will ignite and can cause severe burns. Flame resistant clothes, like the jacket and jeans by Safeguard America, Inc., pictured above, will self extinguish. Safeguard America, Inc., P.O. Box 1649, 800 16th Avenue North, Clanton, AL 35045.

# Accidents on the Farm are often caused by improper footwear

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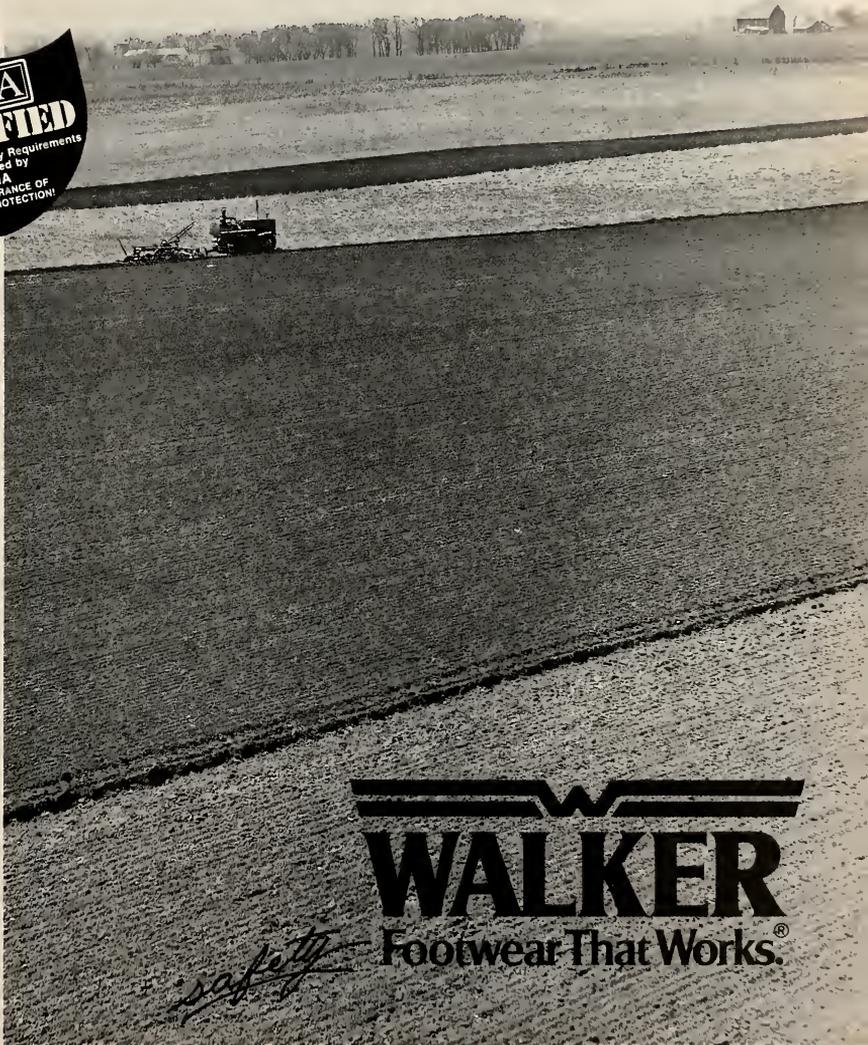
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Manufacturer of Titan Safety Industrial Footwear, Golden Retriever Collection, Silverado Boots, Abilene Western Boots

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE/ACTION EMPLOYER

# Going the Extra Mile

Something special happens when a contest team gets inspired.

**A**griculture teachers are not dumb. A long time ago, they found that if they made a contest out of the material they were teaching, their students actually wanted to learn more. The students even practiced (and learned) by themselves to be more competitive.

Someday, the rest of the educational system in America might just catch on to this idea. Until then, FFA members will keep gathering in groups of three and dive into livestock judging or ag mechanics or whatever area grabs their interest.

And when three highly motivated teenagers get together and set their sights on winning, something happens that isn't in the advisor's instruction manual.

Susan Bader of the Hermann, Missouri FFA Chapter scored the highest number of points at the national Floriculture contest in 1989. Her score, combined with those of her teammates Tammy Brukerhoff and Brenda Koelling, added up to win the national contest.

