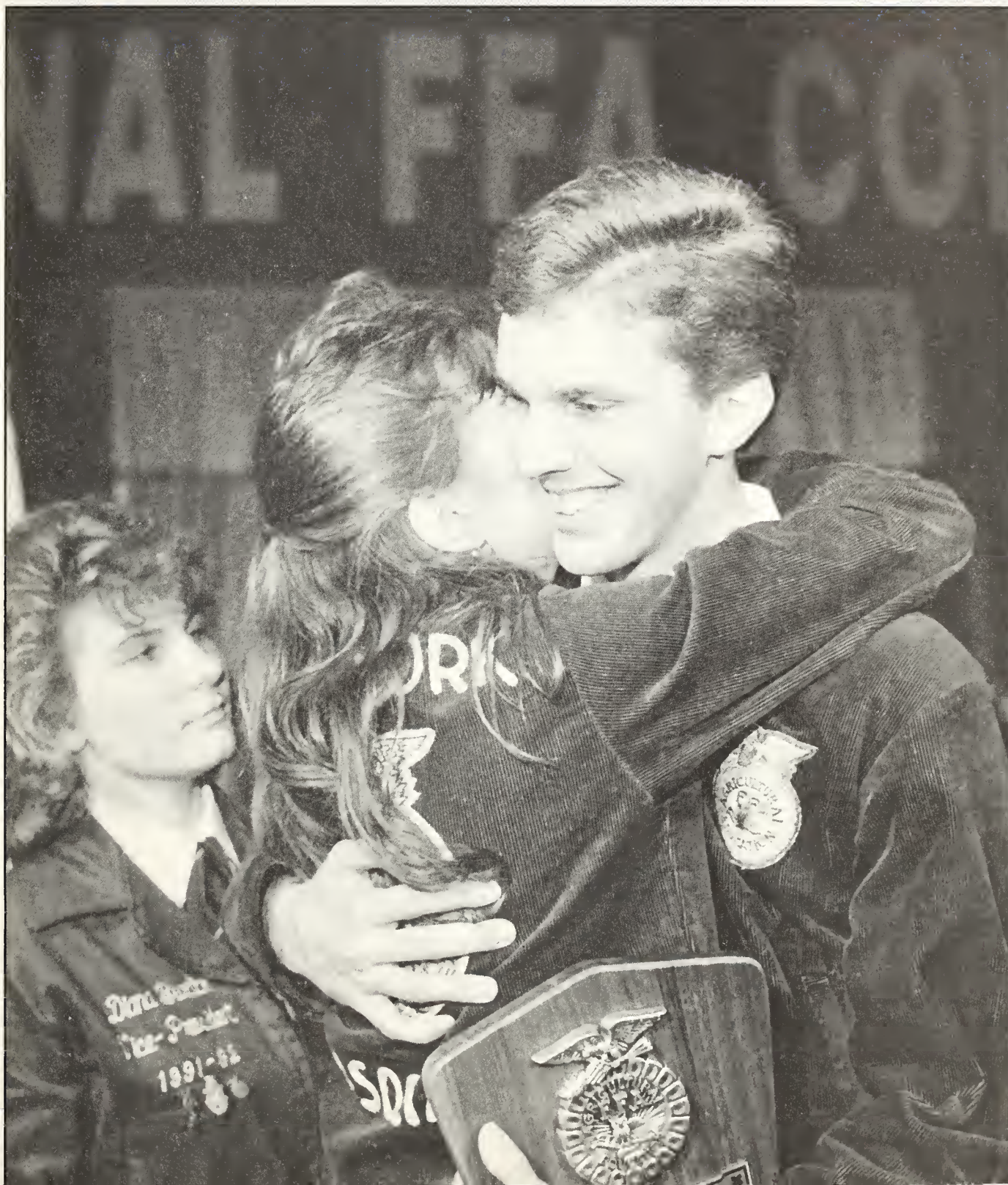


The 64th National FFA Convention

# PROCEEDINGS

November 14-16, 1991



*Sweet victory: A friend was on hand to celebrate Michael Ryan Beckerink's national prepared public speaking win.*





*Jeff Bergman, Paris, Mo., played baritone sax in the National FFA Band.*

*Sometimes Dreams  
Do Come True...*

# An Unforgettable Adventure

**P**lane tickets...school buses...sprawling city...bright lights...claim checks...black shoes...suitcases...

They filled Kansas City hotels, jammed 13th Street and munched pizza at the the Town Pavilion. Dressed in their best blue and gold, FFA members joined advisors, Alumni, National FFA Foundation sponsors and family members, waiting anxiously for their convention experience to begin.

But FFA convention participants weren't the only ones getting cleaned up for the convention. Hoards of Secret Service agents and police combed Municipal Auditorium, checking every nook and cranny. Police dogs sniffed band instruments and camera bags for traces of anything unusual. Not just anybody could get in. This day was to be an FFA exclusive.

About 11 a.m., Wednesday, the audience began filing into the auditorium. Through the "magnetometers," they passed. No one entered the convention hall without walking through these metal detectors for a thorough security check.

*National FFA Band members were riding the elevator with a Secret Service agent. One of the band members said, "You're part of the Secret Service?"*

*The agent smiled back: "It's not much of a secret, is it?"*

At 1 p.m., the White House press corps and local media entered, taking their places on the large press platform in the middle of the arena. Press passes dangled from the necks of over 200 reporters and photographers, entitling them to a ringside view.



*President George Bush addressed a crowd of over 15,000 during a special session of the 64th National FFA Convention.*





At 1:45 p.m., Air Force One touched down at Kansas City Downtown Airport, and the president's motorcade headed for the heart of the city. The jet black limousine pulled into the auditorium, stopping only a few steps from the backstage ramp, and the President of the United States emerged at 1:59 p.m., after more than 15,000 FFA members had packed the auditorium and the overflow halls.

Only the stage was lit. Fred McClure, presidential assistant for legislative affairs and former national FFA secretary, had the honor of sitting in the prized chair next to Miss America Carolyn Suzanne Sapp. Missouri's U.S. Senators, John Danforth and Christopher "Kit" Bond, took their seats next to the national FFA officers.

*The band was sitting on the stage, waiting to play 'Hail to the Chief' for the President's entrance. I had my saxophone in my right hand and my camera in my left hand and a tape recorder between my knees.*

*When he came out, I was spell-bound. When he started speaking, he laughed and joked. Even though he's the leader of the free world, I found out he's just like one of us.*

Jeff Bergman  
National Band  
Paris, Missouri

The President commended the FFA. "America has the best young people in the whole world," Bush said. "I want to salute the FFA for bringing so many of you together to exchange ideas and forge friendships that will brighten our country for

(Continued on Page 6)



*National Forest Management Proficiency Award winner Lisa Hefty, Auburn, Ind., jumped with joy when her name rang throughout the auditorium.*

President Bush wasn't the only world leader taking note of the convention. Russian Republic leader Boris Yeltsin sent a special message. In a letter transmitted by fax to the National FFA Organization before the convention started, Yeltsin emphasized his appreciation for American agriculture.

"The taste of American grain is known to populations of dozens of countries," he stated in the letter. "It is also familiar to Russians. Food supplies from the United States are today a major factor in overcoming the acute economic crisis and carrying out radical reforms in Russia."

Yeltsin praised a program which brought 30 Soviet agriculturalists to the U.S. last June for a year of hands-on experience. FFA and the National Young Farmer Educational Association coordinated the U.S. host families.

*All of us coming here to Kansas City—it nurtures the idea of a common cause. Being with all these people from other places makes us look toward the future. If FFA doesn't do it for us, what will?*

*Keith Brodersen  
Chapter Representative  
Storrs Regional, Connecticut*

Other leaders also touched convention participants. Miss America Carolyn Suzanne Sapp told members, "Getting an



*With all the tours to take, convention sessions to attend, Alumni workshops to listen to, and the Career Show to visit, FFA members needed to take a break. This young woman found a rest spot outside to catch a breath of fresh air.*





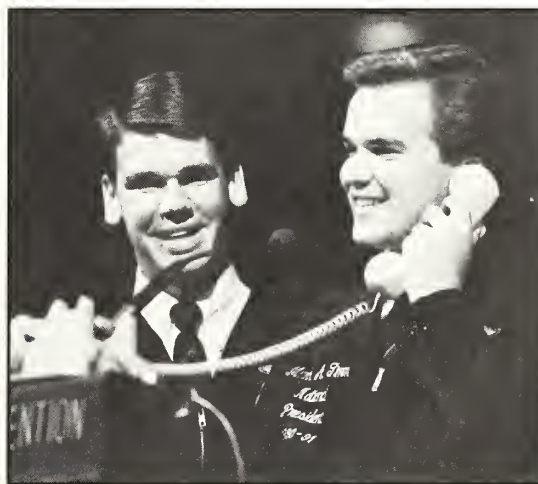
*Impressed by the overwhelming size of the National FFA Convention last year, Keith Brodersen, Storrs Regional, Conn., said he decided words were not enough to describe the sights. This year, he captured the convention and its record crowd of 27,003 on videotape to take home and share with his chapter.*

education is a one-way ticket to accomplishing goals." Her appearance was sponsored by Chevy Trucks. Sapp spent Wednesday afternoon greeting members and signing autographs at the National Agricultural Career Show.

Captain Gerald Coffee, a seven-year prisoner during the Vietnam War, demonstrated the "tap code" he and other POWs used to communicate among themselves between isolated cells. He tapped the FFA motto to an approving crowd.

Vietnam vet Dave Roever shared his story. While preparing to lob a grenade, Roever was fired on. A bullet hit the grenade he was holding only six inches from his face. He survived, and now puts a high value on life. "Drugs aren't gonna make your life any better," he urged. And while you're at it, "Stop the insanity of drinking and driving." Roever's presentation was sponsored by the Western Retail Implement and Hardware Association.

Guest speaker Jerry Clower was sponsored by United Telephone System—Midwest Group, and Scott McKain by DVB Enterprises, Inc. which also sponsored the convention organizer, Peter Ole. Betsy Brand, assistant secretary at the U.S. Department of Education, and Jack Parnell, former deputy secretary at



*Although members were let down when the brawny Arnold Schwarzenegger "terminated" his appearance at the FFA convention to work on the film "Christmas in Connecticut," he redeemed himself with a phone call. "I want to assure you this is not 'Hans and Franz' from Saturday Night Live," he began. The crowd roared its approval when Schwarzenegger vowed to visit a future National FFA Convention.*

the U.S. Department of Agriculture also addressed the convention stage.

Sprinkled throughout the convention schedule were other history-making events. Convention registration reached record levels at 27,003. Friday afternoon seven new charters were issued by the National FFA Organization. Guam and the Virgin Islands were welcomed as two new associations and five affiliate chapters in the South Pacific Islands of Micronesia were granted charters.

The National FFA Organization recognize the Project Pals mentoring program. In its early stages with two

states participating in a pilot program, FFA members have been paired with elementary kids at-risk; those kids who lack self esteem, stability and might fall prey to drugs or teen pregnancy. The program helps FFA members develop communication and leadership skills while helping their new-found friends.

To keep track of all the daily events and news, the FFA TIMES was ready and waiting for members each morning. It was sponsored through the National FFA Foundation by Domino's Pizza and the

*(Continued on Page 8)*





*Vietnam veteran Dave Roevers spoke about the importance of being an individual and of his love for life. After national FFA officers presented him with an appreciation plaque, he shouted, "Awesome! I love it."*

*exploding in the sky with Kansas City at the epicenter.*

The National FFA Convention was closed for another year. The week meant different things to many people. But the memory that sticks with everyone—members, guests, parents, cab drivers, Kansas City merchants—is of the official dress and the blue jackets.

A Future Farmers of Japan Advisor who received the Honorary American FFA Degree explained that the FFA jacket is unforgettable.

*In Japan, students must wear school uniforms, but they have no FFJ uniform. However, in the United States it's just the opposite. There is no school uniform. FFA members all wear the same jackets, and they wear them proudly. And that pride brings unity.*

*Junichiro Chidani  
Agricultural Instructor  
Tokyo, Japan*

Just as with the blue corduroy FFA jackets, this National FFA Convention was unforgettable, too.

General Fund. And to share the FFA convention with the rest of the country, sessions were broadcast live via satellite television. The coverage was sponsored by TSC Stores and Fermenta Animal Health through the National FFA Foundation.

Besides the retiring addresses, speeches, special guests, contests, videos, Career Show and new events, traditions such as the American Royal, tours, shopping and plenty of pizza consumption outside the walls of Municipal Auditorium and Bartle Hall lived on, and the popular eateries remained so.

*We do all the conventions that come through here, but ordinarily we wouldn't do a kids' convention. These kids are different. They're not like the average city teenagers. They know how to act. They're mature. It's like a family...when these girls see each other they run and scream and hug each other.*

*Rhonda and Jesse  
HardinCo-Owners  
Ice Cream Castles  
Kansas City, Missouri*

*The lights dimmed. The auditorium emptied and hotel room keys were returned. People left town in all directions like fireworks*



*The national FFA officers closed a busy day at the convention with a look ten years into the future during Reflections on Wednesday night. The 1990-91 officers are (clockwise from left): Ben Nessmith, southern region vice president, Georgia; Mark Timm, national president, Indiana; Danny Grellner, national secretary, Oklahoma; Matt Lohr, eastern region vice president, Virginia; Lesa Ann King, western region vice president, Texas; and Julie Classen, central region vice president, Nebraska.*



# National Officer Candidates



*Officer candidates gathered on the steps of Barney Allis Plaza enroute to the convention hall. Though this elite group was put through its paces by the nominating committee, they forged new friendships and enjoyed an experience known to only a select few.*

## **Officer Candidate Reception sponsored by Mobay Corporation, Agricultural Chemicals Division**

The 1991-92 National FFA Officers were chosen from a field of 39 candidates by a nominating committee comprised of official delegates. For the candidates, the convention week was a challenging opportunity, and a time of intense competition and personal growth.

Interviews for the six officer positions began on Tuesday and ran through Friday. During that time, candidates were questioned by the committee and took part in convention activities from their special section in the auditorium.

The nominating committee's report was presented to the convention Saturday afternoon. (For a copy of the report, see page 68.)

**ALABAMA:** Shane Black, Clements  
**ARIZONA:** Brian McEntire, Peoria  
**ARKANSAS:** Kevin Jester, Gurdon  
**CALIFORNIA:** Louie Brown Jr., Hanford

**COLORADO:** Stephen Cline, McClave  
**DELAWARE:** Kimberly Dannenhauer, Lake Forest  
**FLORIDA:** Ray Hodge, Branford  
**GEORGIA:** Denise Thompson, Tifton County High  
**IDAHO:** Geert Loeffen, Fruitland  
**ILLINOIS:** Katrina Rose, Salem  
**INDIANA:** Erik Gustafson, McCutcheon  
**IOWA:** Chad Luthro, Prairie Valley  
**KANSAS:** Larry Whipple, Jetmore  
**KENTUCKY:** James Comer Jr., Monroe County  
**MARYLAND:** Trisch Bull, Hereford  
**MASSACHUSETTS:** Jennifer Ward, Essex  
**MICHIGAN:** Raymond Wagester, Chippewa Hills  
**MINNESOTA:** Brian VanZomerem, Alexandria  
**MISSISSIPPI:** Susan Watkins, Southeast  
**MISSOURI:** Joseph Cooley, McDonald  
**MONTANA:** Michael Stevenson, Hobson  
**NEBRASKA:** Lee Thurber, Norris  
**NEVADA:** Sara Wadsworth, Lincoln

**NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Travis Allen, Dover  
**NEW JERSEY:** Elizabeth Jost, Warren Hills  
**NEW YORK:** Shane Andrews, Madison  
**NORTH CAROLINA:** Wesley Barefoot, Midway  
**NORTH DAKOTA:** Beverly MacDonald, Sumner  
**OHIO:** Dena Wyler, Ridgewood  
**OKLAHOMA:** Christie McDaniel, New Castle  
**OREGON:** Corwin Boswell, Joseph  
**PENNSYLVANIA:** Kirk Sattazahn, Conrad Weiser  
**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Gerri Nagel, Gettysburg  
**TEXAS:** Melinda Beckendorf, Tomball  
**UTAH:** Shay Wright, Payson  
**VIRGINIA:** Jody Bickel, Orange Senior  
**WASHINGTON:** Monte Scholz, Sumner  
**WISCONSIN:** John Rozum, Mishicot  
**WYOMING:** Howard Jones, Gillette



# Stars Over America



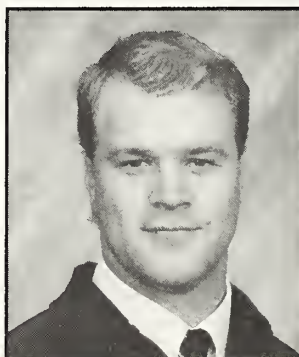
FFA members Blake Johnson (left) and Adam Schumacher beamed with pride when they were named American Star Farmer and American Star in Agribusiness.

**Film sponsored by The General Fund of the National FFA Foundation. Cash awards sponsored by the executive sponsors of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.**

For the eight regional Star Farmers and Stars in Agribusiness, Thursday was a red-letter day.

During the afternoon, they went before judges to answer questions about their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs. That night, surrounded onstage by spouses, parents and teachers, each was honored for outstanding accomplishments in FFA. The judges' choices for the top awards were announced following the premiere of the Stars Over America film.

The American Star Farmer and the American Star in Agribusiness both received \$2,000 and each regional Star received \$1,000. All were presented with plaques, travel awards and invitations to take part in the 1992 Stars International Experience Tour to Europe.



*Adam Schumacher  
Heron Lake, Minn.  
American Star in Agribusiness*

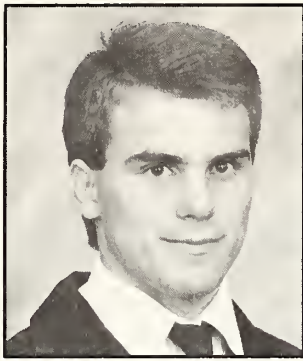
Schumacher began his supervised agricultural experience program by working on his parents' nursery and strawberry operation. He eventually developed his own wholesale business selling potted coniferous evergreen trees. In seven years, he has increased his annual sale of conifer potted and barefoot stock by almost \$200,000.



*Blake Johnson  
Holdrege, Neb.  
American Star Farmer*

Johnson began operating his own farm when he was still in high school. Today, he is managing 120 head of cattle and 442 acres of pastureland. Johnson also has 173 acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, and his entire farm is covered by a conservation plan. Johnson is a junior at the University of Nebraska, where he studies agricultural economics with a farm and ranch management option.





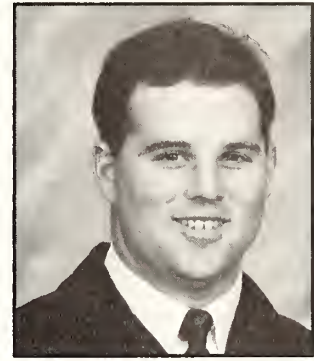
*Robert Tonn  
Elton, La.  
Star in Agribusiness  
Southern Region*

Tonn began his custom fertilizer application and feed mixing business when he was in high school. In addition, he now owns 30 percent interest in his family's farm supply center. Tonn is also involved in the showing, breeding and sale of purebred Simmental cattle. Upon graduation from McNeese State University, Tonn plans to return to the farm supply center and eventually buy his father's share of the business.



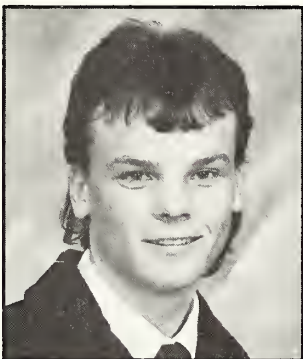
*Lola Lang  
Mount Vernon, Wash.  
Star in Agribusiness  
Western Region*

Lang started her pony farm business 12 years ago with her mother. Over the years, her business has grown to include trail rides for children and adults, children's birthday parties, riding for the physically challenged, riding lessons and summer day camps. Lang is also involved in the international exporting of horses and works as a horse broker with a horse riding farm in Japan.



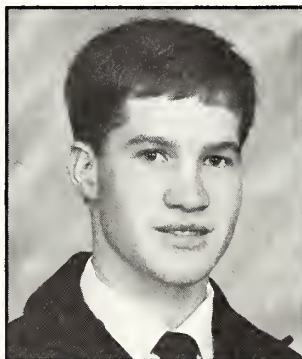
*David DeLoach  
Eatonton, Ga.  
Star Farmer  
Southern Region*

DeLoach began his supervised agricultural experience program with 47 dairy cows, 17 heifers and 14 calves. Today, his program has expanded to include 202 dairy cows, 76 heifers and 30 calves. DeLoach was recognized in 1989 as the national dairy proficiency award winner. He plans to increase his herd to 250 cows and increase his production average to more than 20,000 pounds of milk per cow.



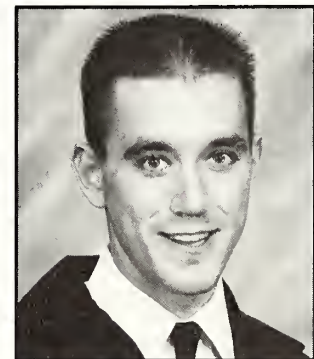
*Shane Theriault  
Caribou, Maine  
Star in Agribusiness  
Eastern Region*

Theriault was only 13 years old when he and his brother purchased the stump grinder that started their lawn care operation. A year later they added mowing, fertilizing, weed spraying, aerating and applying lime to lawns. Last year he purchased a computer to keep records. Today, the business has more than 300 customers. His enterprise led him to be named the State Star Agribusinessman in 1990 and the State Star Farmer in 1991.



*Todd Schmitmeyer  
Versailles, Ohio  
Star Farmer  
Eastern Region*

Schmitmeyer began his supervised agricultural experience program in high school with 18 breeding swine and 83 market hogs. Today, his program has expanded to 68 breeding swine and 801 market hogs. Schmitmeyer was named national swine proficiency award winner in 1990. He plans to expand by building new facilities and adding more than 100 sows to his operation.



*Kent Erickson  
Ferndale, Wash.  
Star Farmer  
Western Region*

Erickson was eight years old when he entered the dairy business. He is now a partner with his father and older brother in the family's 550-head dairy operation. Erickson is attending Washington State University where he is studying animal sciences and industry with a special focus on production. In 1988, Erickson was named the national dairy proficiency award winner.

# Proficiency Awards

Friday evening's Proficiency Pageant recognized regional finalists and national winners in 29 areas of agricultural enterprise. For their years of stewardship, record keeping and excellence in their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, 114 outstanding individuals were honored.

A panel of judges chose a national winner for each category on Thursday afternoon. Each national winner received \$750, a plaque, a cash convention travel award and an invitation to experience European agriculture during the 1992 European Travel Seminar. Regional winners were awarded \$250, a plaque and a convention travel award.

National winners are printed in boldfaced type.

## AGRICULTURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Sponsored by National Food & Energy Council, Incorporated and The General Fund

Central: Scott Allensworth, Red Oak, Iowa

Eastern: Christopher Rathbun, Henderson, N.Y.

Southern: Micheal Scott, Weir, Miss.

Western: Ryan Sites, Mountain View, Okla.

## AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS

Sponsored by Case IH

Central: Jeffery B. Koontz, Bremen, Ind.

Eastern: Linwood H. Hattorf III, Mechanicsville, Va.

Southern: Marvin H. Simmons, Mershon, Ga.

Western: Jeff Jarolimek, Burley, Idaho

## AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING

Sponsored by Nestle USA, Inc.

Central: Jeff Marciniak, Antigo, Wis.

Eastern: Brian Keets, Jeromesville, Ohio

Southern: Jim Hobbs, Dyersburg, Tenn.

Western: Candi Ercanbrack, Santaguin, Utah

## AGRICULTURAL SALES AND/OR SERVICE

Sponsored by Chevy Trucks; ICI Americas Inc.; Northrup King Company; and Smith-Kline Beecham Animal Health

Central: Robert J. Clary, Hillsboro, Wis.

Eastern: Eric Park, Marion, Ohio

Southern: Matt Fannin, Jonesboro, La.

Western: Justin Boyle, Agra, Okla.

## BEEF PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Nasco Division/Nasco International, Incorporated and Pitman-Moore, Inc.

Central: James R. Comer, Tompkinsville, Ky.

Eastern: Lee C. Rosson, Trevilians, Va.

Southern: Chad Smith, Ville Platte, La.

Western: Michael K. Stevenson, Hobson, Mont.

## CEREAL GRAIN PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Kellogg Company and Unocal 76

Central: Marcus Moreland, South Haven, Kansas

Eastern: Galen J. Hellwarth, Celina, Ohio

Southern: Jennifer Meeks, Halls, Tenn.

Western: Troy A. Wulf, New Raymer, Colorado

## DAIRY PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc.; American Breeders Service; and Manna Pro Corporation

Central: Christian S. MacKinnon, Jamestown, Ind.

Eastern: Julie Watts, Killbuck, Ohio

Southern: Steven Davis, Alachua, Fla.

Western: Kent W. Raim, Cedaredge, Colorado

## DIVERSIFIED CROP PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Cargill

Central: Donald W. Gooch Jr., Lancaster, Ky.

Eastern: Shawn Beucler, Findlay, Ohio

Southern: Matt Haney, Athens, Ala.

Western: Aaron Borba, Merced, Calif.

## DIVERSIFIED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Livestock Marketing Association and Wayne Feed Division/Continental Grain Company

Central: Neal E. Herr, Camden, Ind.

Eastern: William C. Worrell, Hillsville, Va.

Southern: Jim Shaver, Troy, Ala.

Western: Brian Johnson, Gotebo, Okla.

## FEED GRAIN PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Central: Jerry Besch, West Bend, Iowa

Eastern: Ryan R. Davis, Amanda, Ohio

Southern: Stefan Maupin, Newbern, Tenn.

## FIBER CROP PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Sandoz Crop Protection Corporation

Central: Lonnie D. Gibson Jr., Arbyrd, Mo.

Eastern: Shannon W. Naylor, Clinton, North Carolina

Southern: Kelly Carmack, Gates, Tenn.

Western: Valorie Ermis, Agua Dulce, Texas

## FLORICULTURE

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

Central: Pat Nelson, Hamel, Minn.

Eastern: Jennifer MacDonald, Rockville, Conn.

Southern: Kelly R. Watson, Smithville, Tenn.

Western: Daniel Ross, Canby, Ore.

## FORAGE PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Gehl Company and Northrup King Company

Central: Jeremy Dankert, Bremen, Ind.

Eastern: Michael W. Lantz, Fremont, Ohio

Southern: Bobby Chumley, Speedwell, Tenn.

Western: Ray Rezendes, Chowchilla, Calif.

## FOREST MANAGEMENT

Sponsored by Buck Knives; Stone Container Corporation; and The General Fund

Central: Lisa M. Hefty, Auburn, Ind.

Eastern: Brett H. Bunn, Fancy Gap, Va.

Western: Jodie B. Tullos, Brownsboro, Texas

## FRUIT AND/OR VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Briggs & Stratton Corporation Foundation, Incorporated

Central: Jason Wirth, Thompson, Iowa

Eastern: Clint Williams, Autryville, North Carolina

Southern: Fred McKinnie, Sneads, Fla.

Western: Brian Greedy, East Wenatchee, Wash.



## HOME AND/OR FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT

Sponsored by The Upjohn Company

Central: Anthony G. Origer, West Bend, Iowa

Eastern: H. Dean Workman, Spencer, West Virginia

Southern: Joe Gibson IV, Dyersburg, Tenn.

Western: Sarah L. Bartram, Guthrie, Okla.

## HORSE PROFICIENCY

Sponsored by Equicare, a Division of Ziecon Corp. and Justin Boot Company

Central: Craig Bard, Kirklin, Ind.

Eastern: Colleen A. McKeon, Woodbourne, N.Y.

Southern: Kathy Marschat, Grand Bay, Ala.

Western: James R. Thomas, Gilbert, Ariz.

## NURSERY OPERATIONS

Sponsored by Chrysler Motors Corporation-Dodge Trucks and MSD AGVET Division of Merck & Co., Inc.

Central: David A. Potts, Kirksey, Ky.

Eastern: Aaron Steere, Chepachet, R.I.

Southern: Jeanette Perry, Summerfield, Fla.

Western: Tony Mullen, St. Paul, Ore.

## OIL CROP PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Chicago Board of Trade and FMC Foundation

Central: Tom Seitz, Lafayette, Minn.

Eastern: Bill Black, Lockbourne, Ohio

Southern: Benjamin D. Robertson, Lake Providence, La.

Western: Dalton Nix, Tolar, Texas

## OUTDOOR RECREATION

Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. and The General Fund

Central: Daniel J. Propes, Fairplay, Ky.

Eastern: Steven Rose, Suffolk, Va.

Southern: Eric Hill, Sneads, Fla.

Western: Larry Baskett, Roosevelt, Okla.

## PLACEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Sponsored by DEKALB Genetics Corporation and Pitman-Moore, Inc.

Central: Travis Knot, South Whitley, Ind.

Eastern: Troy McCrum, Westfield, Maine

Southern: Nikki N. Johnson, Georgetown, Tenn.

Western: Jared Fernandes, Tulare, Calif.

## POULTRY PRODUCTION

Sponsored by Chore-Time Equipment Division of CTB Incorporated; ConAgra Poultry; Red Brand Fence/Made by Keystone Steel and Wire Company; and Sanofi Animal Health, Inc.

Central: Aaron L. Johnson, Orleans, Ind.

Eastern: Tom Steurer, Nevada, Ohio

Southern: Frances A. Dalton, Benton, Tenn.

Western: Christina Lopez, Fullerton, Calif.

## SHEEP PRODUCTION

Sponsored by American Sheep Industry Association; Kent Feeds, Inc./Evergreen Mills, Inc.; and The General Fund

Central: David P. Witte, Ossian, Ind.

Eastern: Christopher E. Hawn, Gettysburg, Penn.

Southern: Robert S. Cantrell, Ellijay, Ga.

Western: John Hoy, Perkins, Okla.

## SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

Sponsored by CENEX/CENEX Foundation; Kubota Tractor Corporation; and The General Fund

Central: Janis Enfield, Hamilton, Ind.

Eastern: Chad McDowell, Winchester, Ohio

Southern: Debbie Jackson, Mayo, Fla.

Western: Michael R. Macy, Culver, Ore.

## SWINE PRODUCTION

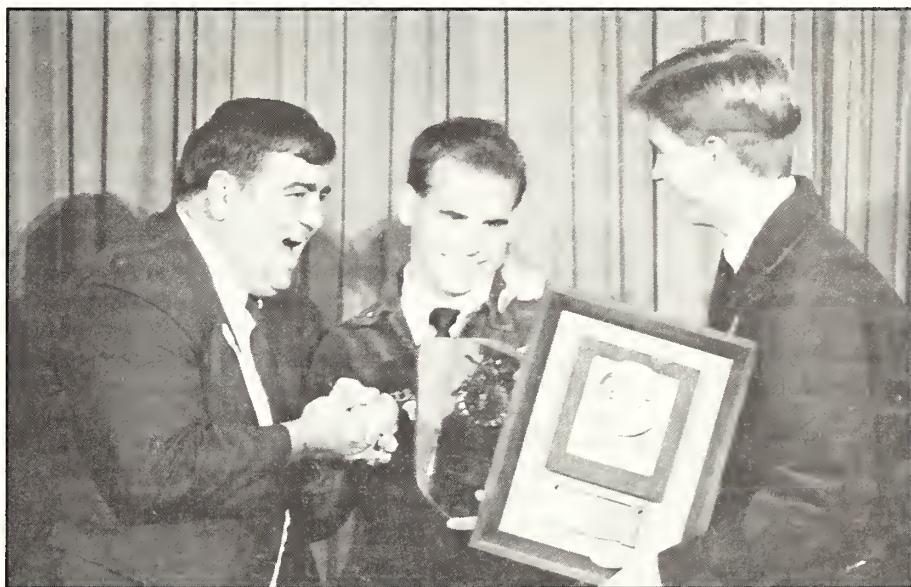
Sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health Division/Pfizer, Inc.

Central: Jon Swertzig, Fullerton, Neb.

Eastern: Matthew Burns, Irwin, Ohio

Southern: Shelley Wright, Sparkman, Ark.

Western: Devin DeLozier, Adair, Okla.



*Chad Smith's advisor was as much a winner as his student. Danny Grellner, national FFA secretary, presents a plaque to Smith, Ville Platte, La., who won the Beef Production Proficiency Award.*

## SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT

Sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund

Central: Tim Bedel, Oldenburg, Ind.

Eastern: Joe Herrmann, Oxford, Ohio

Southern: Matt Elliott, Lake Placid, Fla.

Western: Sierra Stoneberg, Hinsdale, Mont.

## SPECIALTY ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Sponsored by American Dairy Goat Association; Country General Stores; and Purina Mills, Inc.

Central: Jon Finnegan, Litchfield, Minn.

Eastern: Karl King, Risingsun, Ohio

Southern: Tami L. Andrews, Warrior, Ala.

Western: Keith Jones, Visalia, Calif.

## TURF AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Sponsored by The O.M. Scott & Sons Company

Central: Kevin D. Jernigan, Franklin, Ky.

Eastern: David Snyder, Hamilton, N.Y.

Southern: John C. Parrish, Dothan, Ala.

Western: Kevin McVeigh, Brownsville, Ore.

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Sponsored by Prudential Foundation

Central: Stephen J. Huckeriede, Woodburn, Ind.

Eastern: Keith C. Allen, Sumerduck, Va.

Southern: Donna L. Eason, Goodwater, Ala.

Western: Tommy Howry, Perry, Okla.





# American FFA Degrees

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

This year's convention saw more outstanding FFA members receive the coveted American FFA Degree than in years past. 1,106 took their place in the highest level of FFA membership during the Friday afternoon session.

Recognized for their exemplary supervised agricultural experience programs and leadership activities, American FFA Degree recipients walked across the stage Friday to claim a gold key and certificate. Earlier they had been treated to a reception and luncheon by National FFA Foundation Sponsors.

The Russellville, Ala., FFA Chapter had particular reason to rejoice—eight of their members received the degree. Advisor Rex Mayfield, who in 15 years of teaching has had 24 recipients, gave all the credit to the young people. "We won a national safety award when they were in tenth grade and the national convention really fired them up," he said. "They challenged each other to reach this goal."

**ALABAMA:** Jason W. Birchfield, Enterprise; Jason Bryant, Moulton; William R. Butler, Town Creek; Christopher D. Carroll, Ider; Kenneth T. Collins, Hartselle; Charles W. Copeland Jr., Russellville; Johnny Criswell, Fulton; Jason E. Cross, Russellville; David R. Grissom, Russellville; Richmond Haney, Madison; Andrew S. Holcomb, Russellville; Danny K. Hooper, Abbeville; Patrick W. James, Russellville; Dondi James, Russellville; Edward H. Kane III, Robertsedale; Andrew C. McGuire, Lester; Shane Moore, Russellville; Shane P. Smith, Hartselle; Lowell L. Strock, Marbury; Carlton Teague, Gaylesville; Robert A. Thomas, Cullman; Mike Tompkins, Russellville; Timothy W. Watts, Courtland; Tom Whately, Auburn; Kelvin S. Whitaker, Grant

**ALASKA:** Jason Ballek, North Pole

**ARIZONA:** Buffi J. Bull, Willcox; Bill L. Chacon, Tucson; Richard K. England III, Wittman; Shane M. Frie, Wellton; Brian Johnson, Tanca; David

Kelley, Glendale; Steve Kissel, Wellton; Andy B. Lamascus, Higley; Bryan P. Lambert, Roll; Brian McEntire, Peoria; Michael J. Medlin, Kingman; Shawna G. Mixon, Tacna; Tony Nieto, Phoenix; Michael Pasquinielli, Yuma; Pam Stephens, Casa Grande; Lisa Williams, Roll

**ARKANSAS:** Lance A. Barker, Lincoln; Rose L. Campbell, Ozark; Eric Massey, Marshall; Timothy D. Rainwater, Jonesboro; Berlin S. Ramsey, Summers; Thomas A. Walker Jr., Havana

**CALIFORNIA:** Nicole Andrus, Fullerton; Eric Anson, Delhi; Mark Avila, Chowchilla; Jennifer A. Baxter, Le Grand; Bryan P. Benafield, Livingston; Jason Black, Visalia; Aaron Borba, Merced; Chad Bradley, Merced; Joseph M. Brengle, Orland; Matthew D. Bright, Le Grand; Cynthia Bright, Le Grand; Louie A. Brown Jr., Hanford; Chris Bump, Chowchilla; Rebecca Caswell, Westminster; John W. Cauzza, Santa Ysabel; Robert E. Coleman, Santa Rosa; Thomas J. Conrado, Angels Camp; Shawn Corley, Visalia; Derrek Dean, Merced; Sherri Decker, Midway City; Travis Denmark, Santa Ysabel; Mark A. Denune, Dinuba; Kristy S. DeOme, Petaluma; Stacy Dial, Hemet; Julie Faria, Le Grand; Frank Fernandes, Tulare; Jared Fernandes, Tulare; Jonathan T. Fernandes, Tulare; Michael R. French, Visalia; John G. Frey Jr., Santa Rosa; Gary D. Giampaoli, Le Grand; Kristina Gomes, Tulare; Mike Harcksen, Ballico; Tammi L. Harris, Salinas; Melissa Hath, El Nido; Patricia Hurtgen, Oakdale; Craig Jones, Mt. Whiney; Janine R. Kagay, Covina; Dennis E. King, Petaluma; Nikki Maddux, Madera; Cynthia Mancebo, Chowchilla; Kimberlee G. McCormick, Fullerton; Travis L. Metcalf, El Centro; Kelly L. O'Brien, Bloomington; Marilyn N. Pais, Merced; Derek Parker, Merced; Virgil Perez, Santa Ysabel; Mark Pomi, Petaluma; Pat Presto, Le Grand; Dustin Rasey, Dos Palos; Tina Rego, Gustine; Carlos Reis, Tipton; Ray Rezendes Jr., Chowchilla; Renee Righetti, Santa Maria; Heidi Roarty, Quartz Hill; Steven J. Rocca, Fresno; Tami Sagniere, Clovis; Derek Schneider, Porterville; Travis T.J. Seymore, Fresno; Jimmy Sousa, Madera; Jerry L. Spencer, Etna; Dawn Marie G. Suderman, Kingsburg; Amy Talley, Chowchilla; Lisa Tesconi, Santa Rosa; Bret Theodozio, Livingston; Bart Thompson, Tulare; Patrick Torrez, Tulare; Geoffrey B. Turner, Rowland Heights; Eduardo Vaca, Colusa; Steven Van Camp, Warner's Spring; Jack Van Hoff, Chowchilla; Kim A. Vander Haeghen, Canyon Lake; Paul Villegas, Perris; Casey B. Vlot, Chowchilla; Victoria Warne, Riverside; Ryan

Watje, Salinas; Andrew H. Weatherly, Santa Maria; Kristie A. Whitefield, Santa Maria; Jim Williamson, Julian; Thomas W. Young, Kingsburg; Jennifer Yousling, Fullerton

**COLORADO:** Alan Barton, Sterling; Stuart A. Beauprez, Wiggins; Tony Behrends, Fort Morgan; Scott Brase, Lamar; Eric Dickinson, Sterling; Dan Ellsworth, Meeker; Todd A. Everhart, Woodrow; John H. Kalcevic, Bennett;

Mitch S. Klann, Flagler; Brian L. Loper, Lasalle; Darren J. Martinez, Alamosa; Sherry L. Meisner, Sterling; Cheryl A. Murphy, Monte Vista; Ronda Pletcher, Yuma; James G. Pritchett, McClave; Jodi L. Raim, Cedaredge; Kelly D. Roesch, McClave; Terry G. Saffer, Arriba; Mike Schaefer, Lasalle; Mark Schreiber, Arriba; Michelle Sherman, Linton; Joseph Tuttle, Platteville; Mylea Wallace, Las Animas; John M. Walter, Hudson; Amy White, Mancos

**CONNECTICUT:** Kevin T. Knapp, Prospect; William E. Syme, South Windsor

**DELAWARE:** Kimberly L. Dannenhauer, Felton; Bryan Melvin, Wyoming

**FLORIDA:** William A. Bourn, Fort Meade; Richard R. Clark, Groveland; Helen C. Fussell, High Springs; Jeff Gable, Ocoee; Keith Gashaw, Davenport; Larry R. Godwin, Bratt; David W. Harris, Raiford; Ray Hodge, McAlphin; Lisa M. Mosley, Lake Butler; Monty E. Myers, Fort Pierce; James L. Nussbaumer, Groveland; Gregory A. Sconyers, Lake City; Michael Swindle, Gainesville; Wm. Troy Underhill, Sarasota; Lisa Waters, Gainesville; Tracy A. Wood, Chipley

**GEORGIA:** Darren J. Braswell, Ellijay; William B. Burnette, Talking Rock; Charles E. Burt Jr., Dawsonville; Andy Carter, Lake Park; Myron B. Carter, Groveton; Edward J. Crow Jr., Ray City; William B. Danforth, Lenox; David A. DeLoach, Eatonton; Charles G. Denard, Washington; Steven M. Eubanks, Edison; James Holmes, Royston; John D. Johnson, Harlem; Travis W. Kessler, Guyton; Kevin E. Mitcham, Oxford; Casey A. Moore, Ashburn; John H. Reece, Ellijay; Bradley M. Reid, Cumming; Penny Rewis, Alma; Lisa M. Smith, Comer; Denise Thompson, Tifton; Richard A. Wheeler Jr., Alma; Stacy L. Wilbanks, Baldwin

**IDAHO:** Brian Bean, Burley; Eric L. Falen, Genesee; Kathryn A. Frisbie, Kuna; Tom Garand, Burley; Heather Hendren, Montevue; Tracy B. Hillman, Shelly; Justin Holbrook, Burley; Marci K. Hyatt, Fruitland; Geert Loeffen, Fruitland; Melanie Ritchie, Rexburg; Allen Sanderson, Rupert; Jason Steffler, Shelly; Mike Turner, Rupert; Lee C. Wright IV, Fruitland



**ILLINOIS:** Christopher A. Behme, Carlinville; Janelle M. Bols, Morris; Jill D. Carey, Sycamore; Jeffrey J. Clausen, Genoa; James C. Davis, Sycamore; Bradley K. Donoho, Texico; Scott Drake, Sycamore; Jeffrey S. Freesmeyer, Hamburg; Charlene R. Greer, Pinckeyville; Stephen M. Gregory, Roodhouse; Darren L. Johanning, Waterloo; Scott Kingren, Sycamore; Daniel J. Lanan, Kingston; Kimberly J. Lenschow, Sycamore; Chris A. Lutman, Fufts; John Maul, Cissna Park; Sam Meeker, North Henderson; Matthew J. Mueller, Columbia; Sarah Ochs, Milford; Timothy A. Reed, Herod; Katrina K. Rose, Salem; Scott A. Rothe, Brighton; Tiffany Schaeffer, Cissna Park; Michelle Stanton, Sycamore; Michael T. Stayton, Waverly; Robert W. Strand, E. Hinckley; Terry Van Doren, Meodra; Jay W. Vandeburg, Sycamore; Jason L. Williams, Sycamore; Steven E. Wirsing, Sycamore; Craig D. Wynne, Galesburg

**INDIANA:** Neal B. Adams, Liberty; Sheri Anderson, Boswell; Cory Arnholt, Columbus; Shawn B. Ashby, Flora; Branden L. Beachy, Millersburg; Robert R. Bellman, Bremen; Jeffrey L. Blacker, Colfax; D'Lee R. Cyr, Fowler; Jeremy Dankert, Bremen; Lucinda L. Davis, Forest; Wayne A. Dix, Woodburn; Corinne Ferris, Franklin; Krista D. Fritz, Poland; Rodney Gregory, Mooresville; Gregory T. Gunthorp, LaGrange; Lisa M. Hefty, Auburn; Jason M. Howard, Cutler; Kimberly J. Krom, Rochester; Brien Logsdon, Demotte; Christian S. MacKinnon, Jamestown; Rodney D. Nahrwold, New Haven; Travis D. Park, Franklin; Kevin H. Pinkerton, Liberty; Linda M. Stump-Tuttle, Wheatfield; Bryan Whistler, Pine Village; Robert L. Wilcox, Wabash; James C. Wiley, Quincy; James D. Wischmeier, Seymour; David M. Wyrick, Michigantown; Sam Zuckschwerdt, Bloomfield

**IOWA:** Paul A. Belzer, Albia; Jeffrey M. Burlage, Coggon; Corwin C. Christensen, Elma; Douglas A. Fairbanks, Anamosa; Tammy M. Falck, Strawberry Point; Scott D. Flynn, Keota; Pamela S. Frasher, Anamosa; Sheryl L. Janko, Shellsburg; Roy A. Johnson, Parkersburg; Chad T. Ketelsen, Charlotte; William H. Manweiler, Sumner; Christopher D. Marth, Charles City; Todd L. Martin, Rock Rapids; Edward K. McCreary, Mount Ayr; Stephen M. Merfeld, Nashua; Kevin D. Meyer, DeWitt; Jeff G. Mohinkle, Aplington; Jay D. Moline, Manson; Chad W. Newton, Vinton; Mark Oberreuter, Danbury; Kirk W. Sauer, Walker; Matt Schantz, Alburnett; Brian L. Sejkora, Marion; Andrew J.