When considering that she placed first at the area, district, state and national levels, Bader excelled above hundreds of competitors. But according to advisor Ramona Schescke, it was what happened to Bader on the way to the top that really makes her a winner.

"Susan developed an inner strength that just glowed," says Schescke. "That confidence attracts people and they want to know how to get that too." Schescke says that students who are willing to work hard and sacrifice going into the contest not only come out winners, but better people. "One of the biggest thrills in coaching a team is watching a student mature and develop poise from their experience. They get a polish and an edge that helps them later on in life. They don't just react to things, they take action."

Schescke says that from her experience working with contest teams,



**Farm Business Management contest winners Kim Truong, Duane Freels and Brian Zerr of Kingdom City, Missouri, had to juggle contest team practice, school, sports teams and jobs as they prepared for competition.**

the success of the team depends on the attitude of the individual members. "I have this little speech I give to my class at the beginning of the year where I say, 'you can be a person who can watch things happen, let things happen, make things happen or wonder what happened. Which one are you going to be this year?'"

Of course, "making things happen" takes a lot of time, effort and sacrifice. According to teammate Brukerhoff, the Hermann team spent over 1,000 hours practicing for their contest, 600 hours of that was dedicated to getting ready for national competition. That amount of time will reshuffle anyone's schedule. Bader said that in

preparing for nationals, "I was juggling between two jobs, chores at home and practicing. The experience taught me how to manage my time and keep organized."

Duane Freels was a member of last year's national winning Farm Business Management team from Kingdom City, Missouri. Freels and his teammates Kim Truong and Brian Zerr had their share of schedule conflicts, especially with sports teams.

As a member of the school track team, Freels worked out an arrangement with his coach where he would practice farm business management after school while the track team was also practicing. Then he would go to the track and practice by himself, running alone. Along with being on the national winning FFA team, he went to state finals in track. "I was just lucky there weren't any contests on meet day," says Freels.

Truong had to miss a number of basketball practices, but his coach understood, telling him, "we're only trying to win state. You are going for a national title."

Not everyone is quite so understanding, especially with family members. Tensions at home can get strained. Even with all of her responsibilities, Bader felt guilty because she felt she wasn't contributing enough around home. As chapter secretary, FFA was taking up much of her time and not to the liking of her parents. "Mom and dad were always mad because I was always at another meeting."

Handling these pressures and time demands is part of what forges the confidence and persistence found in the members of good contest teams. These FFA members learn to rely on themselves and that motivation comes from within. "In sports, you are limited by natural talent. In a contest, you set your own boundaries," says Truong.

Bader emphasizes that succeeding on a contest team, or at any goal, depends on a person's attitude and appetite for excellence. "At an assembly our school had for us after we won nationals, I got my chance to say to the freshman and sophomores that if they want to do something like this, they can if they put their minds to it. There are all kinds of goals to be reached if they just want to set themselves up to reach them." ..



**Tammy Brukerhoff, Brenda Koelling and Susan Bader, left to right, on the winner's platform in Kansas City.**



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*Americans At Their Best.*



A sign on Highway 136 near Princeton, Missouri, is part of the public relations for the research farm. Advisor Gutshall and chapter officers Aimee Stamper, Mona Cox and Mike Rogers worked with the community to get the farm started.

## A Field of Dreams

### Community supporters help their FFA chapter start a research farm.

By Andrew Markwart

**A** new FFA research farm in Princeton, Missouri is sparking hope in a community hit hard by the 1980s farm crisis.

Princeton is the county seat of Mercer County, Missouri. In 1982, Princeton lost its hospital, two banks and the school was condemned. Because of the depressed economy, few college graduates were returning to Mercer County. High school graduates were moving away to find better jobs.

Out of this era of hard times came an offer from an anonymous person to buy a farm and lease it to the school for agriculture students to grow and study alternative crops and production methods. The offer was studied by the high school agriculture department's advisory committee of local farmers and businessmen.

The advisory committee decided that although the farm was an exciting idea, the students shouldn't have to be in a position of having the lease pulled someday. Wanting a more permanent solution, the committee formed a non-profit organization called the Princeton FFA Research Farm Inc., took out a loan and in February, 1989, bought a 120-acre farm a half mile outside of Princeton.

Mike Rogers, 1989-90 chapter FFA president, says the level of commitment from the townspeople came as a surprise to he and his fellow classmates. "Students were amazed at how the community went

out on the limb for us," said Rogers.

FFA advisor Dennis Gutshall emphasizes that most people don't realize the financial risk the group took to get the research farm started. "You have to realize that these people had to put their names on the dotted line. They signed a bank note in the middle of a drought (in 1988) and took a personal risk to make this happen. It's a chance they didn't have to take," he said.

One of those risk-takers is farmer and former FFA member Mike Moore. He sees the farm as a means to keep bright young people in the area. "The kids leaving the community would stay if they had some good alternatives," he explains.

Local banker and committee member Jerry Goodin has high expectations for the research farm. "The farm can help existing farmers see new methods and practices on an experimental level. We're talking about growing canola and Christmas trees on a small scale so farmers become familiar with the crops. With a pond, we could show fish farming." He said the farm could be a community agricultural laboratory. "The farm could be a place for people to stop

and see what we're experimenting with and then take that back home and apply it to their operations," said Goodin.

Moore and Goodin are current directors of the Farm Board that oversees the management of the farm. The board consists of local farmers and agribusinessmen who serve 3-year terms and have voting rights. The county extension agent, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) representative and FFA advisor are all non-voting members.

Extension agent Glen Easter is excited about what the research farm could ac-



Members of the current board that oversees the management of the Princeton FFA Research Farm are, left to right, banker Jerry Goodin, fertilizer and feed dealer Mark Yungeberg, farmer Mike Moore, farmer Raymond Easter, FFA advisor Dennis Gutshall and extension agent Glen Easter.

complish in transferring new technical information to farmers and students. "The farm is a wonderful opportunity to localize our extension efforts and look at local problems. We can have field days showing tillage techniques. We can introduce things to people. They can come back and seek more information if they want. This

research farm is helping the community, the students, extension and producers."

Dennis Gutshall, agriculture instructor and FFA advisor, says that the farm has endless possibilities, the most important being a chance for students to discover agriculture who otherwise wouldn't have had the chance. "I walk on the grounds and see all kinds of different programs — an exposition center, horticulture, cows and ponds."

Students in the farm management class, including Mike Rogers, were architects of the first farm management plan. They interviewed farmers, the conservation department and the ASCS. A conservation plan is a key element in the overall management formula.

Gutshall says the farm will be a place for students who are interested in agricultural science or production but don't have room at home to have projects. "It will make kids be creative. They will try things and maybe they will succeed and maybe they will fail. In a situation where they have relatively low risk, those lessons are worth a lot in life."

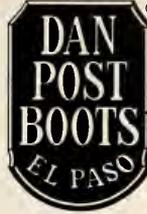
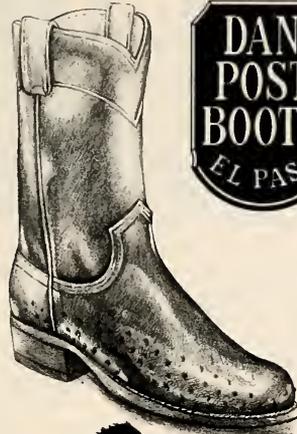
Board members are growing corn and soybeans on the farm for the first three years to generate enough money to pay the farm off by the end of 1991, only three years after it was purchased. In 1989 the farm generated a gross income of \$10,000, most of which turned into pure profit because all expenses are being shouldered by FFA supporters.

The only expense on the books for 1989 was two pairs of pliers. Fertilizer and feed dealer Mark Yungeberg donates all the seed and crop protection chemicals for the research farm. This kind of support also makes the research farm possible at no cost to the school district and its taxpayers.

Advisor Gutshall says the school board and administration have been supportive of this unusual effort. David Curtis, Princeton school board president admits that it is a matter of priorities. "We've always done a lot for sports teams, but the basis of this community is agriculture," he said.