Shoultz, Mustaine; Don W. Swanton, Goose Lake; Jim Thines, Preston; Ty A. Ward, Marengo; Jodi M. Western, Alton; Devin L. Winters, Merrill

**KANSAS:** Eric Alquist, Clay Center; Melanie S. Hundley, Horton; Chad A. Kerr, Iola; Darla S. Mainquist, Courtland; John D. Malinowsky, WaKeeney; John A. Niemann, Nortonville; Jeff C. Peterson, Burdick; Randall L. Small, Neodesha; Russell D. Small, Neodesha; John Stika, Lincolnville; Van E. Underwood, Mankato; Larry Whipple, Jetmore

**KENTUCKY:** Robert G. Baird, Utica; Scott R. Burks, Smiths Grove; Cindy M. Clark, Calhoun; Jerry A. Coleman, Cave City; James R. Comer Jr., Tompkinsville; Scott J. Elliott, Philpot; LaNita S. Flanary, Paducah; John D. Fourqurean, Hopkinsville; Lori S. Fowler, Eddyville; James Franklin, Taylorsville; Jeremy S. Graham, Fulton; Kevin D. Jernigan, Franklin; Joe C. Konow, Franklin; Brian Kunkle, Bedford; Gwendolynn S. Lucas, Rineyville; Jonathan O'Dell, Taylorsville; Franklin L. Owen, Taylorsville; John C. Park, Ravenna; L. Dow Rasdall, Smiths Grove; Chris A. Schalk, Berry; Bart C. Stinson, Franklin; William S. Wells, Rochester; Marvin D. Woolums Jr., Georgetown

**LOUISIANA:** Renee L. Pousson, Welsh; Scott F. Smith, Denham Springs; Robert W. Tonn, Elton

**MAINE:** Brian J. Guerrette, Caribou; Shane H. Theriault, Caribou

**MARYLAND:** S. Eugene Bollinger III, Thurmont; Jeffrey L. Crum, Keymar; David T. Farmer, Frederick; Melinda A. Horner, KeyMar; Susan M. Knapp, Laytonville; Angela L. Page, Dickerson; Laurie D. Zimmerman, Frederick

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Jeffrey M. Lopes, Taunton; Jennifer Ward, Danvers

**MICHIGAN:** Scott F. Corrin, Corunna; Jennifer L. Fenton, St. Louis; Michael R. Gasper, Belding; Mark S. Hacker, Athens; Timothy J. Harris, Swartz Creek; William A. Harris Jr., St. Johns; Mark C. Jacoby, Akron; Michelle L. Koroleski, East Lansing; Joe Kubiak, Webberville; Debra S. Laurell, Quincy; Rodney M. Laurenz, Wheeler; Patrick J. Mikek, St. Louis; Marcia L. Nye, Camden; Dennis R. Pennington, Charlotte; Carol Schmucker, Osseo; Brian J. Schultz, Unionville; Raymond Wagster, Remus; Tom Ziel, Elkton

**MINNESOTA:** Neal D. Anderson, Brownsdale;



*Ray Lighthall, center, received the Honorary American FFA Degree. Daughter Cynthia and son Todd were recipients of the American FFA degree.*

Kurt Benson, Blackduck; Nicole J. Boettger, New Richland; James D. Christian, Garvin; Jeremy J. Freking, Heron Lake; Dennis Haiby, Pelican Rapids; Craig E. Hall, Rochert; Chad E. Harrington, Spring Valley; James E. Lee, Clearwater; Brad Lewison, Ellendale; Susan M. Lochner, Sleepy Eye; Michael L. Madsen, Heron Lake; Gary D. Michaletz, Glencoe; Jeffrey R. Missling, Jeffers; David Otremba, Pierz; Timothy H. Paulson, Hardwick; Bruce Paulsrud, Hillsboro; Reese Peterson, Atwater; Anders Pierson, Butterfield; John D. Regier, Mountain Lake; Adam Shumacher, Heron Lake; Ted Stangeland, Pipestone; Brent Stanghelle, Lake Lillian; Jeffrey Stauffenecker, Greenbush; Denise Traver, Cologne; Timothy J. Vandendriessche, Garvin

**MISSISSIPPI:** Robert A. Butler II, Macon; Emily B. Walton, Nettleton

**MISSOURI:** Paul H. Allen, Sweet Springs; Jennifer R. Baker, Willow Springs; Jason Barnes, Caulfield; Michel E. Benintendi, Asbury; Curt Blades, Shelby; Adam L. Blaue, Wellsville; Devin D. Bobbett, Bolivar; Chris Bowen, Cowgill; Betsy A. Brackenridge, El Dorado Springs; Douglas W. Brackenridge, El Dorado Springs; Daniel S. Bradshaw, Holcomb; Theresa Brandt, Bonnots Mill; Troy D. Brautigam, Union; James K. Brixey, Norwood; Larry Brown, Mt. View; Tonya A. Brown, Slater; Leslie Brown, Bowling Green; Scott A. Burditt, Hunnewell; Bill Capps, Paynesville; Bobbie L. Carter, Doniphan; Kevin

*(Continued on Page 16)*



# American FFA Degrees

Chapman, Osceola; Donna M. Claycomb, Columbia; Bobbi Cline, Hamilton; Douglas S. Collard, Oronogo; Lori L. Conrad, Lowry City; Chris Cornelius, Hamilton; Chad Cornelius, Hamilton; Shane M. Cox, Princeton; Michael D. Crews, Alton; Kara Crighton, Willard; Doug Crouch, Olean; Robert E. Dameron Jr., Silix;

Reynolds, Huntsville; Sandra J. Rice, Green Ridge; Keith Riggs, Pleasant Hill; Michael R. Rippelmeyer, St. James; David L. Rodman, Stratford; Michael A. Rogers, Princeton; Jay A. Rowland, Tipton; Jared Royer, Fredericktown; Brent A. Rush, Lamar; Drew Shannon, Anabel; Lori M. Shaw, Myrtle; Trent C. Shultz, Gorin;



Chad Ketelsen (left) and Don Swanton, both of Goose Lake, Iowa, were proud recipients of the American FFA Degree during the Friday afternoon session.

Shelly Simpson, Hartville; Gary K. Simpson Jr., Thayer; Robert E. Smith, Marshfield; Dale Snead, Nevada; Parrish S. Stafford, Savannah; Jeremy W. Steinbach, Stella; Bryan Stellwagen, Pierce City; Tammy M. Stump, Lockwood; Robert S. Swafford, Hamilton; Chad Triplett, Rutledge; Ronda J. Utke, Billings; Jason E. Valentine, Powersville; Daryl D. Walkup, Gower; Sarah Elizabeth A. Wallace, Carthage; Stanton J. Warren, Dawn; Barry W. Weaver, Liberal; Christopher M.

Stephen W. Darnell, Willow Springs; Jessie B. Davis, Maryville; Sabetha Davis, Schell City; Brad A. Dilbeck, Purdy; Troy A. Disselhorst, Palmyra; Amy M. Dye, Callao; Brad Evans, Bakersfield; Stan R. Frederick, Baring; Mark A. Fugate, Rogersville; Stephanie Gable, Jackson; Brian D. Gebhardt, Salisbury; Kelly Gentry, Hamilton; John E. Gibson Jr., St. James; Seth Gilkeson, Harrisonville; Angela K. Gnipka, Aurora; Johnna Hanafin, Cleaver; Brent E. Hanshaw, Liberal; Kelli Harpster, Kidder; Jay Henderson, Purdy; Ronnie Hershey, Keytesville; Cindy Hollis, Willard; Jeffrey D. Holstine, Mound City; Marty House, Grovespring; Jared Hunke, Stark City; Ricky L. Huston, Anderson; L. Bradley Isdell, Bolivar; Clay A. Jackson, Marshall; Jeremy Jaques, Cassville; Victor C. Jones, New Bloomfield; Rodney Kallenberger, Norborne; John C. Kleiboeker, Stotts City; Boone Kuder, Springfield; Scotty Lance, Alton; Jon Laughlin, Rich Hill; Chad E. Lehenbauer, Hannibal; Tom Lindsey, Urbana; Jason Locke, Halfway; Gary Looten, Olean; Ronald K. Maher, Eldon; Robert L. Martin, Tipton; Amy McClanahan, Hartville; Tracy McNally, Chillicothe; Brenda Miller, Syracuse; Joe C. Moore, Stotts City; Chad R. Nold, St. Joseph; Andrea Peiter, Hannibal; Stephen Penny, Richmond; Travis Peterson, Oronogo; Bob Poisal, Harrisonville; Sam D. Presley, Alton; Bryan L. Ratcliff, California; David Reckamp, Wright City; Sharla L. Reed, Gatewood; Jay L. Renner, Granby; Laura E.

Welsh, Elkland; William B. Wetherell, Fulton; Micheal Williams, Doniphan; Laurie Wilson, Chillicothe; Linda S. Wosoba, El Dorado Springs  
**MONTANA:** Catherine W. Laughery, Lewistown; Krista Y. Lee, Judith Gap; Misti D. Peterson, Livingston; Darrell J. Stevenson, Hobson; Michael K. Stevenson, Hobson  
**NEBRASKA:** David L. Acheson, Kimball; Michael D. Bailey, Berwyn; Dan Baumert, Scribner; Gary L. Baumert Jr., Scribner; Barbara J. Buresh, North Bend; Timothy J. Claver, Bavard; Colby Collins, Scribner; Shane M. Dose, Hampton; Dallas Eilert, Superior; Matthew G. Epp, Henderson; Craig A. Gana, Martell; Brent Gloy, Grant; Reid Hagstrom, Kimball; Shawn A. Haines, Ansley; Christopher C. Haun, Scottsbluff; Scott N. Heinrich, Blue Hill; Lynn L. Henry, Ansley; Blake E. Johnson, Holdrege; Donelle D. Johnson, Lyons; Christopher M. Kalkowski, Bassett; Nancy Kelly, Champion; Matthew A. Kirchhoff, Hardy; Darren Lindgren, Scribner; Daniel May, Hampton; Micheal L. Meyer, Hooper; Mitchell L. Nelson, Newman Grove; Shaun P. O'Neil, Wauneta; Stephanie Perry, Kimball; John M. Peters, Scribner; Jeffrey D. Peterson, Lyons; Scott Pretzer, Diller; Lonnie E. Quiring, Henderson; Marla F. Racicky, Mason City; Gail L. Reed, Ansley; Tracy A. Rieckman, Alvo; Andrew N. Sauer, Bayard; Ron Schroeder, Leigh; Matt Schuster, Superior; Clint G. Stewart, Lincoln; Tom Tasler, Atkinson; Lee Thurber, Roca; Gary R. Todd, Union; James E. Toof Jr., Hampton;

Jamie L. Turpin, Curtis; Todd M. Wilke, Kimball; Matt Wilshusen, Schuyler; Dallas Wimer, Scribner; Dale Wimer, Scribner; Gwendolyn M. Wolfe, Schuyler

**NEVADA:** Frank Baptist, Las Vegas; Clayton E. DeVries, Deeth; Jason Geary, Gardenerville; Bruce K. Greathead, Golconda; James A. Settelmeyer, Minden; Sara Wadsworth, Panaca; Tammy L. Wines, Yerington

**NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Travis Allen, Dover  
**NEW JERSEY:** Sharon Duckworth, Phillipsburg; Michael J. Griffith, Bridgeton; Elizabeth Jost, Washington; Clint Shontz, Vincetown; Elizabeth Vogt, Millington

**NEW YORK:** Shane H. Andrews, Oriskany Falls; Shari A. Bennett, Bouckville; Peter J. Burns Jr., Vernon-Center; Catherine M. Coombe, Grahamsville; Richard K. Frost, Munnsville; Sarah Hall, Hannacroix; Todd M. Lighthall, Munnsville; Cynthia D. Lighthall, Munnsville; David Livermore, Madison; Denise M. MacDonald, Oriskany Falls; Darrin R. Nesbitt, Adams; Jeanne L. Wade, Avoca; Blake Yutzler, Remsen; John F. Zuech, Franklinville

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Wesley L. Barefoot, Dunn; James T. Boyd, Washington; Jeremy K. Bradley, Rutherfordton; Brad G. Brookshire, Hiddenite; Greg D. Brookshire, Hiddenite; Walter S. Butler, Burlington; Lester A. Chapman Jr., Lake Toxaway; Gary Chapman, Taylorsville; Mark Cruse, Concord; Mark Dennis, Troy; Anthony Elkins, Mt. Gilead; Nina J. Elmore, Statesville; Tammy Everett, Blanch; Wendy M. Gammon, Mebane; Victoria M. Graham, Henderson; Terry Greene, Troy; Douglas W. Harkey, Mount Pleasant; Donnie H. Henson, Forest City; Bobby Jackson Jr., Godwin; Donald W. McCorkle, Newell; A. Michael Miller, Salisbury; Roy K. Oakes Jr., Prospect Hill; Shane R. Parker, Hurdle Mills; Steven E. Phthisic, Elizabeth City; Ernest L. Ritchie, Salisbury; Dave Robinson, Mt. Gilead; Stony D. Rushing, Stanfield; George L. Scott III, Milton; Stephen M. Sifford, Rockwell; Timothy P. Sifford, Rockwell; William F. Starling, Autryville; John A. Stroud, Winston-Salem; Jerry Williams, Mt. Gilead; Teresa L. Williamson, Fremont; David Yarborough, Candor

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Troy Anderson, Cando; Daniel J. Bergemann, Lisbon; Andrew J. Boehm, Mandan; David W. Brown, Berthold; Matthew Cogdill, Berthold; Chad Ellingson, Maddock; Jerome Freeberg, Lisbon; Thomas L. Hoffman, Cando; Darren J. Hoyme, Kindred; Glen T. Huettl, Garrison; Aaron B. Jacobson, Crosby; Sheldon C. Kauk, Wishek; Mark D. Knudson, Crosby; Jean A. Leier, Kintyre; Beverly MacDonald, Bismarck; Scott Nipstad, Horace; Tim Olson, Maddock; Rick Olson, Maddock; Ronald R. Schmidt, Hensler; Spencer Thorsness, Tappen; David Wall, Bottineau

**OHIO:** Joseph E. Arnold, Lucas; Troy A. Baker, Marion; Kent D. Bauman, Blue Creek; Randy



Bennett, Marion; Shawn O. Beucler, Findlay; Bill Black, Lockbourne; Gerald L. Brumfield, Amanda; Ryan R. Davis, Amanda; James R. Davis II, Lancaster; Neil M. Douce, Wooster; Mark B. Dunkle, Lancaster; Bobby Dupler, Thornville; Scott Eschedor, Bowling Green; Robert G. Evans, Richwood; Christina L. Evans, New Carlisle; Brent S. Eyler, Eaton; Larry Gaskill, Newcomerstown; Larry Gerken, Napoleon; Todd A. Gerlach, Farmdale; Duane Grassbaugh, Howard; Robert A. Groweg, Gibsonburg; Rick L. Haines, Warsaw; Chad Hall, Cable; Brian K. Hamilton, Felicity; Diane C. Harder, Oak Harbor; Steve Harris, DeGraff; Tim Helle, Martin; Theodore C. Holbrook, Stoutsville; James Holley, Findlay; Fred Homan, New Bremen; Don Homan, New Bremen; Tom Irwin, East Rochester; Steven A. Isler, Prospect; Jeffrey K. Jahns, Fremont; James S. Jennings, Felicity; Kent M. Karhoff, Findlay; Harry J. Kenney, Newcomerstown; Matthew J. Kline, Amanda; Richard L. Lamp, Lancaster; Ryan J. Lee, Marysville; David P. Meyer, Versailles; Scott Michael, Hillsboro; Scott Miller, Carroll; David Miller, Woodville; Cheryl L. Miller, Dover; Dale Miller, Lakeville; Dawn Miller, Liberty Center; Kristin K. Newlon, New Lexington; Jason Nissen, Curtice; Brian R. Oestreich, Graytown; James C. Papitan III, Lancaster; Eric Park, Marion; Denny Price, Oak Harbor; Shad T. Ridenour, Bowling Green; Kirk Scheckelhoff, Leipsic; Todd M. Schmitmeyer, Versailles; Amy J. Schotte, Morral; Adam J. Sharp, Stoutsville; Jay J. Shiningier, Delta; Suzanne Smith, Newark; Mark A. Sommers, Urbana; Gregory W. Spelman, Canal Winchester; Aaron Tangeman, New Bremen; Steven J. Tedrow, Delta; Jeffrey P. Tilley, Lancaster; Connie Weck, Ohio City; Lynn Weeks, Union; Greg Whitacre, Bowling Green; Jason Whiteleather, Minerva; Kenneth S. Wood, Shreve

**OKLAHOMA:** Cody B. Anderson, Ringwood; Jason G. Baker, Butler; Randall S. Barnard, Fairview; Justin W. Bay, Woodward; James E. Beach, Westville; Stanley M. Branen, Collinsville; Steven C. Brown, Marlow; Jason A. Bryan, Bluejacket; Christina L. Buck, Carmen; Travis P. Buford, Enid; Kenneth H. Busse, Alva; Joel E. Cape, Collinsville; Stoney Cobb, Temple; Scott A. Coontz, Byron; Byron M. Cowan, Balko; Chad H. Currie, Bennington; Shari Custer, Logan; Wade E. Detrick, Ames; Corinna Dolezal, Billings; Charles C. Downey, Coyle; Jimmy Farmer, Marlow; Tony Fleetwood, Marlow; Kevin Freundt, Guthrie; Gary D. Goucher, Alva; Gene Heinrich, Ringwood; Jud Herring, Tipton; James Heston, Rush Springs; Aaron L. Holcombe, Jay; Andy Hollon, Woodward; Stacy L. Honeywell, Billings; Chuck Jensen, Manitou; Greg Johnson, Temple; James C. Kerr, Wayne; Chad Kimble, Hydro;



*Advisor Rex Mayfield, Russellville, Ala., was flanked by seven of the eight members of his chapter who earned the American FFA Degree.*

Brent Kisling, Burlington; Clay Lents, Indianahoma; Diana L. Littlefield, Pryor; Jason A. Mace, Mountain View; Christie L. McDaniel, Stillwater; Cynthia A. McGaha, Macomb; Phillip M. Muller, Altus; Kent J. Nichols, Isabella; Kyle J. Nichols, Isabella; John P. O'Neill, Ponca City; Brian J. Otto, Ponca City; Marci A. Pamplin, Ringwood; Rachelle L. Reavis, Adair; Jeffrey C. Reynolds, Miami; Bryon A. Rice, Wilburton; Shandee J. Smith, Stillwater; Debra Stinson, Fay; Balinda S. Stuckey, Mooreland; Thomas C. Thompson, Francis; Brian W. Thornburgh, Helena; Holly R. Vincent, Morrison; Bart L. Workman, Caney

**OREGON:** Amber D. Albertson, Roseburg; Corwin G. Boswell, Lostine; Loyal R. Burns III, Lebanon; Cameron D. Ferschweiler, Gervais; Daryl Fletcher, Tillamook; Brian Gilmore, Canby; Shawn D. Hester, Aurora; Jeff Knutz, Yamhill; Michael R. Macy, Culver; Scott McNeley, Lakeview; Tonya McPheeters, Culver; Sonya R. Nyberg, Newberg; Jeffrey E. Papke, Salem; Emily A. Read, Culver; Michele L. Ruby, Scio; Kristy I. Rusher, Salem; Ronald D. Schumacher, Dayton; Eric R. White, Nyssa

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Roy W. Aument, Quarryville; Tammy S. Balthaser, Bernville; Sherry L. Bashore (Donmoyer), Mohrsville; James P. Blatt,

Robesonia; Paul D. Bogart, Danville; Jason L. Boyer, East Berlin; Arthur L. Briggs Jr., Spruce Creek; John D. Brofee, Millerstown; Samuel J. Conrad Jr., Warriors Mark; Robert M. Davis, Cochranville; Bernadette Davis, Dysart; Diane K. Dice, Fredericksburg; John Dyarman, Carlisle; Karen H. Fessler, Robesonia; Gretchen A. Frederick, Blue Ball; Duaine R. Glessner, Waynesboro; Steven L. Gochner, Manheim; Eric J. Harnish, Lebanon; Shawn A. Hensel, Newburg; Dale Herr Jr., Kirkwood; John M. Hess, Manheim; Alan C. Kaler, Millmont; Janelle L. Kennedy (Callen), Valencia; Bruce M. King Jr., Troy; Keith E. Leydig, Berlin; Daniel T. Love, East Waterford; Stephen T. Lytle, Conneautville; Philip R. Martz Jr., Berlin; Angelique E. McDonald, Imler; William J. Newman III, Middleburg; Michael E. Pryor, Waynesboro; Steven D. Rohrbach, Shoemakersville; Tiffany L. Rohrer, Nottingham; James R. Sankey, Clearfield; Kirk M. Sattazahn, Womelsdorf; Robert M. Sauers, New Berlin; Sheila Schwenk (Hostetter), Annville; Lynette A. Smith, Red Lion; Rebecca A. Sonnen, Richland; Kevin C. Tuckey, Biglerville; Corey J. Will, Berlin; Thomas E. Willey, Martinsburg; Dean R. Woodruff, Danville; Sharon M. Zimmerman, Reinholds

*(Continued on Page 18)*



# American FFA Degrees

**RHODE ISLAND:** Ryan I. Adams, North Scituate

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Bruce Altman, Gresham; Gennie L. Capps, Hemingway; Tyler L. Epps, Lexington; Scott Everett, Gresham; Charles R. Kitchens, Woodruff; Jason Poston, Gresham; Charles T. Richardson, Gresham; Steven B. Shirley, Abbeville; Gregg B. Thomas, Johnston; Todd R. Williams, Gresham

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Krecia L. Beitelspacher, Bowdle; Lee J. Friesen, Olivet; Mark Gross, Bridgewater; Bryce Hansen, Elkton; Chad Heezen, Wessington Springs; Julie Jessen, Holabird; Landon V. Ludens, Parker; Jerome Massey, Freeman; Andy Paulson, Andover; Stacy M. Plucker, Lennox; Kerri R. Sanchez, Harrisburg; Clyde D. Sandine, Salem; Wesley W. Schaeffer, Menno; Scott L. Thaden, Vermillion; Dean M. Townsend, Andover; Kristie J. VerMulm, Harrisburg; Jai M. Walter, Menno

**TENNESSEE:** David Bellamy, Clarksville; Terri Conlee, Burlison; Edwin K. Daniel, Brighton; Stephen H. Gribble, Sparta; Jeffrey W. Hall, Watertown; Charles C. Head Jr., Clarksville; Jeffrey Lannom, Lebanon; Johnny C. Ottinger Jr., Greeneville; David K. Parham, Dresden; Tim Patrick, Covington; Eddy Phillips, Mountain City; Stevie Swan, McMinnville; Max D. Todd Jr., Chapel Hill; Eric Trivette, Butler; Roger L. Worley Jr., Culleoka