All of the support reinforces the original purpose of the farm—to excite young people about agriculture and keep them as a contributing part of the community. "We have a lot of absentee landowners in our county, says extension agent Easter. "They're nice people, but we can't count on them to be the human resources that a community needs."

With the promise of an active research farm in the community, the "brain drain" of the 80s may turn around to become the "brain trust" of the 90s. ...



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# FFA IN ACTION

Missouri

## National Officer Action Update

National FFA Secretary Scott Crouch visited the North Platte Chapter in Missouri on May 11, 1990 to give the major address at the chapter's banquet. He arrived at 10:30 a.m. at the Kansas City Airport and was whisked away to the school by 11. Here's proof of all the crazy and fun things he did while in Dearborn, population 548, for a chapter visit! His new "friends" there sent us these telling photos.



On the way to the school he spotted a local business person and posed for this "business and industry photo."



After school he returned for a meeting with the management of the firm.

He did finally make it to the chapter's parent-member banquet. During his presentation he "magically" surprised Byron Newell, chapter reporter, by mysteriously revealing personal facts about Byron's taste in clothing.



West Virginia  
**Shell Out**

Instead of selling corn, the Ripley FFA chapter is shelling corn. This fund-raising activity is called the corn-shell-athon. It has been used in the chapter for three years and will probably be used for many years in the future. The chapter's goal is for each member to shell 100 ears of corn for pledges at a penny per ear, two cents per ear or any amount people pledge.

During the corn-shell-athon the chapter has drawings for members to win gifts. First year members work very hard to get pledges because they can earn a free FFA jacket if they raise \$70 or more in pledges. Members can also receive shirts, rings and various FFA accessories for their work. This way the members are working, raising money and earning gifts.

The chapter uses the funds raised for activities such as the banquet and Washington Conference Program. Ripley chapter members generate about \$2,000 in two or three hours during the corn-shell-athon. (Amy Stephens, Reporter)

Oklahoma

## Downtown Tour Hosts

Ten Japanese students were chosen to visit Oklahoma through a special exchange program conducted by Lt. Governor Robert S. Kerr's office.

Kyoto, Japan and Oklahoma are sister states in a special international trade and relations program. The ten Japanese students, from the Kyoto Prefecture in Japan, attended a designated Agricultural High School. Before they dispersed to their host families, the entire group, accompanied by interpreters, made a visit to Kingfisher, Oklahoma.

Kingfisher FFA members took the group to Kingfisher Western Wear, Braums Ice Cream Store and to the Kingfisher Municipal Swimming Pool. That evening, the group was treated to volleyball and a hamburger fry, sponsored by Mark and Karen Mueggenborg and the Kingfisher FFA Mothers Club. Oklahoma state FFA officers were also present to welcome the Japanese guests. The evening culminated with an FFA slide show of our nation's capitol and the Washington Conference FFA Program. Four of the ten stayed in Kingfisher homes. (Travis Beams, Reporter)

Ohio

## Ride'em If You Can



Does anyone ever do well as a rider/ballplayer in a donkey basketball game? This game pitted local civic organizations in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, against the FFA. Over \$400 was made from this night of fun.

North Carolina

## FFA Wins One For Their School

Stedman Junior High School was first place winner in the annual North Carolina school beautification and recycling program/junior high division. The FFA chapter was responsible for the landscaping projects which were a major part of the work done at Stedman.

State Senator Marvin Ward presented a plaque and a \$500 savings bond to chapter president Jimmy Griffin III, advisor David Harris and principal James Surles during an award luncheon in Raleigh.

The chapter landscaped the center court at the school with azaleas; totally landscaped the area around the agriculture department; and improved the appearance in front of the school with a split rail fence, crepe myrtle trees and junipers.

Connecticut

## Chapter Hosts State

State FFA conventions can be very different from state to state. Some are held

in large coliseums; others in smaller auditoriums. In May, the Woodbury, Connecticut FFA Chapter hosted the 1990 Connecticut State FFA conference at their high school. Because they are the largest and one of the most active FFA chapters in the state, Woodbury was an ideal location. Throughout the day, 250 FFA members were active in business meetings, public speaking contests and leadership workshops.

The Woodbury FFA members were very pleased to have Bill Henriksen, national FFA vice president, attend the conference this year at their school. They were proud to share their agricultural facilities.

All participants enjoyed Bill's presentation and were impressed with his encouraging remarks concerning the future of agriculture and the FFA.

During the evening awards session, the Woodbury FFA Chapter received several state awards, but the highlight of the evening was when five Woodbury members were elected to state offices out of seven possible officers: Liz Anderson, vice president; Ray Buzgo, treasurer; Lynn Shatney, secretary; Kevin Knapp, sentinel; and Karrie Norton, reporter.

Ohio  
**A SPLASH OF SAFETY**



**The West Muskingum, Ohio, FFA in cooperation with the State Department of Natural Resources conducted a watercraft safety program. John Bird from the department explained proper techniques for getting in and out of a canoe as well as safe boat handling. (Susan Hill, Reporter)**

Illinois  
**Making History**

Chapter advisor John Conner has completed the 50 year history of the Galesburg, Illinois, FFA Chapter. In the forward to the book he explained how the history book came together.

During the last six years, members of the chapter went through school publications to find the first mention of agriculture being taught at the high school. Before 1913, J. W. Adams was listed as a science teacher, but in the 1913 *Reflector*, the school yearbook, he was listed as the first agriculture teacher.

The school newspaper, *The Budget*, has also been a major source of information about the Knox Country Young Farm Bureau and the first Agriculture Club. Finally in 1940, the Galesburg Future Farmers of America was chartered and reported by *The Budget*.

Research for this book uncovered that Galesburg High School had an accredited Smith-Hughes program and an active agriculture club as far back as 1928. So why did Galesburg wait until 1940 to charter FFA?

"I was unable to find a reason for this until after the book was published," explained Conner. Mr. A. J. Rehling, Galesburg agriculture instructor 1928-1938 indicated in a letter that the principal/superintendent at Galesburg from 1923-1938 would not allow an organization in his school that had outside connections.

*(Continued on Page 56)*

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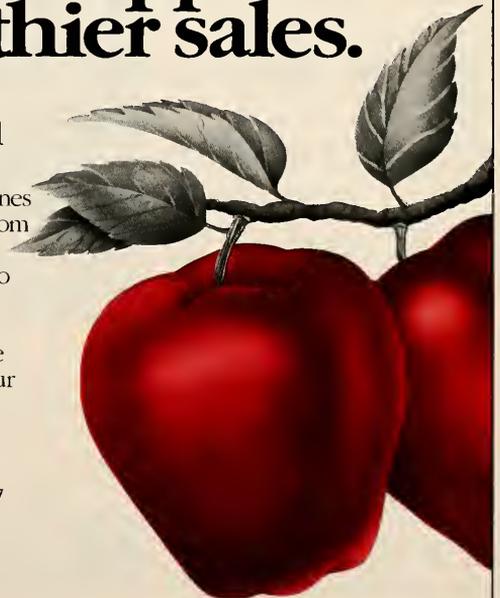
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# FFA IN ACTION



North Carolina  
**SIGN OF THE TIMES**



Authorities placed a historical marker along the highway near the FFA Camp at White Lake, North Carolina. The marker was erected and ceremonies held during the 27th annual state FFA leadership conference. The marker indicates that FFA began in North Carolina as Young Tar Heel Farmers. Camping has been at this site since 1928. State FFA officers and Dan Schroer, national vice president, were present for the ceremony: left to right Teresa Williamson, Steve Sifford, Wesley Barefoot, Kelly Butler, Artie Chapman, Brian Wood and Dan.

New Hampshire  
**A Monumental Landscaping Project**

Coe-Brown, New Hampshire, FFA members had a unusual reason to "dig" into history this spring.

Plans were announced to construct a pedestrian tunnel under Route 4 which runs along the campus at Norwood Academy. The new tunnel would destroy some major landscapes on campus. So members in the "landscaping-managing residential properties" program had the opportunity to handle an unusual contract and landscaping project.

They moved trees and shrubs and other parts of the Academy's landscape out of the way. Moving the shrubs and 15-foot trees is fairly routine for landscaping crews, but was a new experience for the members. The FFA crew moved large maple trees and lilac plants that had been planted by previous landscaping classes at the school.