**TEXAS:** Kevin S. Averhoff, Hico; Melinda Beckendorf, Tomball; Tracey Beene, Iola; Rob Carter, Lorena; Clay Cogburn, Happy; Wes Davis, Gonzales; Cindy L. Dutton, Baytown; Valorie Ermis, Agua Dulce; Kim Essman, Bedias; Billy M. Fambro, Breckenridge; Kim Galle, Kingsbury; Brent Graves, Chillicothe; Calvin H. Gunter, Rogers; Steven Hague, Sulphur Springs; Steve Harlin, Schulenburg; Kevin Hierholzer, Campbellton; Vince Hanicky, Schulenburg; Marlin K. Hughes, Corrigan; Eric Humphrey, Anahuac; Shawn E. Jackson, Edna; Brian D. Kapavik, Lancaster; Blaine L. Koehl, Carmine; Brooke C. Leslie, Glen Rose; Martin Longoria, Mission; Brad Lux, Katy; Tamara A. Lyerla, Eastland; Melissa K. Marthiljohni, Edna; Ennis D. Massey Jr., Godley; Michael D. Mayo, Farmersville; Doug McCollum, Ranger; Jason Miller, Miami; Merlin S. Miller, Booker; Lisa M. Milligan, Navasota; Morris Neighbors, Mabank; Ross Nieschwitz, Pleasanton; Tracie Nixon, Alvarado; Darryl W. Nowotny, New Braunfels; Bruce Okrunhlik, Klein; Matt W. Owen, Salado; David Palmer, Pleasanton; Steven G. Pyburn, Merkel; Eric Ribble, Weatherford; Kyle B. Roesler, Houston; Devon J. Schuenemann, Inez; Brian H. Schumann, Bellville; Amile L. Snider, Fairfield; Amy L. Snider, Fairfield; Albert B. Sulak, Hillsboro; Joe D. Tidwell, Munday; Jeffrey S. Tondre, San Antonio; Jason D. Underwood, Eastland; Joel L. Utz, Vanderbilt; Troy B. Webb,

Cleburne; LaNette Wilson, Gilmer; Beth M. Windham, Abernathy; Brent Wood, Sherman; Kris Wusterhausen, Merkel

**UTAH:** Paul Briggs, Manila; Michael Brown, Coalville; Curtis K. Bunderson, Tremonton; Jennifer A. Crane, Salina; David F. Fairbourn, Elberta; Conn L. Famuliner, West Point; Ben Fitzgerald, Heber; Kirk Stevens, Holden; Justine S. Wright, Elberts

**VERMONT:** Harold Carleton, West Newbury; Peter J. Sylvester, Enosburg Falls

**VIRGINIA:** Bryan D. Ashby, Exmore; James E. Bailey Jr., Phenix; Kimberly D. Bean, Lebanon Church; Jody L. Bickel, Rapidan; Michael T. Burner, Berryville; Paul R. Cassell, Wytheville; Douglas W. Cauthorn, Ashland; Benjamin S. Cole, Abingdon; Daniel B. Combs, Cana; Angela G. Craun, Mt. Crawford; Arthur B. Dean, Jonesville; Brent Eaton, New Market; Michael C. Jones, Mount Jackson; Michael Largen, Martinsville; John R. Marker III, Winchester; Ryan T. McDougle, Mechanicsville; Richard L. Mills III, Ashland; Stephanie C. Newman, Harrisonburg; William A. Nobili, Woodlawn; James S. Pugh II, Charlotte Ct. House; Stacy Sager, Woodstock; David C. Seekford, McGaheysville; Elizabeth D. Umberger, Mechanicsville; Bradley S. Webb, Fancy Gap; Matthew B. Williams, Dayton

**WASHINGTON:** Jiggs D. Anderson, Garfield; Harold Buell, Moses Lake; Robert P. DeBruyne, Renton; Kent E. Erickson, Ferndale; Kendra L. Felt, Centralia; Barbara M. Graves, Grandview; Carmi Holt, Connell; Lola M. Lang, Mount Vernon; Nathan Moore, Pullman; Clay Olsen, Cathlamet; Kirk Oswalt, Granger; Rick L. Pack, Royal City; Todd Rightmire, Ferndale; Suzanne F. Swinger, Lind; Traci Taylor, Othello; Kamille Thorne, Pasco

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Christopher Hillberry, Shady Spring; Charles J. Hite II, Charles Town; Chadwick S. Linton, Martinsburg; David S. McConnell, Franklin; Steven D. Riddle, Harrisville; John H. Scott, Beaver; Aaron Stephens, Cottageville; Wesley K. Ware, Kearneysville; Cinda B. Waybright, Ravenswood

**WISCONSIN:** Tammy L. Abendroth, Fort Atkinson; Brad L. Anderson, Arkansaw; Craig A. Anderson, Monroe; Dustin Anderson, Mindoro; David F. Austin, Darlington; William Barman, Sun Prairie; Wayne R. Becker, Alma; Barbara A. Betley, Pulaski; Pauline Blakeman-Rosenlund, Marengo; Bonnie Brandel, Fort Atkinson; Mitchell P. Breunig, Sauk City; Beth Burgy, Monticello; Richard L. Colby Jr., Grand Marsh; Todd A. Conradt, Clintonville; William J. Cordes, Comstock; Richard J. Coulthard, Cuba City; Amy U. Coulthard, Cuba City; Martin J. Dantinne, Lena; David H. DeBuhr, Marshfield; Dawn

Eibergen, Granton; Jason T. Figi, Brownton; Jason J. Gant, Blanchardville; Eric S. Giese, Alma Center; Chris H. Grassl, Green Bay; Gail A. Gulig, Malone; Wayne A. Hable, Bloomer; Stephen J. Haldiman, Monroe; Cynthia S. Harbek, Roberts; Brian Harpstrite, Monroe; Tammy L. Heck, Greenwood; Scott A. Heck, Mondovi; Shelly Helming, Tomah; Michael J. Henke, Stanley; Paula J. Henning, Marshall; James P. Henschel, Elkhart; Douglas S. Hetland, Monroe; Chad G. Kane, Denmark; Mike Karman, Denmark; John D. Keller, Forestville; Susan A. Klement, Fort Atkinson; Dale Kratz, Denmark; David Kuehl, Tomah; Mitch R. Larson, Nelson; Christopher Lausted, Menomnie; Ronald D. Leitner, Manitowoc; William J. Lien, Hixton; Jeffrey A. Lueck, Roberts; Dianne S. McGiveron, Marshfield; Melissa M. Melander, Unity; Dean Meyer, Chilton; Jody R. Moy, Marshall; Daniel G. Nerison, Coon Valley; Wayne Neu Jr., Neosho; Todd O'Brien, Luxemburg; Dale P. Patterson, Glen Haven; Michael J. Patzner, Fountain City; Kathleen M. Pickart, St. Cloud; Douglas Prochnow, Menomonie; Mary E. Raddatz, Oshkosh; Sara R. Rader(Peroutka), Newton; Mark J. Riedman, Ripon; Cory Roesler, Kiel; John J. Rozum, Whitelaw; Devin Schlewitz, Fall Creek; Traci L. Schultz, South Wayne; John Schuman, Antigo; Kari L. Schwenck, Malone; Robert M. Selzler, Stanley; Dale Shulfer, Amherst Junction; James V. Sigg, Hollandale; David A. Simon, Fond du Lac; Randy W. Soquet, Green Bay; Alan Stein, De Pere; Ken Stencil, Green Bay; Greg Stephenson, Ashland; Steven Stetzer, Melrose; Thomas L. Strause, Cuba City; Corinna L. Turner, Madison; Craig Vernon, Ashland; Daniel W. Viste, Sturgeon Bay; James W. Waage, Tomah; Joseph G. Walter Jr., Loyal; Scott A. Weber, Cuba City; Jason E. Weigel, Lancaster; Brian Westermeyer, Cleveland; Jamie E. Wetzel, Gillett; Joshua L. Wiser, Evansville; Steve Wolfe, Marshall; Joel P. Wondra, Sun Prairie; Clint R. Zank, Neillsville; Mark A. Zblewski, Amherst Junction

**WYOMING:** Todd L. Baker, Powell; Aaron J. Carter, Powell; Jim Dewey, Riverton; Kevin F. Geis, Gillette; Lance Geringer, Glendo; Amy L. Hettich, Cheyenne; Howard H. Jones, Moorcroft; W. Bert Macy, Pine Bluffs; Pamela Middleton, Douglas; Rori A. Renner, Meeteetse; Laura L. Strock, Douglas; Todd A. Taylor, Laramie; Scott A. Vetter, Carpenter; Susan Ziehl, Mills





# Agriscience Teacher of the Year

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*After hearing his name echo over the sound system of Municipal Auditorium, a jubilant James Aschwanden received hearty congratulations from his school's principal, Luann Boon. He was named Agriscience Teacher of the Year.*

## **Sponsored by PCS Sales, Inc. and GTE Foundation**

At the Galt Joint Union High School in California, students are learning about biological sciences and agribusiness management while earning credits toward graduation, thanks to the 1991 Agriscience Teacher of the Year.

James Aschwanden recently developed and wrote curricula for floriculture and landscape design that fulfill graduation requirements for fine arts. In the past ten years, his curricula incorporated agriculture into biological and physical sciences, and farm management fulfilled

economics requirements. During that time, Aschwanden has seen his enrollment grow from 93 to 278 students.

He said can't claim all the credit for success at his school. "I have written a lot of curricula, but I have three other teachers that are motivated to implement it. Their infectious attitudes bleed over to the students as we equip them for the changing agriculture," Aschwanden said.

Aschwanden received a \$1,500 cash award and plaque.

## **National Winner:**

James Aschwanden

## **National Finalists:**

**California:** James D. Aschwanden, Galt

**Missouri:** Edward Stephens, Carthage

**Ohio:** R. Brad Moffitt, Marion

**Tennessee:** Thomas W. Williams Jr., Bartlett



# Agriscience Student Recognition Program

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*Keeping in line with her lunar experiment, national Agriscience winner Cybil Fisher was walking on air after Ben Nessmith presented her the first place plaque and a \$5,000 scholarship check.*

## **Sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Company**

Neil Armstrong's walk on the moon years before her birth laid the groundwork for Cybil Fisher's nationally recognized research project.

Fisher, of Green Bay, Wis., grew seeds related to cabbage and wild mustard with an accelerated lifecycle of 30 to 35 days in moon-like soil.

"I found the plants grow in the moon-simulated soil, and they grow best without added nutrients or fertilizer," Fisher said. "The moon has a two-week night span, so they also need one hour a day of artificial lighting during the first two weeks and eight hours during the reproductive cycle."

Her hard work paid off, bringing Fisher a total of \$8,500 in scholarships.

Runner-up Dee Cabaniss earned \$6,500 in scholarships for her research on the effects of various thawing temperatures on dairy cattle semen. The results of

her efforts have been successfully used in her father's dairy and veterinary business.

Agriscience winners received \$1,000 for taking top honors at the state level and \$2,000 at the regional level.

## **National Finalists:**

California: Thomas P. Albin, Del Ray  
California: Edward J. Schaap, McFarland  
Georgia: Dee Cabaniss, Madison  
Ohio: Donald G. Heffner Jr., Akron  
Oregon: Robert D. Rosselle, Adams  
Washington: Michelle Hagfors, Puyallup  
Wisconsin: Cybil L. Fisher, Green Bay  
Wisconsin: Jill Oplinger, Madison

**National Winner:**  
Cybil Fisher

**Runner-Up:**  
Dee Cabaniss





# Computers in Agriculture

**Sponsored by the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation**

Some of FFA's most progressive members were recognized for their skills and innovation with a computer. Finalists in the Computers in Agriculture program gave public presentations at the National Agricultural Career Show on Wednesday and were recognized onstage Thursday morning.

John Demerly walked away with the big win in the Computers in Agriculture program. He created a program to track and organize corn test plots. The Tri-County corn plot book he developed compares and ranks eight local plots and numerous seed varieties.

Preston Brewton, runner-up, developed a computer bulletin board system serving farmers and agribusiness people in his community.

Each national finalist was presented with a \$250 travel award. The runner-up received an additional \$250 and the national winner an additional \$500.

## Finalists:

**Arkansas:** Darla Rutherford

**Florida:** Preston Brewton

**Indiana:** John Demerly

**Maine:** David C.D. Chandler

**Michigan:** Robbie J. Windle

**Texas:** Gwen Neal

**Utah:** James E. Evans

**Virginia:** Ian Heatwole

## State Winners

**ALABAMA:** Shawn L. Wesley, Daleville; Nina R. Weston, Boligee

**ARKANSAS:** Darla Rutherford,

Lincoln; Melinda A. Tate, Oak

**CALIFORNIA:** Colleen Aguiar,

Livingston

**COLORADO:** Timothy J. Lindahl,

Otis

**CONNECTICUT:** Matthew T.

Parsons, Union

## National Winner:

John Demerly  
Wolcott, Ind.

## Runner-Up:

Preston Brewton  
Pensacola, Fla.



*John Demerly (center) was congratulated by national officers Matt Lohr and Mark Timm after winning the Computers in Agriculture Award.*

**FLORIDA:** Preston Brewton, Pensacola

**IDAHO:** D. Greg Beal, Emmett

**ILLINOIS:** Sheila Heide, Sycamore;

Kristie McDaniel, Eldorado

**INDIANA:** John A. Demerly,

Wolcott; Greg Humburg, Frankfort

**IOWA:** David Jolly, Pleasantville;

Dan J. Nibe, Blairsburg

**KANSAS:** Roseanne Davis, Hill City

**KENTUCKY:** Michael E. Sexton,

Harned; Laura Winstead, Dixon

**LOUISIANA:** Natalie Shirley, Elton

**MAINE:** David C. D. Chandler,

Presque Isle

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Stacy Brown, Methuen

**MICHIGAN:** Adam T. Atherton,

Gaines; Robbie J. Windle, Concord

**MINNESOTA:** Jeff Lofgren,

St. James; Chad Zinnel, Brewster

**MISSOURI:** Julie Gregory, Annada

**MONTANA:** Darin D. Oelkers,

Culbertson

**NEBRASKA:** Grant Miller,

Johnstown; John Regier, Aurora

**NEVADA:** Pam DeVries, Deeth

**NEW JERSEY:** Bob Bollock, Newton

**NEW MEXICO:** Mindi Mayfield,

Playas

**NEW YORK:** Nicole Drobysch,

Grahamsville

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Steven

Hurley, Star

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Tyler J. Stover,

Larimore

**OHIO:** Jennifer Hysell, Oxford

**OKLAHOMA:** Kenny Montgomery,

Springer

**OREGON:** Katy L. Blanchet,

Pendelton; Richard Churchill, Elgin

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Timothy S.

Lehman, Mechanicsburg; Aaron R.

Stephens, Liverpool

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Karen Caldwell,

Marietta; Jonathan Davis, Honea

Path **SOUTH DAKOTA:** Jennifer

Knutsen, Volga; Kari Nies, Martin

**TEXAS:** James W. Minix, Burleson;

Gwen Neal, Victoria

**UTAH:** James E. Evans, Altamont;

Adam Johnson, Lewiston

**VIRGINIA:** Charles Calhoun Jr.,

South Hill; Ian Heatwole, Weyers

Cave

**WASHINGTON:** Ryan A. Lancaster,

Ferndale

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Eric T. Meyer,

St. Marys

**WISCONSIN:** Toby Madsen, Maribel;

Paula A. Roecker, Mayville

**WYOMING:** Cherain Schultz, Cody

# National FFA Contests

Contest history was made at the 64th convention with the official addition of an agricultural sales contest and a field test for a parliamentary procedure contest.

Aspiring marketers tested their prowess in understanding and applying principles of sales. Participants took a written test, made a seven-minute sales presentation and performed in a "practicum," a situation in which a contestant demonstrated skill in areas such as customer relations, advertising and promotion or job interviews.

Earlier in the week, the Carthage, Mo., FFA chapter hosted a pilot parliamentary procedure contest sponsored by the chapter, the Carthage FFA Alumni affiliate and the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, Washington, D.C.

The contest had four phases: a written test, a ten-minute team presentation, oral questions, and minutes preparation by the team secretary and president. Mossyrock, Wash., placed first.

The contest will be held at the national convention in 1992.

## **Agricultural Mechanics** Sponsored by Bridgestone/Firestone Trust Fund, a charitable trust of Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.

First Place Team: Miles, Texas  
High Individual: Brad Book,  
Miles, Texas

## **Agricultural Sales** Sponsored by The General Fund

First Place Team: Watertown, S.D.  
High Individual: Jason Beard  
Watertown, S.D.

## **Dairy** Sponsored by the Associated Milk Producers, Inc. and Babson Bros/SURGE

First Place Team: Grady, N.M.  
High Individual: Marvin Hoekema,  
Lynden, Wash.

## **Dairy Foods** Sponsored by Mid-America Dairywomen, Inc.; Patz Sales Inc.; and the National FFA

## **Foundation General Fund**

First Place Team: Hanford, Calif.  
High Individual: Pete Boyer, Ashland,  
Ohio

## **Farm Business Management** Sponsored by John Deere

First Place Team: Kingdom City, Mo.  
High Individual: Matthew Boehm,  
Dola, Ohio

## **Floriculture** Sponsored by Chevron Chemical Company/ORTHO Consumer Products Division

First Place Team: Fayetteville, GA.  
High Individual: Katrina Liloler,  
Vancouver, Wash.

## **Forestry** Sponsored by Homelite Division of Textron, Inc.; Champion International Corporation; and the General Fund

First Place Team: Louisville, GA.  
High Individual: Roger O'Toole,  
Middletown, Conn.

## **Livestock** Sponsored by Purina Mills, Inc.

First Place Team: Lawton, Okla.  
High Individual: S. Schofield, Central  
Point, Ore.

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

First Place Team: Clovis, Calif.  
High Individual: Ginger Galts, Clovis,  
Calif.

## **Nursery/Landscape** Sponsored by the American Association of Nurserymen; Wholesale Nursery Growers of America Inc.; Kubota Tractor Corporation; and Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company

First Place Team: Pikeville, N.C.  
High Individual: Willie Howell,  
Pikeville, N.C.

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

First Place Team: Springdale, Ark.  
High Individual: David Eaton,  
Ashland, Ohio



*The National FFA Convention wasn't a relaxing experience for everyone. Many FFA members spent intense hours in national judging contests. This member weighed her decisions with chilling precision in the meats contest.*





# Building Our American Communities

*Sponsored by RJR Nabisco Foundation Inc.*

Chapter efforts to improve their communities were rewarded with the presentation of Building Our American Communities (BOAC) awards Friday morning. The top four BOAC programs in the nation were recognized, along with gold-, silver- and bronze-ranked chapters. Also presented was the Achievement in Volunteerism award, honoring outstanding individual efforts in community development.

The Carthage, Mo., FFA Chapter took home top honors for its multi-year project to improve the appearance of Missouri's urban state highways. The chapter also landscaped historical sites and local parks.

The Achievement in Volunteerism National Winner Luis Chavez Jr. of El Paso, Texas, was singled out for his leadership in creating a test plot of pistachio trees imported from Mexico with a grant from El Paso Community College. He also organized disaster food drives in cooperation with his local business and government officials.

## National Winner:

Carthage, Missouri

## Second Place:

Cathlamet, Washington

## Third Place

Mackay, Idaho

## Fourth Place:

Morgan County, Georgia

## Achievement in Volunteerism

### National Winner:

Luis Chavez, Jr., El Paso, Texas

### Runner-Up:

Darin L. Dietz, Nashua/  
Plainfield, Iowa

## GOLD

ALABAMA: Isabella; Robert C. Hatch

ARKANSAS: Delaplaine

CALIFORNIA: La Puente Valley ROP; Mt. Whitney-Visalia; Orosi

FLORIDA: Apopka Memorial Middle; Miami

GEORGIA: Morgan County

IDAHO: Mackay

ILLINOIS: Franklin Center; Valmeyer

IOWA: Bison; Manson-Northwest Webster; Nashua/Plainfield; North Polk; Sibley; Webster City

KENTUCKY: Reidland; Spencer County

MICHIGAN: Branch Area Careers Center

MISSOURI: Carthage; Osceola; Owensville; Rolla; Stockton; Union

MONTANA: Missoula

NEBRASKA: Blue Hill; Leigh; Ravenna; Schuyler; Sutton

NEW YORK: Chemung-Tioga Conservationists

OHIO: Wauseon

OKLAHOMA: Chickasha; Coyle; Jenks

OREGON: Union

PENNSYLVANIA: Lenape AVTS

SOUTH DAKOTA: Harrisburg

TEXAS: Longview; Ysleta

VERMONT: Central Vermont; Springfield

WASHINGTON: Bethel; Cathlamet; Elma; Mabton; North Thurston

WISCONSIN: Denmark; Evansville; Laconia; Loyal

## SILVER

ALABAMA: Paramount; Reboeth

ARIZONA: Kofa; Yuma

ARKANSAS: Rison

CONNECTICUT: Mattabeset; Northwestern

HAWAII: Konawaena

ILLINOIS: Chicago Agricultural Sciences; Cissna Park;

Clinton; Seneca; Somonauk-Leland; Warsaw

INDIANA: Prairie Heights; Southwestern-Hanover

IOWA: Akron Westfield; Algona; Hubbard; Humboldt; Mediapolis; Montezuma; Wall Lake View Auburn; West Bend Hawkeye

LOUISIANA: Bogalusa; Dubach High; Newellton

MAINE: Limestone

MICHIGAN: Marshall

MINNESOTA: New Ulm

MISSOURI: Clopton; Keytesville

MONTANA: Miles City

NEBRASKA: Superior

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Coe-Brown Academy; Keene

NEW JERSEY: Warren Hills

NEW MEXICO: Goddard; Hobbs

NORTH CAROLINA: Mountain Heritage

NORTH DAKOTA: Finley-Sharon; Walhalla

OHIO: Eastwood; Otsego

PENNSYLVANIA: Berlin Brothersvalley; Cedar Crest

SOUTH CAROLINA: B.J. Skelton Career Center;

Hillcrest; Strom Thurmond

SOUTH DAKOTA: Bowdle; Elkton; West Central

TENNESSEE: Bartlett; Bradley; Doyle

TEXAS: Aldine; Columbus

VIRGINIA: Abingdon; Central; Park View Middle

WASHINGTON: Yelm

WEST VIRGINIA: Ripley

WISCONSIN: Monroe; New Auburn; New Holstein;

Waupaca; Wauzeka

## BRONZE

ALABAMA: Grand Bay; Jacksonville; Kinston; Marbury

ALASKA: North Pole

ARKANSAS: Cedarville; Jasper; Stuttgart

CALIFORNIA: Calexico; Ceres; Hilmar; Sacramento-Burbank

COLORADO: Woodlin

DELAWARE: McKean; Smyrna



*Luis Chavez, Jr. (left) smiled for the cameras with National Vice President Matt Lohr. Chavez was named National Achievement in Volunteerism winner for his efforts to obtain pistachio trees from Mexico for a test plot.*

GEORGIA: Perry

ILLINOIS: DeKalb; Georgetown-Ridgeland

INDIANA: Carroll Fort Wayne; Tri-County; Whitko

IOWA: Alburnett; Southern Cal at Lake City

KANSAS: Atwood; Clay Center; Coffeyville; Hill City;

Marysville; Wamego; Williamsburg

KENTUCKY: Oldham County

LOUISIANA: Elizabeth

MAINE: Presque Isle

MARYLAND: Frederick; Harford Vo-Tech High

MASSACHUSETTS: Silver Lake

MICHIGAN: Capac

MINNESOTA: Kimball; Lanesboro; Westbrook/Walnut

Grove; Willmar; Winona

MISSISSIPPI: Carthage; Smithville

NEVADA: Ruby Mountain; Steptoe Valley

NEW JERSEY: Piscataway

NEW YORK: Madison

NORTH CAROLINA: Camden County; Clinton High;

East Montgomery; South Rowan; Southern Wayne;

West Carteret

OHIO: Amanda-Clearcreek; East Clinton; Tri-County

JVS Horticulture; Trumbull County JVS

OREGON: Elgin; Nyssa

PENNSYLVANIA: Lower Dauphin; Spud Growers;

Twin Valley

SOUTH CAROLINA: Furman-Manchester; McBee

TEXAS: Barbers Hill; Brownsboro; Calallen; Clear

Creek; Clear Lake; Iowa Park; Klein High; Lorena

UTAH: Davis High; Long Valley

VERMONT: Hartford Vocational

VIRGINIA: Holston Horticulture; Northampton High

WASHINGTON: Winlock

WEST VIRGINIA: Marion County

WISCONSIN: Black Hawk; Blanchardville-Pecatonica;

Green Bay West; Marshfield; Shullsburg; Spencer

WYOMING: Encampment-Loch Leven; Wright



# National Chapter Safety Awards

**Sponsored by Equipment  
Manufacturer's Institute and Ford  
New Holland, Inc.**

FFA chapters were recognized Thursday morning for their efforts to improve safety in their communities. Chapters were ranked gold, silver or bronze, based on their involvement with safety education and improvement.

Written applications indicated an increasing emphasis on environmental concerns. Chapters focused on their relationships with the world around them and chose projects such as safe chemical and fuel usage; accident-free hunting and machinery operation; and life-saving techniques.

## GOLD

**ALABAMA:** Paramount; Scottsboro

**COLORADO:** Platte Valley

**FLORIDA:** Lake Placid Senior

**GEORGIA:** Newton County; Perry

**ILLINOIS:** Amboy; Bluffs; Cissna Park; Clinton;

Franklin Center; Georgetown-Ridge Farm;

Seneca; Somoanuk-LeLand; Sycamore; Warsaw

**INDIANA:** Clinton Central; Southwestern-Hanover

**IOWA:** Bison; Cascade; Creston; Marengo; West Dubuque

**KANSAS:** Clay Center; Marysville

**KENTUCKY:** Spencer County

**LOUISIANA:** Elton

**MISSOURI:** Carthage; Clopton; Keytesville; Salisbury; Union

**NEBRASKA:** Leigh; Ravenna; Verdigre

**NEW MEXICO:** Goddard; Raton

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Forest Hills; North Lenoir; Parkwood

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Rolette

**OHIO:** Amanda-Clearcreek; Greenville

**OKLAHOMA:** Altus

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Lower Dauphin

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Harrisburg

**TEXAS:** Mansfield; Ysleta

**VIRGINIA:** Montevideo Middle; Park View Senior; Turner Ashby

**WASHINGTON:** Elma; Winlock

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Marion County

**WISCONSIN:** Denmark; Monroe; New Auburn; Waupaca

## SILVER

**ALABAMA:** Crossville; Cullman; Rehobeth

**ARIZONA:** Mountain View; Peoria



*A chapter representative proudly accepted a National FFA Safety Award from Lesa Ann King, national vice president.*

**FLORIDA:** Sarasota Vo-Ag

**INDIANA:** Carroll Fort Wayne; Clinton Prairie; Woodlan

**IOWA:** Estherville; Hawkeye; Humboldt; Manson-N.W. Webster

**KANSAS:** Jetmore; Mission Valley; Plainville

**KENTUCKY:** Scott County

**LOUISIANA:** Crowley; Rayne High

**MAINE:** Limestone

**MARYLAND:** Frederick Center & Tech

**MICHIGAN:** USA

**MINNESOTA:** Lanesboro; Westbrook/Walnut Grove

**MISSISSIPPI:** Hamilton; Weir

**MISSOURI:** Nevada

**NEBRASKA:** Blue Hill; Superior

**NEVADA:** Ruby Mountain

**NEW JERSEY:** Warren Hills

**NEW YORK:** Fort Plain

**NORTH CAROLINA:** East Montgomery;

Mountain Heritage; Piedmont; Sun Valley

**NORTH DAKOTA:** J. E. Eastgate

**OHIO:** Bowling Green; East Clinton; Marysville; Preble Shawnee

**OKLAHOMA:** Chickasha

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Spud Growers

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Bowdle; West Central

**TENNESSEE:** Bradley; Lexington

**TEXAS:** Clear Creek; Iowa Park

**WASHINGTON:** Cathlamet; Yelm

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Ripley

**WISCONSIN:** Bloomer; Clear Lake; Green Bay

West; Loyal; Mauston; New Holstein; Wauzeka

**WYOMING:** Devils Tower; Southeast

## BRONZE

**ALABAMA:** Brantley; Daleville; Douglas; Robert C. Hatch

**ALASKA:** Delta Junction

**ARKANSAS:** Delaplaine; Hamburg

**CALIFORNIA:** La Puente; Mt. Whitney-Visalia

**DELAWARE:** Smyrna

**IOWA:** Mount Ayr; Pekin; Vinton

**KANSAS:** Hill City

**MAINE:** Presque Isle

**MICHIGAN:** Branch Area Careers Center

**MINNESOTA:** Martin County West; Willmar;

Worthington

**MONTANA:** Cascade; Miles City

**NEBRASKA:** Ansley; Schuyler

**NEVADA:** Steptoe Valley

**NEW JERSEY:** Monmouth County Vocational

**NEW YORK:** Chemung/Tioga Future Conservts.

**OREGON:** Elgin

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Berea; Furman/

Manchester; Travelers Rest

**TENNESSEE:** Woodbury

**TEXAS:** Baytown Sterling; Brownsboro; Calallen;

Clarendon; Columbus; Raymondville; Slocum

**UTAH:** Davis; Manila

**VIRGINIA:** Essex; Tunstall

**WASHINGTON:** Mabton; North Thurston

**WISCONSIN:** Green Bay Preble; Oregon

**WYOMING:** Douglas





# National Chapter Awards

*Sponsored by GTE/Contel Corporation  
and Nestle USA, Inc.*

At the Thursday afternoon session, representatives of award-winning FFA chapters proudly accepted their recognition onstage. Recipients of the National Chapter Award were lauded for their excellence in planning and carrying out a program of work, or "chapter plan."

Winning chapters were ranked gold, silver or bronze.

## GOLD

**ALABAMA:** Paramount; Rehobeth; Scottsboro  
**ARIZONA:** Peoria  
**COLORADO:** Valley  
**FLORIDA:** Ponce de Leon Senior  
**GEORGIA:** Colquitt County  
**IDAHO:** Meridian  
**ILLINOIS:** Amboy; Chicago Agricultural Sciences; Cissna Park; Sycamore  
**INDIANA:** Benton Central; Carroll @ Flora; Indian Creek; Oak Hill; Rossville; Shenandoah; Southern Wells; Southmont; Tipton; Tri-County; Woodlan  
**IOWA:** Algona; Creston; Harlan; Linn-Mar; Marengo; North Polk  
**KANSAS:** Clay Center; Hill City  
**KENTUCKY:** Apollo; Breckinridge County; Central Hardin; Spencer County  
**MARYLAND:** Catocin; Frederick  
**MICHIGAN:** Branch Area Careers Center; U.S.A.  
**MINNESOTA:** Cannon Falls; Greenbush  
**MISSOURI:** Carthage; Chillicothe; El Dorado Springs; Stockton; Troy; Union  
**MONTANA:** Flathead  
**NEBRASKA:** Ansley; Blue Hill; Central; Lakeview; Norris; Schuyler; Scribner-Snyder; Tri County; Waverly  
**NEVADA:** Churchill County; Ruby Mountain  
**NORTH DAKOTA:** Lisbon  
**OHIO:** Amanda-Clearcreek; Anna; East Clinton; Miami Trace; New Bremen  
**OKLAHOMA:** Adair; Alva; Chickasha; Copan; Elgin; Grandfield; Guthrie; Laverne; Pawnee; Ripley; Tipton  
**OREGON:** Forest Grove; Perrydale  
**PENNSYLVANIA:** H.G. Parkinson; Manheim  
**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Elkton; Marion  
**TENNESSEE:** Bartlett; Bradley Central; Cherokee  
**TEXAS:** Calallen; Cleburne; Columbus; Mansfield; Pleasanton; Ysleta  
**VIRGINIA:** Fort Defiance; James Wood  
**WASHINGTON:** Elma; Winlock; Yelm  
**WEST VIRGINIA:** Ravenswood

**WISCONSIN:** Black Hawk; Bloomer; Clear Lake; Denmark; Evansville; Freedom; Hartford; Loyal; Mauston; Monroe; New Auburn; Waupaca  
**WYOMING:** Hulett; Southeast

## SILVER

**ALABAMA:** Daleville; Ider; Jacksonville  
**CALIFORNIA:** Kingsburg; Mt. Whitney; Turlock  
**CONNECTICUT:** Housatonic Valley  
**FLORIDA:** Branford; Sarasota; South Sumter Senior; Trenton Senior; West Orange  
**GEORGIA:** Franklin County; Jeff Davis; Perry  
**ILLINOIS:** Clinton; Leroy; Salem; Seneca; Sparland; Warsaw  
**IOWA:** Anamosa; Bison; Mount Ayr; North Linn; Rockwell-Sheffield; Southern Cal; Vinton  
**KANSAS:** Jetmore; Labette County; Mankato; Norton; Wamego; Williamsburg  
**KENTUCKY:** Barren County; McLean County; Oldham County; Scott County  
**LOUISIANA:** Elton; Oak Grove  
**MAINE:** Limestone  
**MICHIGAN:** Corunna; Marshall  
**MINNESOTA:** Stillwater; Willmar  
**MISSISSIPPI:** Nettleton  
**MISSOURI:** Eldon; Hartville; McDonald; Memphis; Monroe City; Rolla Area  
**MONTANA:** Shields Valley  
**NEW JERSEY:** Allentown  
**NEW MEXICO:** Goddard; Hobbs  
**NEW YORK:** Hamilton; Tri Valley  
**NORTH CAROLINA:** North Lenoir; Sun Valley; West Carteret  
**NORTH DAKOTA:** Rugby  
**OHIO:** Indian Valley; National Trail; Talawanda  
**OKLAHOMA:** Altus; Hinton; Indianola; Madill; Midway; Oologah; Ryan; Tecumseh; Weleetka  
**SOUTH CAROLINA:** McBee  
**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Roslyn; Waubay  
**TENNESSEE:** Powell Valley; Riverside  
**TEXAS:** Alvin; Clear Creek; Iowa Park; Klein Forest; Lorena; Mission; Orange Grove  
**UTAH:** Bear River  
**VIRGINIA:** Fauquier; Park View Senior  
**WASHINGTON:** Cathlamet; Mountain View  
**WEST VIRGINIA:** St. Marys  
**WISCONSIN:** Granton

## BRONZE

**ALABAMA:** Brantley; Crossville; Florala  
**ARIZONA:** Gilbert  
**ARKANSAS:** Fayetteville; Lavaca; Lonoke; Marshall; Prairie Grove; Quitman; St. Joe; Stuttgart

**CALIFORNIA:** Atascadero; Hanford; La Puente Valley ROP; Norco; Santa Rosa  
**COLORADO:** Dolores; Hoehne; McClave; Woodlin  
**CONNECTICUT:** Winsted  
**DELAWARE:** Smyrna; Telegraph Road  
**FLORIDA:** Colonial; Indian River; Interlachen Junior; Lafayette; Lake Placid Senior; Tate; Taylor Senior  
**ILLINOIS:** Georgetown-Ridgetfarm; Somonauk-Leland; Woodland  
**IOWA:** Alburnett; Cascade; Estherville; North Fayette  
**KANSAS:** Marysville  
**KENTUCKY:** Logan County; Pendleton County; Warren East  
**LOUISIANA:** Crowley; Hathaway  
**MAINE:** Presque Isle  
**MICHIGAN:** Byron; Perry  
**MINNESOTA:** Belle Plain; New Ulm; Pipestone  
**MISSISSIPPI:** Weir  
**MISSOURI:** Cameron; Clopton; Salisbury  
**NEW JERSEY:** Warren Hills  
**NORTH CAROLINA:** Forest Hills; South Rowan; West Montgomery  
**NORTH DAKOTA:** Finley-Sharon; J.E. Eastgate  
**OHIO:** Ansonia; Bloom-Carroll; Johnstown; Keystone; Mississinawa Valley  
**OKLAHOMA:** Bethel; Checotah; Granite; Idabel; Skiatook; Stratford; Stroud; Watts  
**OREGON:** Elgin; Silverton  
**PENNSYLVANIA:** Greenwood; Manor; Selinsgrove; Twin Valley  
**RHODE ISLAND:** Scituate  
**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Clover; Furman/Manchester; Pleasant Hill  
**TENNESSEE:** Lexington; McMinn County; Polk; White House; Woodbury  
**TEXAS:** Aldine; Brownsboro; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch; Clarendon; Dumas; Garland; Gilmer; Gonzales; Jacksboro; Jourdan; Livingston; Northwest; Plano East; Quanah; Raymondville; South Garland; Weslaco  
**UTAH:** Tooele  
**VIRGINIA:** Broadway; Lee Davis; Stuarts Draft  
**WASHINGTON:** Ferndale  
**WISCONSIN:** Wauzeka



# Prepared Public Speaking

## *Sponsored by FMC Foundation*

Friday night's public speaking contest finals featured four regional winners delivering speeches and answering questions. The road to the top began months ago, even years, for the contestants as they researched, wrote, practiced and rose through the ranks of competition. Regional contests were held earlier in the week to identify the four finalists.

Each spoke for six to eight minutes and answered questions posed by a judges' panel. Serving as judges were Wilson Carnes, formerly of the National FFA Organization; Jeffrey H. Jacoby, FMC-Agricultural Chemicals Group; and Luther Markwart, American Sugarbeet Growers Association. Timekeepers were Joseph Casello, U.S. Department of Education and Kenneth Mitchell, Tennessee FFA Foundation.

Plaques and cash awards were presented; \$300 for first place, \$275 for second, \$250 for third and \$200 for fourth.

### **National Winner:**

**Michael Ryan Beckerink,**  
Clymer, N.Y.

"Biotechnology: Better Days Through Better Ways"

### **Second Place:**

**Patrick Timothy Stone,**  
Johnsonville, S.C.  
"Genetic Engineering"

### **Third Place:**

**David C. Meyer,**  
Loyal, Wis.  
"Headlines"

### **Fourth Place:**

**Loralee Woods,**  
Grady, N.M.  
"America's Choice: Science and Reason or Fear and Emotion"



*Michael Beckerink's speech "Biotechnology: Better Days Through Better Ways" brought him a great night. For his first place speech, Beckerink, of Clymer, N.Y., won \$300.*



*From left, Loralee Woods, Michael Ryan Beckerink, Patric Timothy Stone and David C. Meyer.*



# Prepared Public Speaking

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## National Winning Speech:

Picture, if you will, a world where record amounts of crops are harvested without the use of herbicides or pesticides. A place where life-threatening oil spills can be dispersed with the application of a bacteria. A time when acid rain poses no threat to the environment or human society. This world can be ours, if and only if we continue to support what may be the most important advancement our world has seen since the "green revolution" in agriculture. I'm referring to the application of biotechnology to save our environment.

Yes, biotechnology has already played a tremendous part in the cleanup of our environment, and I feel it will play an even more important role in the future. Some of the potential advancements in this field have so much promise that many people have already labeled biotechnology as the second green revolution. Yet, we have only just begun.

Over the course of the past few months, the Persian Gulf has been the site of a disastrous oil spill. We have watched television and witnessed the damage that is being caused. Biological scientists have developed a bacteria that when spread on oil spills can quickly disperse the particles.

Another problem facing our environment is acid rain. Acid rain affects much of the Northeastern United States. To cope with this dilemma scientists have found bacteria which depend on sulfur and nitrogen compounds as an energy source. By advancing the development of these bacteria, scientists may be able to cut the cost of cleaning emissions in half, making its application practical for wide-range use, thereby reducing acid rain. These are but two examples of the role that biotechnology can play in solving global environmental problems.

Now let's consider the marriage of biotechnology and agriculture. Only through research can the industry meet the world's demand for food and fiber while reducing its dependence on chemicals. It's a fact that insects and other pests cost the United States \$64 billion annually in crop and livestock destruction, despite the annual application of approximately 500,000 tons of pesticides. This is an amazing amount of chemicals. It's no wonder there is so much concern

about the amount of damage agriculture is causing our environment.

Scientists have been able to genetically engineer disease and pest resistant traits into certain plants. But some critics of biotechnology claim these practices may not be safe. The success or failure of biotechnology depends largely on how the public perceives it. A common public perception is that biotechnology is unethical, immoral and downright dangerous to our society and the environment. The reality is that biotechnology is a process that is making American agriculture safer for the environment and more competitive in the world market.

Today, biotechnology is so revolutionary, the methods so different, the changes so dramatic, the potential so outstanding, that this field requires a high degree of continued communication with the public. The key to acceptance will be a complete, unobstructed, and honest communication which informs the public of new changes and developments. As agriculturists, our goal should be to help provide enough information so that consumers will be able to make wise and informed decisions and not react impulsively to negative stories or partial truths. We have to make the public realize that the American food supply is the safest and least expensive in the world.

In reality, a 100 percent safety guarantee is not possible. We need to tell the public that 99 percent of the food produced in the United States has no trace of harmful chemicals. Furthermore, scientists can now detect chemicals in parts per trillion which is comparable to dropping an eighth of an aspirin into a railroad car full of water.

Here's something else that I'm sure would have an effect on everyone. It's projected that if farmers used no herbicides or pesticides at all, crop yields would decrease 50 to 60 percent, and food prices would increase by 45 percent. Again, this is where biotechnology can provide answers. Bioengineered plants would have very little need for pesticides, which could lower the farmer's production cost, in turn reducing the cost to the consumer, which would benefit all of us.

The United States is the most efficient food producing nation in the world, and our high tech research and development can keep us there. We hold agriculture's future in our hands. What we do with it will affect everyone. Making the decision to win public support and continue the advancement of our knowledge and technology will be the deciding factor in the future of American agriculture.

Our farmers with their hard work, perseverance and dedication have come a long way since the days of horse-driven plows and hand scythes. They are turning to the laboratories searching for something that will cure our ailing earth. Let's face it, it's the only one we have. It is recyclable. We can turn things around. But, we have to act now. Biotechnology, as I see it, may be the only remaining answer. Sure, there are risks involved, but they are very small compared to industrial waste, water pollution and acid rain.

I'm sure that anyone who has been inspired by the words of the FFA creed will remember in particular the phrase that promises "better days through better ways." I can think of no better way to solve our environmental problems than to take advantage of biotechnology.

For decades our world has been creating many problems with the environment. Coping with these problems has never been easy. Now, we have potential answers to improve our environment. It is up to us, you and me, to stay informed, to understand, and to educate. Because through biotechnology we can indeed achieve "better days through better ways."





# National Extemporaneous Speaking Contest

**Sponsored by American Farm Bureau Federation**

## **National Winner:**

Beth Henderson, Breckenridge County, Ky.  
"The Effect of Relations with Other Countries on U.S. Agriculture"

## **Second Place:**

Heather Stone, Jet, Okla.  
"Building Public Acceptance of Agriscience and Technology in Production Agriculture"

## **Third Place:**

Brian Tribble, Fairview, Ark.  
"The Impact of New Technologies on the Agricultural Industry"

## **Fourth Place**

Robin McLean, Tri-Valley, N.Y.  
"Building Acceptance of Agriscience and Technology in Production Agriculture"

"Thinking fast" was the challenge for extemporaneous speaking contestants at Thursday afternoon's national finals. After 30 minutes to prepare, speakers gave a four-to-six minute presentation and answered questions from a panel of judges.

Despite the short preparation time, speeches were hardly off the cuff. Contestants had labored in advance to educate themselves about timely topics and were allowed to bring resource materials with them as they formulated their speeches.

Judging the contest were Jerry R. Cordrey, American Farm Bureau Federation; LaVerne G. Ausman, deputy under secretary for Small Community and Rural Development; and Burleigh Leonard, RJR Nabisco Washington, Inc. Glenn Adair, Elko, Nev., High School and Bob Graham, National Vocational Agricultural Teachers' Association, served as timekeepers.

All four finalists took home plaques and cash awards. First place was awarded \$300, second \$275, third \$250 and fourth \$200.



*Quick on her feet, Beth Henderson gave an award-winning speech on agricultural trade policy after having only 30 minutes to prepare.*

## **National Winning Speech:**

The U.S. is the number one agricultural producer in the world, feeding hundreds of millions of people each year, both at home and abroad. While most Americans are far removed from the working farm, many do not realize the areas of agriculture in which a farmer must be knowledgeable. One important area of agriculture that farmers are increasingly concerned about is the effect of relations with other countries on U.S. agriculture.

There are three main components of this issue which we will discuss today. First, relations with the USSR, Japan and the European community. Second, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and third, the importance of working diplomatically with underdeveloped nations to develop markets.

In 1980, tragedy struck U.S. wheat farmers when the U.S. placed a grain embargo on the Soviet Union. In 1980, we had over 70 percent of the Soviet wheat market. And after that embargo, our share dwindled to below 30 percent. Now, over ten years later, we have yet to totally recover our former market share. Why? Because the USSR found other markets to replace our lost market. U.S. foreign policy left our farmers out in the cold and they had no control. Now,

however, the U.S. is getting a chance to regain the Soviet market through the aid packages and the credit that we are extending to the financially distressed USSR.

Our relations with Japan have been pretty shaky in recent years. However, they are starting to get better. This is going to help the American farmer because Japan is now allowing U.S. beef and citrus to be imported more into their country. The European community, a loose economic affiliation of several major European countries, has been a major thorn in the side of U.S. agriculture and has been a stumbling block in the GATT talks. However, because of U.S. diplomacy and perseverance, we are seeing that they, too, are softening their views which could open up more markets for U.S. agriculture. The possibility of the North American free trade agreement between the United States, Canada and Mexico would make us part of the biggest and most powerful economic group in the whole world. However, it's going to be up to our legislators and trade representatives to work to find ways to appease all sides in this argument.

Finally, if U.S. agriculture is going to stay competitive and expand, we must work with underdeveloped nations to develop new markets. This is why the U.S. sends so much foreign aid to underdeveloped countries, because if they get on their feet again, they are usually another market for U.S. agriculture.