But the job of saving and moving

landscaping components became "monumental" when they were asked to move the historical marker that designated the location of Piper's Tavern.

The plaque and marker were erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution to commemorate visits to the spot by U.S. President James Monroe in 1817 and Marquis de Lafayette in 1825. The tavern was well known for excellent food and as a comfortable and safe place for travelers. It became a popular spot for Daniel Webster as well.

Moving the marker required some problem solving skills on the part of the FFA crew. Dennis Lowther dug a test hole beside the marker to determine its dimensions. It turned out that the simple brass plaque was attached to a piece of New Hampshire granite measuring ten inches thick by three feet wide by nearly seven feet long. A local stone worker estimated that the monument weighed over 3,000 pounds.

Excavating the earth from around the

stone was one of the easier parts of the job. David Hodgdon operated a backhoe to remove some of the supporting soil and rocks near the base of the marker. Then to avoid possible damage to the granite, Lowther, Chris Prince and Brandy Smith used hand shovels to move the earth nearest the marker.

After protecting the marker with timbers, the members designed a sled to transport the stone to a new location. This was the tricky part and required two tractors to lift and balance and tug and pull to get the granite marker into a new hole 40 feet back from Route 4.

After they got the stone in place, the chapter members planted purple lilacs on each side and re-established a flower bed around the marker. (Paul Davis, Jr., Vocational Director)

Ohio  
**Outer Space Tomatoes**

Members of East Clinton, Ohio, FFA planted gardens to experiment with tomato seeds from space. During the spring semester and through the summer students are growing and monitoring space-exposed seeds and earth-based seeds, look-



**Taking measurements of the plants in greenhouses before transplanting are Bill Thatcher, Mike Warnock and Dan Hacker.**

ing for differences. Results gathered by the students will be forwarded to NASA for a final report.

Washington  
**Judging Internationally**

Members of the Washington state FFA dairy judging team, the Oklahoma FFA livestock judging team and their delegations spent a fun and educational three weeks in Europe this summer. The teams

*(Continued on Page 58)*

## New Creed or Same Creed?

(Continued from Page 18)

through the eyes of a 14-year-old who has no knowledge of the past 63 years. We must view the creed as a vital piece of the puzzle that makes up FFA; a piece that must be appealing and provide a satisfying experience for members."

Knowing that some people fear that FFA is making changes for changes sake, Sokolosky suggests that, "tradition just for tradition's sake is every bit as dangerous."

Others disagree. For 60 years, new members have been learning and reciting the creed in order to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree. As a result, many current and past FFA members have strong emotional ties to the current creed. "I believe our organization needs to have a few things it can keep as its tradition," said Kevin White, California vice president. "If we keep changing things, there won't be much tradition left. I'm all for change and open-mindedness, but I believe the current creed says everything that I believe in and FFA stands for."

The proposed creed honors the heritage of farming in America while broadening its scope to encompass all careers in agriculture. Most of the values found in the current creed are also in the proposed creed but phrased with modern terminology and style. The third paragraph of the proposed creed does introduce a strong emphasis on individual environmental responsibility not found in the current creed.

The outcome of the creed decision and other convention business will be reported in the December-January issue of *FFA New Horizons*, the convention *Proceedings*, which is sent to each FFA chapter at the close of national convention, and on the AgEd Network. ...



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# FFA IN ACTION

from Ferndale and Mt. Baker, Washington and Waynoka, Oklahoma, traveled with the National 4-H dairy and livestock judging champions from Maryland and Iowa.

The teams began their trip in Edinburgh, Scotland, where they attended the Royal Highland Show and participated in the international judging competition. Gloucestershire County, England, was next with a chance for the group to experience English culture. They went to the city of Bath, "stock-judged" with the English Young Farmers and spent a day with their host families. Then they went to London where they toured cathedrals, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace and went to Harrod's and the original Hard Rock Cafe.

The group spent a week and a half touring Holland, Germany, Switzerland and France. During this time, the members toured famous castles, farms, a wooden shoe factory, cruised the Rhine River and enjoyed a day in the Swiss Alps at a cheese-making farm.