Last year, the United States exported \$37.5 million to markets all across the world. If we are going to continue to be a growing nation, we must have sound relations with foreign nations. In his address to the National FFA Convention yesterday, President Bush stated, "America must be competitive." It's going to be up to me and up to you for the American farmer to be competitive.

Many people feel that agriculture just isn't that important. History begs to differ. Noted American statesman, William Jennings Bryan once stated, "Burn down your cities and leave our farms and your cities will spring up again as if by magic, but destroy our farms and grass will grow in the streets of every city in the nation. Agriculture may be a cross to bear, but it is a cross of gold and a burden that no one can live without."





# National Talent

**Sponsored by Ford Division—  
Ford Motor Company**

Participants in the national talent program, 94 in all, performed more than 200 times during the convention week. From the convention stage to Crown Center, talented FFA members sang, danced and entertained their way into the hearts of their audiences.

Directed by Gary Maricle of Kansas City, the talent acts were scheduled into a whirlwind of activity. Assisting Maricle were Susette Bazen, associate director, Texas; Robert Enbody, assistant director, Washington and Daniel Boyle, student assistant, Ohio.

**ALABAMA:** Gary Armstrong, Tony Launiue, Rickey Pike, Jason Thrasher and Darrell Underwood, all of Red Bay; Harlan Campbell, Charles Crawford, Jason Johnson and Jason Netherton, all of Cullman

**ARKANSAS:** Jennifer Glover, Guy-Perkins; Wesley Hart, Prairie Grove; Ashley King and Christy Whillock, Clinton; Natalie Smith, Evening Shade; Loretta Stegall, Decatur

**CALIFORNIA:** Jodi Marston, Summerville

**COLORADO:** Jennifer Hicks, Sally Kembel and Susan Roberts, all of Fort Morgan; Donna Tenny, Olathe

**DELAWARE:** Wendy Collins and James Foreman, Sussex Central; Tiphani Cade, Caesar Rodney

**ILLINOIS:** Nahum Hickman, Kevin Hornsby, Joelle Lamarre and Allison Simpson, all of Chicago; Krista Murnam and Jenny Newell, Sparland

**INDIANA:** Chris Ebert, Deb Lucas, Colette Markovich, Christy Parrish, Sandy Parrish, Barbie Ramsey, Shane Storey, Beau Watkins, and Dude Watkins, all of North Newton; Janel Johnson, Adams Central

**KENTUCKY:** Michael Meredith, Greenwood

**MICHIGAN:** Stacey Stoll, Colon; Katie Taylor, Chippewa Hills; Lisa Beth Tucker, Hillman

**MINNESOTA:** Travis Shultz and Toddy Shultz, Hennepin Technical College; Sheila Henning, Heron Lake-Okabena-Lakefield; Rachel Ackerson, Barnesville

**MISSISSIPPI:** Keith Cain, Valden; Nicole Rinehart, Falkner



*Although butterflies filled her stomach, Joelle Lamarre, from the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences, filled Municipal Auditorium with a crowd pleasing song during Thursday night's Talent Review.*

**MISSOURI:** S. Sheree McCray and Erica Perry of East Buchanan; Jodi Burch, Humansville; Sonia Burton, Lakeland; Melanie Nelson, Macon

**MONTANA:** Mary Bonine, Miles City; Carter Crohn, Medicine Lake

**NEBRASKA:** Michelle Wimer, Scribner-Snyder

**NEW MEXICO:** Leslie Bouvet, Hatch

**NEW YORK:** Niki Jo Curtis, Stockbridge Valley

**NEVADA:** Jason Meyers, Nile Valley; Renee Tiegs, Diamond Mountain

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Francis Bauer, David Boehm, Tony Boehm and Kent Schafer, all of Mandan

**OHIO:** Daniel Boyle, Bowling Green; Amy Jonas, Ridgedale

**OKLAHOMA:** Kathy Cole, Patricia Cole, Karmen Hall and Susan McMahan, all of Wagoner; Amy Chastain, Wetumka; James Hammond, Geronimo; Monica Miller, Grandfield; Jeanne Rehman, Kingfisher; Rachelle Wollenberg, Cyril

**OREGON:** Marty Campbell, Pendleton

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Denise Dartt, Wall

**TENNESSEE:** Jennifer Langford, South Fulton

**TEXAS:** Dana Elliott, Quinlan

**WASHINGTON:** Michael Thompson, Ferndale

**WISCONSIN:** Monica Lawrence, Orfordville; Melody Milroy, Watertown

**WYOMING:** Dwayne Anderson, Kris Betts, Natalie Braten, Angie Ewart, Alison Larson, Chris Miller, Rebecca Randol, Jim Raper and Rhonda Slack, all of Meeteetse; Anita Jones, Moorcroft



# National Band



*Branden McElroy, Snyder, Okla., was one of many National FFA Band members who devoted much of his convention experience to hours of practice and performance.*

## **Sponsored by Landmark Genetics, Inc. and Manna Pro Corporation**

FFA's finest instrumentalists came together to provide music for convention sessions and special appearances in the Kansas City area. Under the direction of William C. Moffit, the "mail order band" practiced for only a few days before their premiere performance.

The band's first convention activity came in the special session as they played spirited marches, popular tunes, and a traditional favorite—the Grand Entry featuring "When the Saints Go Marching In."

As a special and distinct honor, the band played "Hail to the Chief" to signal the entrance of the President of the United States, George Bush.

Assisting with the band were: Gene Englerth, assistant manager; Jeannette Moffit, business manager; Penny Englerth, chaperone; and Bobby Coburn, chaperone.

**ALABAMA:** Jason Gardner, Fruitdale, Trombone; Maxie Gray, Centreville, Percussion

**ARIZONA:** Trent Straub, Pearce, Trumpet

**ARKANSAS:** Philip Fore, Buckner, Percussion; Kenneth Massey, Ashflat, Tuba

**CALIFORNIA:** Lino Mendes, Hanford, Trombone

**COLORADO:** Jesse Henderson, Peetz, Baritone Sax

**CONNECTICUT:** Nathan Wilmot, Naugatuck, Trumpet; Kellie Moffat, Naugatuck, Clarinet

**DELAWARE:** Patricia Burgoon, Townsend, Percussion

**FLORIDA:** Eric Coburn, Alturas, Trumpet

**IDAHO:** Matthew Quesnell, Twin Falls, Alto Sax;

Amy May, Troy, Flute; May O'Malley, Murphy,

French Horn; Amy Winegar, Fruitland, Flute

**ILLINOIS:** Amanda Flint, Bourbonnais, Flute; Lori

Meeker, Mason City, Clarinet; Christy Peterson,

Tampico, Bass Clarinet; Stacy Whitman, Galva,

French Horn

**INDIANA:** Jennifer Clute, Oxford, Clarinet

**IOWA:** Jason Knapp, Hawkeye, Trombone;

Kevin Kueker, Waverly, Tuba; Joseph Looker,

Indianola, Tuba; Trent Smith, Humbolt, French

Horn; Corey Stott, Cantril, Percussion; Jennifer

Perkins, Allerton, Alto Sax

**KANSAS:** Mark Bogner, Wright, Tenor Sax;

Brent Deener, Arkansas City, Tuba; Steve

Sawyer, Great Bend, Trombone

**KENTUCKY:** Jeremy Hinton, Sonora, Alto Sax

**MARYLAND:** Stephen Eyler, Keymar,

Percussion; Becky Mills, Frederick, Clarinet

**MICHIGAN:** Chad Cornwell, Laingsburg, Tenor

Sax; Jeanne Englerth, Webberville, Flute; Carla

McGregor, Joliet, Clarinet; Julia Sarka, New

Lothrop, Alto Sax; Paula Stadler, Wallace,

French Horn; Nikki Turcotte, Wallace, Flute

**MINNESOTA:** Jason Shippy, Ivanhoe,

Trombone; Matthew Watnrem, Montevideo,

Baritone Bass; Aimee Anderson, Webster,

Trumpet; Paula Barsness, Hancock, Alto Sax;

Joyce Besch, Kasson, Bassoon; Dawn Bondhus,

Storden, Clarinet; Emily Halloran, Belle Plaine,

Alto Sax; Gena Koeberl, Hector, Trombone;

Denise May, New Prague, Trombone; Carolyn

Rossow, Lakefield, Alto Sax

**MISSOURI:** Ronnie Angel, Warrensburg, Tuba; Jeffrey Bergman, Paris, Baritone Sax; David Calton, Hartville, Treble Clef Baritone; Jason Eden, Hartville, French Horn; Scott Grimm, Rayville, Trombone; Marty Rush, Eldon, Trumpet; John Tummons, Bois D'Arc, Baritone Sax; Amanda Fischer, Galena, Trumpet; Margaret Rausch, Perryville, Flute; Sherry Strodtman, Glasgow, Clarinet; Stephanie Thomas, Chillicothe, Clarinet; Carrie Witt, Aurora, French Horn

**MONTANA:** James Elliot, Chinook, Trumpet; Justin Krum, Belfry, Baritone Bass; Sean McDuffee, Alder, Tuba; Wendy Willson, Kinsey, Bass Clarinet

**NEBRASKA:** Chad Mayfield, Nehaulka, Trombone; Susan Knabe, Nehawka, Tenor Sax; Dara Kort, Ayr, Flute; Boni Krahulik, Arapahoe, Baritone Bass

**NEVADA:** Julie Berry, Adams, Clarinet; Ami Raddatz, Panaca, Flute; Valerie Relyea, Munnsville, Clarinet

**NEW MEXICO:** Toby Baxley, Flagerman, Trumpet

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Christopher Garner, Newport, Trumpet

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Jesse Bruanagel, Chaseley, Trumpet; Nathan Pinke, Wishek, Trombone

**OHIO:** Kyle Miller, Delaware, Tenor Sax; Janet LaCumsky, Oak Harbor, Oboe

**OKLAHOMA:** Brad Hayes, Frederick, Trumpet;

Charles Mashburn, Stroud, Tuba; Branden

McElroy, Snyder, Trombone; Casey Pilgreen,

Waurika, Trumpet; Josh Waddell, Jones,

Baritone Bass; John Wells, Skiatook, Tuba;

Jacob Yunker, Alva, Trumpet; Elizabeth Crews,

Holdenville, French Horn

**OREGON:** Chris Wickham, Stappoose, Bassoon;

Amanda Moore, McMinnville, Clarinet

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Steve Landis, Berlin, Trumpet;

Tamara Hopkins, Dover, Flute

**RHODE ISLAND:** Bethany Lovas, North

Kingstown, Flute

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Scott Brekke, Clark,

Percussion; Michael Moeller, Brookings, Baritone

Bass; Tami Kulhavy, Colman, Tenor Sax

**TEXAS:** Joseph Bisbey, Sealy, Percussion;

David Lee, Anahuac, Treble Clef Baritone; Greg

Sonnenburg, Burleson, Percussion; Cody Wells,

Big Spring, Trumpet; Karissa Hawkes, Houston,

Oboe; Deanna Schumann, Bellville, Tenor Sax;

Amanda Shaddox, Alba, Clarinet;

**WASHINGTON:** Barb Beattie, Chelan, Flute;

Leah Gorden, Moses Lake, Bass Clarinet; Eva

Marie Van Beck, Othello, Bass Clarinet

**WISCONSIN:** Theodore Eslinger, Stanley,

Trombone; Amanda Erickson, Delavan, Clarinet;

Kristi Pribbernow, Owen, French Horn; Martha

Zwettler, Blue Mound, Alto Sax

**WYOMING:** Clinton Jones, Percussion





# National Chorus

*Sponsored by Ford Division—Ford Motor Company*

Every time the National FFA Chorus took the stage, convention attendees were treated to an auditorium filled with beautiful, enthusiastic song. As always, the chorus delighted, entertained and moved its audience.

Director Stan Kingma and accompanist Owen Robbins provided more than a musical experience for their charges; they provided an FFA experience. With only days to practice, the young people worked long, diligent hours to prepare their numbers and delivered polished performances to the convention audience.

Assisting Kingma were: Marilyn Kingma and Gina Polich.

**ALASKA:** Casey Hendricks, North Pole

**ALABAMA:** Jennifer Hughes, Ariton

**ARKANSAS:** Amy Rowland, Hope

**FLORIDA:** Denise Reeves, Lake City

**GEORGIA:** Shannon Tolle, Homerville; Crystal Elkins, Appling

**IDAHO:** Lloyd Knight, Glenns Ferry; Johnny Potter, Jr., Naples

**ILLINOIS:** Jennifer Ash, Watseka; James Bailey, Champaign; Timm Marriott, Mt. Carmel; Brad Pickel, Jerseyville; Michael Smith, Champaign

**INDIANA:** Taya Johnson, Decatur

**IOWA:** Adam Albrecht, Readlyn; Daniel Boehlje, Rockwell; Tonia Elvers, Elkader; Jennifer Kinsey, Ankeny; Mark Lee, Inwood; David McGaffey, Iowa Falls; Kari Metzger, Lester; Chris Moss, West Union; Malinda Ruzicka, Marble Rock; Wendy Weber, Rockwell; Blaine Scott, Kellerton

**KANSAS:** Kate Armbruster, Kiowa; Melanie Ramey, Neodesha; Shane Ehrlich, Council Grove

**KENTUCKY:** James Parrish, Lexington

**MARYLAND:** Tracy Clagett, New Windsor

**MINNESOTA:** Shannon Busch, St. James; Kevin

Johnson, Storden; Kevin Koehl, Hancock

**MISSISSIPPI:** Hope Belk, McCool; Michelle Tanksley, Weir

**MISSOURI:** Beth Brookshiere, Graham; Mary Gatlin, Mountain Grove; Christi Huff, Sparta; Chance Irvine, Tarkio; Galen Miller, Columbia; Jason Mott, Rockville; Michelle Ramaeker, Mountain Grove; Debra Ratcliff, California; Jason Sandner, Anabel; Scott Veatch, Trenton; Susan Warren, Dawn; Lisa Zang, Trenton

**MONTANA:** Julie Andres, Missoula; Shane Clouse, Bozeman; Glen Jardee, Ekalaka; Jerome Nicholson, Arlee

**NEBRASKA:** Eric Dam, Hooper; Brock Ekhoft, Aurora; Brent Katz, DeWitt; Michael Lange, Fordyce; Shawn Morsbach, Neligh; Mark Niemeyer, DeWitt; Brent Tonjes, Hooper; Todd Zimmerman, Plymouth

**NEW YORK:** Lee Brown, Alexander

**OHIO:** Richard Bachman, Grand Rapids; Rusty Friend, Leesburg; Stacey Limes, Bowling Green

**OKLAHOMA:** Bryan Albrecht, El Reno; Alicia Burdette, Skiatook; Edward Chandler, Webbers Falls; Alicia Crissup, Waynoka; Camille DeWitt, Braman; Deanna Dunn, Stillwater; Tara Griggs, Allen; Ginger Howard, Ardmore; Angela Johnson, Okemah; Chad Kirk, Tipton; Ann Marie Perkins, Yukon; Carrie Singleton, Chickasha; Justin Smith, Grandview; Heather Stone, Stillwater; Kendra Unruh, Balko; Ken Waugh, Tipton; Jennifer Woodward, Walters; Jeremy Frye, Sulpher

**OREGON:** Susan Johnson, Elgin

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Kathryn Stewart, Bernville

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Faithe DesChamps, Pinewood

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Seanna Fastnacht, Wessington Springs; Stephanie Johnston, Waubay; Ryan Schaefer, Kennebec; Nicole Kost, Harrisburg; Cory Langerock, Marion

**TENNESSEE:** Kenny Rogers, Humboldt

**TEXAS:** Kristin Durham, Houston; Jason Hatfield, League City; Lee Willcox, Wallisville; Paul Almquist, Odessa

**WASHINGTON:** Ami Fortman, Port Orchard; Anne Willis, Monroe

**WISCONSIN:** Nickalas Monroe, Chaseburg; Jeff Wittek, Thorp; Megan Eilts, Fennimore; Jakin Heusinkveld, Milwaukee

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Rebecca Ring, Karneysville; Calvin Stump, Maysville



*Recent global events gave members renewed pride in America and the FFA. The national chorus brought everyone to their feet with "I'm Proud to be an American" and "God Bless the USA."*





# Retiring Addresses



## A Place in This World

Mark Timm  
National President

A fable is told of a cowboy who rode his horse across the Plains. He stopped for water, and an Indian appeared and said, "Stop a while and pick up some pebbles in the stream. Tomorrow they will make you both happy and sad!" The cowboy slipped a few pebbles into his pocket and rode on.

The next day when he looked in his pocket, he found that the pebbles had turned to rubies, emeralds, diamonds and other precious gems. He jumped on his horse and galloped back to the stream. He filled his pockets, saddlebags and boots with pebbles and rode on. But these stones never turned to gems. When next he saw the Indian, he complained, "You tricked me. These stones didn't turn to jewels!"

The Indian replied, "That's what I meant. You are happy because you had the opportunity, but sad because you didn't take better advantage of it."

The cowboy asked "What can I do about it now?"

The Indian said, "No riches await you. All you can do is tell those who are coming of the opportunity that lies ahead of them."

My friends, seven years ago I faced my future, not knowing exactly where I belonged. Like all beginning FFA members, I had little idea of the riches that lay ahead. At Greenhand FFA Camp, little did I know that the speakers I thought were so boring were actually teaching me how to build my self-confidence. As I labored over the creed, I was unaware that it was just the first of many experiences that would mold me and make me what I am today.

During the past seven years, FFA has yielded its share of rubies, emeralds, diamonds and precious gems to me. Who would have guessed that a young, naive freshman from Fillmore, Indiana, would have the chance to travel in 40 states and six foreign countries? What an unforgettable time this has been. I flew in a helicopter over the San Joaquin Valley of California, went tubing in south Georgia with the alligators, rode horseback in the snow-covered mountains of Montana, golfed in Arizona, visited with Mickey in Florida, and learned to introduce myself in Japanese.

As I bring my final remarks, I realize that my time is nearly done. For that I am sad, but I am happy that I have the chance to tell you what lies ahead.

It was one year ago on this final convention afternoon, that I shared my vision of the role we, as the youth of America and the FFA, play in our country's future. While the youth of America do not represent 100 percent of our population, we do represent 100 percent of the future.

As stewards of this future, we have immense challenges. We live in a country which classifies a two-month supply of grain as a surplus and 200 years of oil as a strategic reserve. Three million homeless people walk the streets of our cities at night, and 30 percent of all high school seniors get drunk once a week. And how does the average teenager spend 27 hours each week?

Watching television.

America is far from perfect. Yet, I believe there has never been a more exciting time to be an American. We live in an ever-changing society, where no one knows what tomorrow will hold. The opportunities for young people are endless.

Of the freshmen entering high school agriculture, 30 percent will enter the work force in jobs not yet created. Who can dream of the jobs which will be available in marketing, business, science, biotechnology and aquaculture by the year 2001? The world is at our fingertips, offering the chance to travel, to open our minds and to educate ourselves—even for some to shake hands with the president of the United States. Take advantage of what is before you. Perhaps the hours of judging practice seem futile and the record keeping a waste of time. Don't believe it. Each opportunity you utilize represents a small pebble in the stream that will someday become a precious diamond in your life.

When I look back at the great leaders that founded and molded this country, names such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Martin Luther King, Jr. and John F. Kennedy come to mind. After my travels, I know that fame is not a requirement for leadership; what counts is how you live your life and what you stand for.

In towns all across our nation, there are people whom I consider to be great Americans. One who made a difference in my life is a former agriculture teacher. He switched occupations in 1975 to better provide financially for his wife and two small boys. What makes him special is that he never quit teaching. He set an example for his sons to follow. I know he doesn't know it, but I was always trying to impress him. The man is my idol, and I have always wanted to be just like him. That man is my father.

No matter what I wanted to do, his answer was always the same, "Son, we want what is best for you. If that is what you want, we support you 100 percent."

The greatest decision my father ever made was to marry my mother. She is the coach, the cook, the cleaning lady and the captain during the crucial periods of my life. My mother never received a college education, yet is now the business manager of the company for which she works.

Larry Timm, my dad, will probably never have a monument built in his honor in Washington, D.C. Chances are good, my mom, Ruth Timm's picture will never grace the front cover of *Time* magazine. To me, however, there is no higher honor than sons who love and respect their parents.

What makes them special is their commitment to their family, their faith and each other. Their dream was that their children would live greater lives than they could ever imagine. Thanks, Mom and Dad, for finding your special place in this world and for showing me how to find mine.

Some of you may not have the kind of support that I found as I grew up. Someone may try to destroy your goals and dreams. Others may label you. They may try to tell you who you are, and how you should act. In most high schools, students have images pinned on them by their peers. One person is a jock, another is a brain. One is an airhead, one is a snob.

While these judgments are cruel, the real tragedy comes when we accept the labels and settle for less. It is a proven fact that 98 percent of all people picture themselves as being far less capable than they really are.

The FFA is different. The reason I love this organization the way I do is because it provides a chance for everyone. Whether you are tall, small, black, white, young or old, there is a place for everyone to succeed. I thank God for my advisor Mr. Bottorff, for my family and for my friends, all of whom never labeled me as



anything but a success.

God has a special place for each of us, and he has given us the ability to determine our own destiny. It says in Psalms 118:24, "This is the day the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the burdens of today that are difficult. It is the regret of yesterday and the fear of tomorrow which rob us of today.

You know, oddly enough, as I prepare to leave you for the final time, it doesn't bother me to take my jacket off, because I know that I have a place in this world.

There was once a concert pianist who was about to play the greatest performance of his life. Thousands of people had assembled to hear him. His fingers danced across the keys. It was a performance like no other. At the end of his performance, he bowed and exited the stage. The crowd rose in unison and began cheering, clapping and calling for an encore. The stage director went backstage and asked the man, "Do you hear the people yelling for you?"

The pianist said, "Yes."

The director said, "You must go back out for an encore performance."

The man said, "No."

The director cried, "Why?"

The man explained, "There is one man on the front row who remains seated."

The director screamed, "That is only one man, what does he matter?"

The concert pianist looked at the director and replied, "Because he is my master." He was the one who had trained the pianist. His master.

This year has shown me that there are only two in this world I have to please. My Master, the Lord above, and myself. If I can satisfy these two, I will myself successful. Success is not doing what others consider to be great, but what you consider to be right.

No, the difficulty is not in taking the jacket off, it is knowing that this is the last time I will ever put it on. FFA members, you have given me a wealth of diamonds and precious gems along with the memories of a lifetime, but now it is your turn. It is your turn to find your special place in this world. My favorite artist, Michael W. Smith shares my final message...

The wind is moving,  
But I am standing still  
A life of pages  
Waiting to be filled  
A heart that's hopeful  
A head that's full of dreams  
But this becoming  
Is harder than it seems  
Feels like I'm

Looking for a reason  
Roaming through the  
night to find  
My place in this world  
My place in this world

Not a lot to lean on  
I need your light  
to help me find  
My place in this world  
My place in this world

If there are millions  
Down on their knees  
Among the many  
Can you still hear me  
Hear me asking  
Where do I belong?  
Is there a vision  
That I can call my own?

Is there a vision that you can call your own? Do you know where you belong? FFA members, the day is today, the time is now and the person is you. It says in the Bible, "For many are called but few are chosen." You have been chosen to make a difference in your home, school, community, state, nation and even in your world.

So stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead, believe that you have the destiny, the innate ability, to become all you expect out of life. Your life is an open book, each page

waiting to be filled. Don't be afraid to take some chances, climb the highest mountains, dream the biggest dreams, laugh more, complain less, focus on the positive and most importantly, find your very special place in this world.

The day is today, the time is now, and the person is you.



## A Magnificent Voyage

Danny Grellner  
National Secretary

In the midst of the Atlantic Ocean, a ship is tossed about by a sudden storm. Waves pound the ship and rock it back and forth, back and forth, to the brink of capsizing. The crewmen are afraid, and as the storm worsens, they panic. Will they control the ship or surrender to a watery grave?

What of their families? Their wives? Their children? The men reach deep within for strength and the will to persevere. They scramble to take the ship back from the sea. When the storm passes and the waters calm, the relieved sailors press on, intent on their quest of a new world.

Driven by a deep passion to show the naysayers their determination, commitment and courage, the crew would risk their lives time and time again. For when Christopher Columbus and his followers sailed from Spain centuries ago, they were bent on success. There would be no failure for these explorers and adventurers. Theirs was a testimony of human will and commitment for the ages.

Like other pioneers, Columbus was not content with the status quo. For him, saying "it can't be done," was as much as a challenge to do that very thing. We have benefited time and time again from those who said, "it can be done." Engineers who sink oil drilling rigs deep into the sea. Scientists who find a vaccine for a dreaded disease. Lithuanians and Estonians who believe they have a right to a democratic government.

You and I can learn much from such pioneers. As a new era dawns in American history, as we approach a new century and even a new millennium, who will set the pace for our nation and our world? Who will voyage through uncharted waters and brave the elements to advance our people? Will it be you? Are you willing to risk it all as Christopher Columbus, in pursuit of the dream of a better chapter, state, country, and even a better world?

This year has been a wonderful voyage of opportunity and challenge. It's also been a time to meet the future, travel the present and learn from the past.

In all of my experiences, from late night tours of Canada and Maine to boogie boarding in Florida, from mountain climbing in Montana to running in the cool mountain air of Colorado, I found that the only thing which separates the best from the rest, the top from the bottom, and advancement from stagnation, is the courage of people to break the mold of being ordinary.

If we are to succeed as individuals and as a country, we must seek to break the molds of the past and chart our own course. We must develop and be proud of our uniqueness. Do you know what the number-one problem in America is today? The reason that we have crime, eroding family values and turmoil across the country? Our people are not secure and

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# Retiring Addresses

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happy with who and what they are. Why do people murder, steal and lie? Why do most families break up? Why do we have the drug problems and teenage suicides we have?

Everyone wants and desires to be someone they're not. We have become so caught up in what others think of us that we lose sight of who we are. We all want to be a part of a crowd, to be accepted, to belong. But, isn't it more important to believe than to simply belong?

Look at all of the people who have made a difference in our world. Where would we be today if it weren't for Christopher Columbus and his belief in himself? He was refused assistance by all of Europe, laughed at and mocked until Queen Isabella of Spain gave him a chance.

How many hearts and minds would be left untouched if Garth Brooks, CMA Entertainer of the Year, had given up after his first few rejections? What of Abraham Lincoln, Albert Einstein, Thomas Edison and so many others who at first didn't succeed? Lucille Ball could have given up on a show business career after being kicked out of acting school. Robert Kennedy could have shunned politics after coming in 35th out of 35 candidates for president of the freshman class at Harvard University. These pioneers believed in themselves, were happy with who they were and sought to break the mold, defy the odds and set their sails against the tide.

My friends, among us might possibly be the discoverer of a new frontier. But, we will never know unless we set sail and chart our own course.

If you are going to control your destiny, and make a difference in the world, you have to be yourself. If you try to copy the actions of those around you or before you, you'll only be a copy, but never the original. Look at the world of art. Nobody wants a cheap reproduction or copy. It's the original masterpiece that is the most valuable. You will never be all you can be by trying to be someone else.

It isn't easy being yourself. As a matter of fact, it is probably the hardest challenge you'll ever encounter. But, if you can overcome that challenge, yours is the future. Rudyard Kipling explained in his poem entitled "If."

If you can keep your head while all about you  
are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired of waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those imposters just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you've given your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn out tools

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings

And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they're gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the will which says to them: "hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with kings and not lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but not too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

Yes, the voyage of life promises to be a magnificent one, especially for those who risk being themselves.

The past seven years I have witnessed and participated in a fast-changing organization, and I often remember the words of my ag teacher when he said, "Progress is change, but change isn't always progress." As I look back on these changes, I ask you, in the future, to retain your originality. We need not seek to copy others in our society. Instead, let us work to constantly set ourselves apart. Apart from those who would stereotype us. Apart from those who would have us change to be like them.

The reason the FFA is the premiere youth organization in the world is because it has been the pacesetter. We have been first to embrace progress and change, yet we remain bound to our agricultural roots.

Be proud to be an FFA member. Be proud of what you believe in. If you're not proud of it, who will be? Be proud to be a part of agriculture.

If we can't believe in agriculture, who can? My friends, we can't jump ship in the middle of the stream. We've got to stick it out through the rough times. If we don't dictate the kind of agriculture we want, others will dictate it for us.

Do you believe we will have a strong agriculture in the future? Are you willing to do your part to make it happen? You are the navigator. Head us in the right direction.

I believe in the power of the imagination. If we can only envision the kind of agriculture we want, if we can envision the kind of FFA we want, if you can envision what you want to do with your life, then, and only then, will you be able to turn your visions into realities. So, prepare your vessel for the ride of your life. Don't wait until tomorrow to chart your course. Set sail today.

There are those who will help you sail the voyage of life. You cannot sail the high seas without a crew to back you up. I have had a first class crew that enabled me to chart my course.

To my four advisors, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Gates, Mr. Kliever and Mr. Beams, you have been like the sails of my ship, always heading me in the right direction. Thank you for keeping me on the right course. I hope the waters of life will be as kind.

To Mr. Boggs, Mr. Smith, Mr. Berkenbile, Mr. Hoyt, Mr. Stagg, Andy, Doug, Marshall and all of the Oklahoma state staff and national staff, what a cruise these past three years have been. Thank you for being the guiding light and evening star to guide my travels. The ride was awesome. Of course, so are you.

To my first mates Mark, Julie, Ben, Matt and Lesa: Thank you for sailing the high seas with me. Yes, we've discovered some new lands and survived in uncharted waters, yet we've kept the ship together.

To my family—Mom, Dad, Rick, Randy, Shelly, Dale and



Kelly—thank you for being my anchor during the rough waters, but most importantly, thank you for being the wind in my sails. The voyage is reaching its destination. The home port is in sight.

Finally, thank you Father Almighty for being the captain of my ship. Everything I've ever accomplished, I owe to You.

One ship sails east and another  
west as the south same breezes  
blow. 'Tis the set of the sail, and  
not the gale, that determines  
where they go.

My friends, as I stand before you now, I realize that my dream voyage is drawing to a close. A magnificent seven-year voyage of self-discovery. Discovering within myself not only the talents that God has given each of us, but also discovering who I am and what I believe. As the shoreline of my FFA voyage draws near, I am thankful to you that I have had the opportunity to set sail. I realize though that the voyage of life has just begun. And so my friends, I come to you with feelings of confidence and excitement for the future, and I am certain that you'll choose the right course.

As I leave, I hope each of you is ready to set sail on your magnificent voyage of self-discovery—the magnificent voyage of life.

May your sails be full, your ship steady, and may the good Lord be your captain. Now go, discover the magnificence of life. May you have a safe and wonderful journey. Bon voyage. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you.



## A Call to Duty

Matt Lohr  
National Vice President  
Eastern Region

*Dear Diary...January 16, 1991...6:00 pm...East Lansing, Michigan. As I write this, I realize that today will live forever in history books. After a great day of chapter visits with the Michigan state officers, our festive van ride home was interrupted. I still hear the radio announcer..."The United States has bombed Iraq. We are a nation officially at war." State officer Heather Gordon, who had a brother stationed in Saudi Arabia, began to cry. At that moment, all over America, our citizens were filled with emotion. Tears flowed and our hearts and minds feared what lay ahead. Yet, we were also filled with pride in our service men and women.*

*Right now, there are hundreds of thousands of men and women laying their lives on the line, all for the freedoms that we take for granted. They have risen to the challenge and answered their "call to duty" regardless of the possible consequences. These soldiers are a classic example of true Americans, sacrificing everything for the welfare of others. I love this great nation, and I proudly support and salute our troops in Operation Desert Storm. Thank you for your courage, determination and ability to answer that special "call to duty." Dear God, it is moments like this that truly make me proud to say I am an American.*

Looking back on a year so full of experiences and valuable lessons, I can't help but be reminded of that cold, snowy January evening. It seemed that every American was mesmerized by the scenes on their televisions. Over the next three months, over 540,000 men and women were called to defend democracy. Three hundred seventy soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives. They are the true example of what America stands for.

Fellow FFA members, many lessons can be learned from a world ordeal. The most vital one is that life is truly precious and that it is a special gift from above. Just as a soldier answers a call to duty, we too must rise up and answer our call to live life to the fullest. Why does it take a war or the loss of a close friend to make us realize this great truth?

Life is a day-to-day race, full of opportunities waiting to be taken. Much too often we waste our talents, waste our chances and waste the hours that are before us.

I only have a minute,  
with sixty seconds in it  
Forced upon me, can't refuse it  
Didn't seek it, didn't choose it  
It's only up to me to use it  
Give account if I abuse it  
Just a tiny little minute  
But eternity is in it!

The minutes that are placed before us are so very precious. The call before us is to seize the day.

Early last spring, I had the exciting opportunity to travel to Massachusetts for its state FFA convention. Although it only lasted a couple days, I made many friends. Among them was a special member named Kim. During the week, we had long talks on goals, dreams, ambitions and success.

My next stop was the Missouri convention. When I arrived at my hotel, an urgent message awaited me. It was a note from a friend in Massachusetts saying Kim had been in a tragic car accident and that she might not live. I was devastated and couldn't hold back the tears.

How could someone with so much potential and zest for life be denied the chance to answer their calling? Although I never figured out the answer, I did learn that this lucky FFA member received a second chance. After several weeks in the hospital, and many months on crutches, Kim pulled through and again leads a normal life. She sent me this poem:

Learn to make the most of life,  
lose no happy day  
Time will never bring you back,  
chances swept away  
Leave no tender word unsaid  
and live while life shall last  
Because the mill will never turn again,  
With water that has passed!

Life is a precious commodity. Just as our soldiers in Desert Storm had their call to duty, each of us here today is being called as well. Our call is to take advantage of every opportunity that crosses our paths. Now is the time to respond.

During my travels this year, I have learned that the answers to the questions of life are not found in long books, deep oceans, dark caves or at the top of tall mountains. I have learned that the basics of life can be located right here, hidden inside this box. You may recognize the familiar green and orange colors.

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# *We shared it all...*

*Miss America Carolyn Suzanne Sapp spent Wednesday afternoon signing autographs and talking with FFA members at the Agricultural Career Show.*



*During the practicum portion of the new agricultural sales contest, this competitor practiced her customer relations skills.*



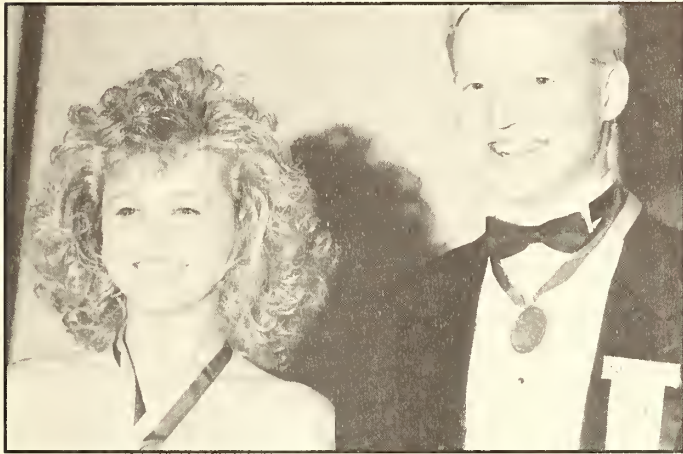
## **Familiar Face**

*If the convention audience thought Chad Luthro's name sounded familiar when he was elected 1991-92 national vice president, they were right. At the final session of the 64th national convention, Luthro became a national officer, and only one year earlier, he was named 1990 American Star in Agribusiness.*

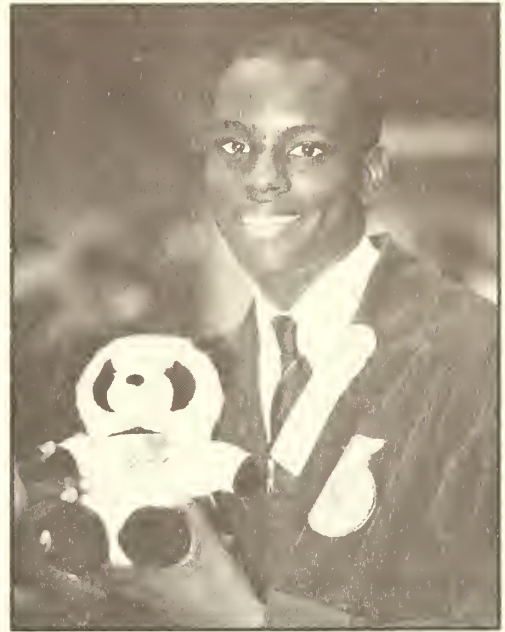




*The convention was chock-full of new things to see and do. These bright-eyed young people captured it all on film.*



*The 1991 American Royal Student Ambassadors spoke to members during the FFA convention. They were Jennifer Kapinos, Wisconsin, and Tom Lilja, North Dakota.*



*Corey Flournoy, from the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences, took a new friend home from the convention.*

## *...how far we've come*



*Eddie Williams, state advisor of the Virgin Islands, was joined by members from the newly chartered association. Two associations, Guam and the Virgin Islands were granted charters, as were five affiliate chapters in Micronesia.*



# Retiring Addresses

Yes, it is a box of Crayola 64 crayons, the kind with the built-in sharpener in the back. A box so small, but one that holds the secrets of happiness, success and living life to the fullest.

Early in my term, I visited a school to take part in a Food for America presentation. Passing by a kindergarten class, I heard the children giggling. Curious about what could be causing all that fun, I went in and found them coloring. As they created their masterpieces, I was fascinated by their energy, their enthusiasm and their smiles. Watching those bright little faces, I came to three basic conclusions about life. I share them with the hope that you can put them to use in your life.

The first is to have confidence in your abilities, as a five-year-old with a crayon in hand does. With it, the child can draw airplanes, monsters in the night, movie stars and super sports cars. Anything can be created.

This belief is vital to success. This year, while sitting around campfires in Ohio and Montana, I witnessed greenhands experiencing the power of believing in their dreams for the first time. When a member believes in himself, nothing—not defeat, not adversity—can stand in the way.

The second lesson is the need for creativity. A five-year-old will go beyond the status quo and be different without fear. They don't let lines get in the way; they color the shape they see. With 64 colors to choose from, the same picture will never be created twice.

Somewhere along the way, as we grow up, we lose much of our creativity. We let the judgments of others keep us from trying new things. That is why I loved visiting Chino Valley, Arizona, and Fulton County, Kentucky. The young, dynamic advisors there, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Black, are always on the move. They are not afraid to try new things, and their love of new ideas is passed on to their students.

The final lesson, and one of the toughest to learn, is sharing and cooperating. At age five, children will color for a few minutes then ask their neighbor if they can borrow a crayon. They are quick to ask questions and will team up to color on the same piece of paper. The result is a huge drawing, full of ideas from everyone.

The ability to share and come together as one is so important to success. I will never forget a conference for state officers in Wyoming. Four energetic officer teams stayed out, sitting on a mountain, under the stars until 1:00 a.m., getting to know each other. Teamwork and cooperation are the final links in answering the call to the duty of life.

Of the three lessons that I just shared with you, the one most meaningful to me is sharing and cooperating with others. That has been the special link that has made my year so rewarding as a national officer. Everywhere I visited, it was your kindness and warmth that made it special. Your giving of love, support and encouragement are gifts I can never repay. The experiences that we shared together as family will stick with me for a lifetime.

Thanks to all my friends in the great state of North Dakota. All of those from the convention and my weekend excursion through the Badlands will always hold a special spot in my heart. To the awesome state officers in California and Arizona who took me on the journey of a lifetime, I'll never forget seeing Disneyland, San Francisco and the Grand Canyon. Thank you. Another group that I hold dear is the Washington Conference Program participants and staff. It was my honor to work, laugh

with and get to know you. From bull-riding in Wyoming to swinging in Idaho, from walking the high ropes course in New York to experiencing "ooga booga" in Missouri, thank you all for your open arms and desire to help. These are the memories that will last a lifetime.

Before I fly and wave goodbye, I want to thank many people who have touched my life and have helped me find the heights of my aspirations. This year has escaped so quickly, but you were the ones who remained with me every step of the way.

I begin with my Creator, my strength, my Father above. God is the single reason I stand before you today and through Him all things are possible. Thank you for never leaving me, even through the toughest times.

To my family, my advisors Mr. Hively and Mr. Smith, and all of the members in Virginia—thanks for always believing in me and telling me "you can do it," even though it had been ten years since our state had had a national officer.

To Mark, Danny, Jules, Ben and Lesa, together we experienced the ride of a lifetime. You are the best examples of dedication, sincerity, love and compassion. We have worked together as one team. I will never forget the laughs, the long talks, basketball games and wrestling matches. Thank you for making this journey memorable.

A special thanks to Tony Hoyt and his family. Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt, as you worked with the national officers, you were my family away from home. Thank you for your guidance, love and direction.

And lastly, my heartfelt appreciation goes out to all those FFA members I was so fortunate to meet this year. Whether it was only for five seconds or for an entire week, I will never forget you or the fun that we had. Together we exchanged laughs, tears, jokes, handshakes, sayings, accents and dreams. Thank you for treating me like family and for receiving me with open arms.

Although my eyes are full of sadness, my heart is full of joy—joy for this glorious opportunity to have served you. And many times, goodbyes are sad ones—but I hope this one will be remembered for all the memories. 'Til we meet again, goodbye and good luck as you live life and accept your call to duty.



## Strength of Heart

*Julie Classen  
National Vice President  
Central Region*

When I was home for a few days in August, my little sister, Valerie, and I saddled up our horses and took off down the back road by our farm. It seemed the faster our horses trotted the more we chatted. We talked about all sorts of vitally important topics sisters should talk about, everything from the latest techniques in curling hair to the top ten ways of legally skipping out of doing the dishes. Then, out of the blue, 12-year-old Valerie said, "Hey Jules, I saved two mice yesterday!" Obvi-



ously, I was a little surprised and asked Val to explain. She proceeded to tell me that she and Dad had to move a water tank from the field. When they tipped it over, underneath she saw a mouse nest with baby mice in it. They were rather shocked by the sudden shake up, and as the water spilled out, it swept two of the mice from their nest.

They struggled to hang onto old pieces of hay that had filtered to the bottom of the tank. Valerie, recognizing a chance to use the life-saving skills she learned in swimming lessons, jumped off the four-wheeler, bent down beside the two mice, picked them up like baby kittens and carried them back to safety. Valerie smiled with heroic conviction and in the same breath began to tell me something else.

After sharing that rescue story, Valerie didn't pause for applause or praise or even to say what made her react and save two ordinary field mice. All I know is there was a certain instinctive characteristic that told Valerie to help out. It would have been very easy to let those two mice drown, but Valerie acted with her heart. Knowingly or unknowingly she chose to listen to a quiet voice. She chose a path with heart. My little sister has been my closest example of what it means to have a big heart.

Just two months ago she filled me in on her friend, Homer. Homer is the name she has given to the gray mouse on our back porch that Mom has been trying in vain to catch. Val thinks he's cute and that he looks more like a harmless hamster than the enemy. Day after day Mom baits the trap with a piece of cheese. Every day, Val sneaks to the porch and steals the cheese away. So far the score is Val and Homer, eleven. Mom, zero!

Each of us in our own unique way is searching for more out of life. We have the desire to be smarter students, stronger athletes and better FFA members. The quest to be the best at what we do is a gift we've been given because we live in a free country. Yet, society often creates pressure for us to be better looking, to have nicer clothes and to drive faster cars. That same pressure tells us it matters how tall we are, it matters how thin we are and it matters how much money we have.

But outward beauty and the greatest material possessions won't make us happy. There is something inside each of us that is much stronger than any outward motivation we may see at school or on television, and it speaks rather quietly compared to the noise of the world.

Living our lives with heart, illustrated by my little sister, is that quiet voice in action. A path with heart invites us to move beyond our self-centered actions and to instead practice more ethical, loving and compassionate ways. It may mean to stand by a personal commitment to someone, even when it requires time and energy and brings little in return. Or it may mean standing up for what we believe is right, even in the face of criticism or inconvenience. It can also mean simply enjoying life, instead of seeing only the serious side.

Witnessing real heart in the people I have met is what has meant the most to me this year. It's been Missy, Kyle, Becky, Matt and the hundreds of FFA members across this country. It's been Mom, Dad, Val, Todd, Mr. Lienemann, Rich and the many close friends who will always serve as my role models. It's all of you who told me to take time for quiet moments, because those are the times when you will be reminded of what you value most and how you want to live your life. You said to take time for heart-to-heart talks with friends, because as one of my favorite quotes says, "a man cannot touch his neighbor's heart with anything less than his own." My friends, you have shown me that it is okay to share a little heart with others. Thanks so much for sharing yours with me.

Kelly Lienemann's living spirit will always serve as an example of what it means to live a path with heart in my hometown of Blue Hill, Nebraska. Kelly was born a victim of one of the most severe forms of spina bifida, a major birth defect affecting the spine and the central nervous system. She had an inoperable open spine on the lower back and another defect on the upper back. During her first hours of life, doctors predicted that she would have little chance of living more than a couple of days due to the small size of her brain and extreme physical complications. Her parents were told that, if by some miracle she did survive, she would be nothing more than a "vegetable," and would never know them. Against the advice of doctors and social workers who said an institution would be the best place for their daughter, Kelly's parents made the decision to take her off life support systems. Miraculously, this little girl with a big heart was brought home a week later.