International travel was a new and exciting adventure for all members of the group which included thirty students, coaches, parents and chaperones. While representing the FFA and the United States of America, it was an excellent opportunity to experience different cultures and develop lasting friendships. The trip to Europe opened everyone's eyes to the opportunities available to FFA members and developed a strong interest in the Work Experience Abroad Program.

New Jersey

## Parade Your Best



Allentown, New Jersey, FFA uses part of their funds to produce a quality parade float for Memorial Day festivities. It is an important part of their public relations program for FFA.

Arizona

## A Weekend Locked in School

The weekend approaches. It is Friday, when most high school students are eagerly awaiting that final bell of the week signifying that school is out for two days and it's time for a little rest and relaxation. But this couldn't be further from the truth when the Peoria, Arizona, FFA Chapter hosts its annual mini-leadership camp.

For the past five years, the Peoria FFA has been hosting a state "mini-camp" every January. The camp is a 24-hour affair featuring workshops, recreation, lots of food and, according to every camper who's ever attended, lots of fun.

The camp began in 1986 as a brainchild of Peoria FFA advisor, John Mulcahy. "When I was in college," he explains, "I worked with the YMCA. One of our events was called a "lock in." Once a year we locked 100 teenagers in the YMCA for 12 hours and just had a blast." Out of this concept grew the 24-hour Peoria FFA Mini-Camp.

The camp begins on a Friday evening with opening ceremonies. This past year, 200 FFA members showed up Friday to hear local psychologist, Ross Bentley, give the keynote address for the camp entitled, "Yardsticks for Success."

Ross pointed out how society normally measures success and encouraged all those in attendance to develop their own criteria for determining what is really important in life. Ross's speech was most fitting because the theme of the 1990 mini-camp was "How Do You Spell Success?"

After the opening, the campers divided into groups to discuss the meaning of success. Past and present state officers served as counselors for each of these groups. During this session, students got acquainted with one another and dug into some tough questions about personal development and FFA.

From nine until midnight, FFA members danced to all their favorite songs and made friendships that will last a lifetime.

At midnight, the rowdiness of the dance gave way to a more sober mood as students adjourned to the auditorium for the vespers program. During the vespers program which was conducted by FFA members from around the state, FFA

members were again urged to search their hearts for the meaning of success.

The vespers program concluded at 12:30. After that, the girls adjourned to the "old gym" at one end of the campus and the boys to the "new gym" at the other end of the campus. Peoria FFA Alumni served as chaperones and acted as security personnel throughout the night.

A short six hours later, the campus came to life again as music blared through the public address system. FFA members dressed and made their way to the front of the school. There they were treated to "wacky calisthenics" conducted by the state FFA officers and a thought-for-the-day.

The breakfast was a feast of bacon, eggs, biscuits and gravy cooked by the Peoria FFA Alumni affiliate. Much of the food was donated by local producers.

After breakfast, members attended two workshops. Steve Galdi, a local motivational speaker, conducted a workshop on peer pressure. Mike Munoz, a local minister, spoke about family success.

These workshops were followed by lunch and a foot rodeo featuring pie eating contests, a balloon toss and many other fun-filled events.

Saturday evening was the annual lead-



The pie eating contest draws a big crowd every year during camp. Recreation is an important part of the 24-hour experience.

ership banquet. After dinner Arizona State Representative Bob Burns spoke on the "Importance of Success." At the conclusion of the banquet the counselors presented awards to the outstanding male and female campers. With this, the camp was officially adjourned for another year.



# MY TURN

Dan Schroer



Dan Schroer

Our National Officer team travels many miles in many different directions. Earlier this year National FFA Secretary Scott Crouch went to the White House to hear President George Bush's address on relations with Hungary. As President Bush talked about the future of our country, he gestured to Scott Crouch, as a symbol of the future of our country. President Bush wasn't saying that our country's future was in Scott's hands. He was saying that young people and organizations like FFA have an important part in shaping that future. What prompted the President to single out Scott? Scott was wearing the official FFA jacket.

As I sat in the Philadelphia airport awaiting a flight to Dallas, Texas, I reflected on the National Leadership Conference for State Officers that I had just attended in Delaware. Forty-three state officers had learned about their year as state leaders and discussed issues to be brought up at national FFA convention.

Just as I heard the first call to board the plane, a gentleman approached me and introduced himself as a past FFA member. He told me about his chapter, supervised agriculture experience program and his participation in FFA contests. He strengthened my belief in the organization by telling me that his success came from his involvement in the FFA. What initiated this conversation? I was wearing an FFA jacket, a symbol of our organization since 1933.

Some people believe that a blazer may be the wave of the future, but if Scott was wearing a blazer in the White House or if I had been wearing a blazer in the airport, would we have been recognized?

One event where thousands of FFA

members will be wearing their jackets with pride is the National FFA Convention in November. Once again, many important issues are facing our organization. A new delegate system will be implemented, allowing more FFA members to be involved in making decisions for our organization. Also a new formula to determine the number of delegates will be introduced and voted on to bring about greater equity. A proposed new creed will also be studied and voted on by the delegates.

My challenge to each FFA member is to learn about these issues. Ask your chapter advisor and state FFA officers for their views. Look at each issue with a mature and intelligent attitude. Share your ideas about these issues with your state officers to help them as they decide which way to cast their vote. I challenge each state FFA officer to weigh the pros and cons of each item affecting our organization. Discuss each item with the members of your state and vote in a way that is in the best interest of both current members and future members.

As we look at the overall image of the FFA, we must continually improve and strengthen our organization. Pride in our organization is how we strengthen that image. I met a member at the Washington Conference Program who was deaf but he taught me a very important and touching sign language symbol. The word was "pride" and the sign was a motion as if he were zipping up his jacket.

Our jacket is the most recognized symbol of our organization. It represents the leadership, citizenship, and cooperation skills of each of us. Wear your jacket with pride and show the public that we are developing "Leadership for a Growing Planet!"

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# J O K E P A G E

"Richie, I think I have to break up with my girlfriend," Paul said.

"Why?" Richie asked.

"Because of our astrological signs," Paul explained. "She's a water sign, and I'm an earth sign."

"What does that mean?" Richie asked.

Paul said, "It means that together we're mud."

Nancy Mendoza  
Brackettville, Texas



"She loves me, she loves my car..."

That girl over there just rolled her eyes at me. What should I do?

If you were a real gentleman you would pick them up and roll them back to her.

Terrie Peterson  
Scotland Neck, North Carolina

Patient: Doctor, Doctor, I feel like a deck of cards.

Doctor: Have a seat, I'll deal with you later.

Timmy Cooper  
Hurtsboro, Alabama

Joe: If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?

Bill: Pilgrims.

LeRoy Bulter  
New Zion, South Carolina

One farm boy made a bet with a second farm boy that he could get their boss, a very quiet farmer, to say three words in one sentence. All day the lad asked the farmer questions but not one word came from the farmer's mouth. Finally the young man said to the farmer, "I made a bet with my friend that I could get you to say three words."

The farmer replied, "You lose!"

Matthew Schuster  
Willow City, North Dakota

"I'm here for four-volt two-watt bulbs."

"For what?"

"No, two."

"Two what?"

"Yes."

Ashley Ridley  
Warner, Oklahoma

Q: What did the Martian say when he crash landed in a garden?

A: Take me to your weeder.

Larry Delgado  
Edinburg, Texas

Bill: "First I got tonsillitis. That was followed by appendicitis and pneumonia. It ended up with neuritis. Then they gave me hypodermics and inoculations."

Tom: "That sounds rough."

Bill: "You know it. I thought I'd never get through that spelling test."

John Phillips  
Chittenango, New York

Q: Why did the girl's father call her Cinderella?

A: He wanted her home by midnight.

Tiffany Powell  
Chicago, Illinois

## Charlie, the Greenhand



"It looks like our barn after I helped Dad fix it up."

### NOTICE:

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\*1989 New Truck Buyer Study. \*\*1990 IntelliChoice Inc., San Jose, CA. Resale cost estimate after five years. Ford F150 and Chevy C1500 base models with selected options. Actual resale prices and operating costs may vary.

†"Best-Built" claim based on an average of consumer-reported problems in a series of surveys of all Ford and competitive '81-'90 models designed and built in North America. Sales by Division.

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