My small town put their own support systems in place for Kelly, her mom, older sisters and her dad, who happens to be my FFA advisor. I remember distinctly how everyone rallied around Kelly. She was treated and loved like any other "normal" child. Against all odds, she grew and excelled mentally and even physically. With bulldog determination she taught herself to crawl, using one arm and her chin despite the rest of her paralyzed body. She developed a keen awareness, exceptional eye and hand coordination, a remarkable capacity for learning and above all, an unforgettable personality. Her quick smile and big blue eyes captured the hearts of many at ball games and other community events. God gave earth a special angel and carefully chose Dewey and Connie Lienemann to be her guardians.

Kelly's radiating human spirit touched more lives in 14 short months than most of us do in a lifetime. Kelly wasn't given the gift of physical perfection, just as you and I may not be perfect on the outside. But she was granted a perfect heart. The difference between giving up and 14 months of sparkle, was that Kelly was not afraid to use her gift. The same priceless gift you and I share—real heart. She taught us all, that with a little heart, there are no limits other than the ones we place on ourselves.

Searching for and living a path with heart, over time, leads to a very real strength—one that is much greater than physical strength. It cannot be measured or gauged, but can be seen through the actions of those who have come to understand it. My pastor always says, "When God measures men, he puts the tape around the heart and not the head."

Strength of heart is the culmination of all the other powerful forces. It is a refreshing and reassuring strength. Strength of heart is the courage to endure the toughest tragedies and scariest failures. It's the freedom to release all your excitement and joys to the world. It is the openness to cry with a friend. It's humility in a society that often forgets to sacrifice for others. It's integrity. It's trust. And it's love. Strength of heart grants you an inner peace to be happy—just being you.

FFA members, whether you face what seems to be overwhelming odds, like Kelly, or you are working to find happiness in every-day challenges, like Valerie, my final message to each of you is one that is very simple. As you continue to search for the best out of life, no matter what your circumstances, look deep inside—for there lies an incredible strength. A strength that only you can find, and it's there within your own heart.



(Continued on Page 40)



# Retiring Addresses



## Little Girl and Little Boy Dreams

*Lesa Ann King  
National Vice President  
Western Region*

My years as a dreamchaser began in first grade. The assignment was easy, the boundaries were limitless—draw what you want to be when you grow up. Many of my classmates figured I would draw a veterinarian or maybe a rancher because of my love for animals. But no, I had a different dream. As you can tell, I was no artist, but here it is—musical Lesa. She held a microphone in her hand that she could sing into, or she could move her hand out where the world could sing with her too. It was a dream that surprised my classmates, but also a dream that I held on to for all these years.

This year my dream has come true as I have served you as a national officer. Those of you who know me, know how much I love to write, listen to and play music. Some of my fondest memories of this year have been picking and singing with you—or sometimes just listening to the words of a favorite song. Music is, and always will be, a powerful force in my life and in my dreams.

Dreams are what life is made of. They give us strength to go on, a reason to be and something to build on.

Each of you out there has had some type of dream. Maybe you've forgotten it. What was it you wanted to be when you grew up? What was your little girl or little boy dream? And now, I ask you, what is keeping you from pursuing that dream today? And what will it take for you to make your dream come true?

The first thing you must do is to stay around people who believe in you. People who will build you up, and won't tear you down. People who will laugh with you, cry with you, listen and talk to you. The people you can call your "true friends."

One of my dear friends, Chris Britton, shared a story that to me, expresses what true friendship means.

During World War I, a soldier in the trenches saw his friend out in no-man's-land (the ground between our trenches and those of the enemy) stumble and fall in a hail of bullets. He said to the officer, "Sir, may I go and bring him in?" But the officer refused. "No one can live out there," he said. "I should only lose you as well." Disobeying the order, the young man went out to try to save his friend. Somehow, he got his friend on his shoulder and carried him back to the trenches, but he himself lay mortally wounded and his friend was dead.

The officer was angry. "I told you not to go," he said. "Now I have lost both of you. It was not worth it." The boy said, "but of course it was worth it, sir."

"Worth it?" said the officer, "How could it be? Your friend is dead, and you are mortally wounded." The young man shrank from the reproach, but looking up into his officer's face he said, with his dying breath, "It was worth it, sir, because when I got to him he said, 'Jim, I knew you'd come.'"

John 15:13 says "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend." Look for people in your

life that can share that kind of love with you.

Many of the best friends I have ever made, I made through the FFA. When I think of all the beautiful and wonderful experiences I've had in the FFA—my year as an area officer and as a state officer, my WEA trip to Europe, and my year as a national officer—it is you, my dear friends, who made all the difference.

It says in the book of Proverbs, "A friend loveth at all times." And to all of you, I want to thank you for showing your love to me.

The second thing you must do, my friends, is to love yourself, because if you do not love and believe in yourself, don't expect anyone else to. Sometimes this is the hardest lesson we have to learn.

I was at the Tennessee FFA convention back in April. I stayed with a dear friend named Martha. We got to talking one night as girls do, and she asked me to read a letter that she had written to one of my fellow officers. Her story was as follows:

Martha had grown up on a farm. When she began high school she took agriculture classes. Martha was a shy girl. She rarely spoke to people one on one, but with a microphone it was a different story. She had a very strong voice, and a talent for speaking.

However, Martha's confidence just wasn't there. She saw herself as overweight and unattractive. She began dieting and lost a lot of weight, but she still had a fear "of being or getting fat." The fear then developed into the disorders known as anorexia and bulimia. She was afraid to tell anyone and afraid of what her friends would say. Then she found a friend in a young man who happened to be a national officer. His name was Jones Loflin.

Jones took the time to listen to Martha, to be her friend, to convince her that God loved her and wanted her to get better. She began to find confidence and strength in herself, and her road to recovery began.

Her voice strengthened and Martha Kate became the winner of the Tennessee FFA Public Speaking Contest and also a National FFA Officer candidate last year.

When I finished the letter, tears filled my eyes, for there in her story, was my own story. In middle school, I had glasses, braces and was a heavysset kid. I could not win a popularity election, I was not very coordinated in sports, and I never really felt that I fit in.

When I entered high school, I found a new hope in the FFA. But the disappointments began again, as loss after loss took their toll. I thought, "If I lose 20 pounds, all my problems will go away." I did lose 20 pounds, but the fears and insecurities didn't go away.

My sophomore year, I was 5' 5 1/2" and weighed 108 pounds but I still wasn't happy. I had become anorexic. My classmates accused me of having a problem, but I denied it. In time, the weight crept back up, and I then became bulimic. I cried every night when I went to bed. I had never felt so alone and scared in my life. This went on for two years.

During my junior year, things began to turn around. I was elected to serve my senior year as chapter treasurer, the highest chapter office I ever held, and to also serve as area treasurer. I made new friends across the state of Texas, attended my first national convention, and for the first time, the scared little girl inside of me found self confidence. I realized that it's not what other people think about you; it's what you think about yourself that counts. And I wanted to get better.

The hardest thing I ever did in my life was on April 24, 1987. That afternoon, I left one of my classes crying. One of my best



friends, Martina, left class with me and I told her, "I have a problem and I need help." For three months, I went to counseling for eating disorders and began to put my life back together. I realized I had unique talents and abilities. And no matter what had happened in my past, I was a child of God and I was special. I grew a lot from that experience. It changed my life forever.

It amazes and saddens me that the number-two killer of healthy teenagers today is suicide. The number-one killer is drunk driving.

Why is this happening? It is because no one ever told these kids that they were special. No one ever took the time to say, "I care about you," or "I love you." No one was brave enough to stand up for those kids when the class bully was picking on them. No one told those students that it was okay to say no to peer pressure.

FFA members, I ask you to be more than leaders when you go back to your schools; be a friend to those in need. And the most important thing I ask of you is this: if you or one of your friends have a problem, please get help or encourage your friend to get help. Whether it is drugs, alcohol, eating disorders, family problems or whatever, find someone to talk to. Learn to love and respect yourself and become your own best friend.

The last thing you must do to make your dreams come true is to share your dreams with others. You see, many of the things I dreamed of never came to pass. But through this year, and through the friendships I have made, I have seen those dreams come true and have had the opportunity to share those victories with you.

FFA members, you have taught me the value of friendship, you have taught me how to care about myself, and you have taken me to places I'd only dreamed of. I can never repay what you have given me. As I take off my blue and gold for the last time, I leave you with this final song. The piano music is by Joe Looker, and the words are from me to you, with a sincere thank you for all of the little girl and little boy dreams you have shared with me...

When I was a little girl I'd wish upon a star,  
Close my eyes and dream a dream  
But my dreams didn't always come true,  
But there was always something new and I prayed to be strong,  
Until my day came along.

And now I watch you grow,  
doing things I used to know,  
I see you shine, and remember when those days were mine.  
And when you win my friend, I'm so proud of you.  
Thank you for taking me to the places, I longed to be.

I've seen my dreams come true, I saw a little bit of me in you,  
I saw you smile, and I was a winner for awhile,  
And in all you do, I want you to know I look up to you.  
Don't let go, of your little girl and little boy dreams,  
No matter how far away, they may seem.

I can't make it, hold my hand;  
I'm not good enough, I don't understand.  
We had doubts, but we always worked it out,  
Through late nights, talkin', walkin',  
Lookin' for answers we knew  
You opened up to me, and I saw the real in you

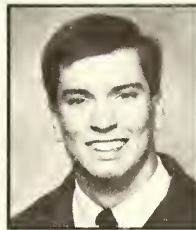
Through the pain to the final dance,  
You weren't afraid to take a chance,  
And now you've come, to the place where you belong,  
With God and with your friends, you'll make it through,  
And once again, thank you for sharing with me, in my heart

You'll always be...

I've seen my dreams come true, I saw a little bit of me in you,  
I saw you smile, and I was a winner for a while,  
And in all you do, I want you to know I look up to you.  
Don't let go, of your little girl and little boy dreams,  
No matter how far away, they may seem.

And now I say goodbye, and I'll try not to cry,  
cause I'll be back again, to see you win...

And see your dreams come true  
To see the little bit of me in you,  
To see you smile, and I'll be a winner for awhile  
And in all you do, I want you to know that I love you.  
Don't let go of your little girl and little boy dreams,  
No matter how far away, they may seem.



## Field of Dreams

*Ben Nessmith  
National Vice President  
Southern Region*

Growing up on my grandfather's farm was a definite advantage for me. Like many farm kids, I learned early the great benefits of farm life. There were weekend hunts, beautiful sunsets overlooking calm ponds and windblown wheat fields. Memories, of deer hunting with my buddies and late nights trying to get the peanuts in before it rained, stay vividly fixed in my mind.

I will never forget the first litter of Duroc pigs that I raised and my eagerness to rush home from school to check on them. And always I will remember the first time I tried to back up a trailer with one of my grandfather's tractors. As jackknives go, it was perfect.

Like all families involved in farm living, ours was, and is, a tight-knit group. I guess it was that closeness that brought us through tough times.

The day after my uncle's funeral, my dad told me it would be good to start working regularly for my grandfather on the farm. I will never forget the day. I was in the 6th grade. I rode around with Granddaddy hooking up trucks to peanut trailers and leveling off the tops of the loads. That was the first day of the rest of my life, for after that day, my interest in agriculture grew and grew. It was that day that my dreams began. They were dreams of involvement in this great industry which we call agriculture.

I began working on my fields of dreams. It was by working on the hog farm and in the fields, by seeing a field of dirt turn into a luscious and beautiful field of corn or peanuts, that I saw my dreams take shape and grow. I am still amazed at the process of growth that happens in these fields each year—along with the good Lord's magic touch of life.

It seemed that the older I got, the bigger my dreams became. I spent many nights on the hood of my truck out in my fields of dreams staring at the moon and the stars, thinking of who I was and what I wanted to be. I believe all young people should be able to lie on a warm truck hood, look up into the beautiful heavens, smell fresh cut corn, and think about life.

On the farm, I grew to appreciate the work that goes into growing a food supply for our country. It was there that I began

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# Retiring Addresses

to grasp the importance of agriculture to the societies of our country and our world.

One of America's most outstanding leaders, Benjamin Franklin, said it best at the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, when he said, "There seems to be but three ways for a nation to acquire wealth: the first by war, as the Romans did, in plundering their conquered neighbors—this is robbery; the second by commerce, which is generally cheating; and the third is by agriculture, the only honest way, wherein man received a real increase of the seed thrown into the ground in a kind of continual miracle, wrought by the hand of God in his land, as a reward for his innocent life and his virtuous industry."

We have built a great nation, and it is agriculture that starts, builds and maintains any great nation. Look around the world and what do you see, time and time again? Weak agriculture, weak economies, and weak countries struggling for life. Agriculture is the basis of any society.

If the people are not fed, they will grow their own food. If everyone is growing their own food, who is left to start industry, export goods, build an army or run the affairs of the country? No one. You see, it is the two percent of Americans that farm who enable the other 98 percent to enjoy other occupations.

Agriculture is an important factor in the success of our country. In fact, it is the backbone of that success. So when we think of the agricultural industry, we automatically should think of what its future will hold and what will ensure its success.

Agriculture has always been able to change and adapt in a way that has kept it successful. America has been fortunate to have dedicated people who served as catalysts in that adaptation. So, obviously, it will be the people involved in agriculture who will be the determining factor in the success of our great industry. Yes, people who are leaders, people who are creative, people who are knowledgeable enough in agricultural fields to make wise decisions.

Where are these people? Look around you. Look on your left and to your right. That's right. This is where you and I fit in this picture of agriculture. In the July 1991 issue of *Progressive Farmer*, it is stated that in 1990 there were 23,000 college graduates in Food and Agricultural Sciences that were met with 40,000 job opportunities. That left 17,000 unfilled positions. As you can see, not only are more agriculturalists needed for the success of our industry, but they are in high demand.

This year I have had the distinct honor and pleasure of meeting many of you and visiting your FFA chapters. I have seen the faces of excitement and competition at the Kansas State Ag Mech Contest. I have seen the love for FFA in Max Dunlap's speech about his FFA chapter in front of his school's student body. I have seen the look of leadership in the faces of the district officers in Iowa at their leadership training conference. I have seen the faces of tomorrow's leaders for agriculture. Each one proudly displays their blue and gold jacket. Yes, I can honestly say that agriculture is in good hands.

FFA members, agriculture has been successful because of its teamwork—farmer helping farmer, agribusiness professionals helping agribusiness professionals. FFA has also been successful for the same reason. Encouragement, support and friendship are what FFA members receive from others in their local chapters, state associations and on the national level.

My friends, we will carry those values with us through life.

We will make a difference wherever we go. We will accomplish great things for agriculture and for our world. The leadership in FFA members today will show us the bright future of tomorrow.

This year, serving as your national vice president from the southern region has been a dream come true. I have met many new friends and have had many good times at your chapters—times that I will long remember. Who could forget jumping off a 40-foot cliff into ice-cold streams in Washington state or waterskiing with the world's craziest people in Franklin County, Georgia. I appreciate all the support and kind words from each of you. Thank you for everything.

This year I have had the opportunity to get to know five of the most incredible individuals I have ever met, my fellow officers. Gang, I don't believe there could have been any better people to work with. FFA members, these five people are incredible. The commitment, love and dedication I have seen in them is unbelievable. They are amazing. There have been so many times I have been simply awed. I'm just glad they let me tag along.

There are many people I'd like to thank, but for some I would like to say a special "thank you." My state executive secretary John Wilkinson gave tremendous support and friendship. Tony Hoyt offered love and support. My grandfather has served as a great role model. My brother has been the best friend a person could have. There are my friends at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College; and of course, my parents. They are my role models, and for all their late nights of help, love and concern, I say thank you. Last, but not least by any means, the good Lord has been the ultimate support, strength and guidance.

I have always been and will always be the world's biggest Jerry Clower fan. My favorite story is on his tape, "Starke Raving in Starke, Florida." In this tape he talks of Owen Cooper, president of the Mississippi Chemical Company. Once Mr. Clower asked Mr. Cooper how he would live his life if he had the chance to do it again. Mr. Cooper is quoted as follows:

"If I had my life to live over, I would love more. I would especially love others more. I would let this love express itself in a concern for my neighbors, my friends, and all with whom I came in contact. I would try to let love permeate me, overcome me, overwhelm me, and direct me. I would love the unlovely, the unwanted, the unknown, and the unloved. I would give more, I would learn early in life the joy of giving, the pleasure of sharing, and the happiness of helping. I would learn to give more than money. I would give some of life's treasured possessions—such as time, thoughts, and kind words. If I had my life to live over, I would be much more unconventional, because where society overlooks people, I would socialize with them. Where custom acknowledges peers as best with whom to have fellowship, I would want some non-peer friends.

"Where tradition stratifies people because of economics, education, race, or religion, I would want fellowship with friends of all strata, and I would choose to go where the crowd doesn't go, where the road is not paved, where the weather is bitter, where friends are few, where the need is great, and where God is most likely to be found."

FFA members, in your field of dreams, I hope that you find it possible to learn to love life. Life is great if you live it to its fullest. I wish you the best. Thank you for an incredible year. I owe FFA my love for life and I hope this year that I have been able to show someone how to do the same. You and agriculture have a bright future. Keep your goals high and never look back.





# National FFA Foundation



*The National FFA Foundation's Executive Council gathered on stage during the sponsor recognition program. From left, 1990 Chair Thomas Hennesy, chairman & CEO, TSC Stores; 1994 Chair-elect Ron Davis, president & CEO, William R. Biggs/Gilmore Associates; 1993 Chair-elect Dale Miller, president & CEO, Sandoz Crop Protection Corporation; 1992 Chair Neil Christenson, vice president, Farm Equipment & Consumer Products Marketing, United States & Canada, Deere & Company; and 1991 Chair Robert Reynolds, vice president and general manager, Crop Protection Products Division, Monsanto Agricultural Company.*

Thursday's National FFA Foundation activities offered an intimate glimpse of sound investments at work. For Foundation sponsors, the annual trek to Kansas City was a chance to experience the vitality and gratitude of their young beneficiaries firsthand. For FFA members, the interaction with sponsors was a rare treat. They met the people behind the labels and logos, and found willing and supportive friends. Never was that support more evident than when Robert W. Reynolds, 1991 Foundation chairman, announced the record level of support to a crowd of more than 25,100.

"We set another record," he said to a cheering crowd. "\$4,417,000 raised for FFA."

Earlier in the day, hundreds of business and community leaders assembled to select national award winners. Tucked away in the Allis Plaza hotel meeting rooms, judges assembled to interview regional proficiency award winners. There the members detailed

their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs. For many, the interviews brought on attacks of nerves as well as feelings of excitement. Matt Haney of Athens, Ala., sat in the hotel hallway and pondered the upcoming interview.

"It's a long wait," he said. "I'm afraid I'm going to forget everything I know." At state competitions, Haney explained, his interview was held on the farm. In Kansas City, he said he had to rely totally on his communication abilities to explain his program.

As southern region winner of the diversified crop production award, Haney took part in a luncheon with other regional winners and the proficiency judges. For him, meeting the group was a highlight.

"Rubbing shoulders like that made us feel special," he said. "This was an important opportunity."

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# National FFA Foundation

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**Jonathan Kemper**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Commerce Bank of Kansas City  
**Tom O. Luehder**, Vice President, AGRIGENETICS  
**Edward L. McMillan**, President & Chief Executive Officer, Purina Mills, Inc.  
**Earl Morgan**, Vice President & General Manager, Agricultural Chemicals Group, FMC Corporation  
**Leo T. Rasmussen**, Vice President, Agricultural Investments, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  
**Tadd C. Seltz**, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, The O.M. Scott & Sons Company  
**Richard O. Shuler**, Vice President & General Manager, Syntex Animal Health, North America  
**Roxann L. Sommers**, President, National FFA Alumni Association  
**Catherine A. Westphal**, Director, Public Relations, Santa Fe Pacific Corporation, Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway



*Terry Blanks (left) president of Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc., Kansas City, Mo.; Philip Koch, manager of the Agricultural Division, CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, Greensboro, N.C.; and Edward McMillan, chief executive officer and president of Purina Mills, Inc., St. Louis, Mo., represented their companies at the Distinguished Service Citation ceremony.*

## Distinguished Service Citations

For their generous years of FFA support, Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc., CIBA-GEIGY Corporation and Purina Mills, Inc. were recognized by the National FFA Board of Directors with Distinguished Service Citations. Known for their generous contributions of time and effort, these companies represented 111 total years of support among them.

Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc. is a three star sponsor. They support the General Fund, the *Between Issues* newsletter, the National FFA Dairy Proficiency Award and college and international scholarship programs. The 1985 Foundation chairman was Carl Gerhardt and Terry A. Blanks serves actively on the National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board. The company has been a sponsor for 43 years.

CIBA-GEIGY Corporation has for the past six years sponsored the National

FFA Convention film, focusing on spreading the enthusiasm of the convention to local chapters. CIBA-GEIGY has funded the production of other films as well, recognizing the importance of the medium in reaching members and other audiences. In the past 10 years, the company had representatives on the sponsors' board twice and has been a sponsor for 29 years.

Purina Mills, Inc. has sponsored FFA activities for 39 years. A three star sponsor, the company supports the National FFA Livestock Judging contest, the National FFA Specialty Animal Proficiency Award and college scholarship programs. President and CEO Ed McMillan, a past state officer and WEA participant, serves actively on the sponsors' board.





# VIP Citations

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*From left: Sam Stenzel, Warren Reed, Kenneth Mitchell, David Miller, W.H. Meischen, Joseph Edmondson, Robert Crawley, Wilson Carnes and Guy Cain.*

During Friday morning's session, nine individuals were honored for their selfless contributions to FFA. All had devoted many years to the improvement of the organization in which they had been so involved, and were awarded VIP Citations.

Recipients were Guy Cain, retired state supervisor, West Virginia; Wilson Carnes, former editor-in-chief/*FFA New Horizons* and administrative director, National FFA Organization, Virginia; Robert Crawley, retired state supervisor, Arkansas; Joseph Edmondson, professor, Food Science and Nutrition Department, University of Missouri; W.H. Meischen, retired executive director, VATA of Texas; David Miller, supervisor of vocational education and industrial arts, Carroll County Public Schools, Maryland; Kenneth Mitchell, part-time executive director, Tennessee FFA Foundation; Warren Reed, retired state supervisor, California; and Sam Stenzel, retired executive director NVATA, Kansas.



# National FFA Alumni

One group that helps grease the financial wheels of FFA and provides stability, guidance and program support to student chapters is the National FFA Alumni.

Virgil Martenson, Stoughton, Wis., was elected president at the 20th annual FFA Alumni meeting held November 13. Other newly elected council members were Vice President Mark Williams, Oviedo, Fla.; Eastern Region Representative Lynn Wells, River View, Ohio; and Southern Region Representative Earl Cheek, Perry, Ga.

Returning council members include: Past President Roxann Sommers, London, Ohio; Western Region Representative June Dean, Sperry, Okla.; Council Member-at-Large Duane Nielson, Vienna, Va.; Teacher Education Representative Ray Herren, Athens, Ga.; and State Supervisor Representative Larry Redding, Harrisburg, Pa.

The annual meeting was followed by a banquet recognizing many FFA Alumni accomplishments. Eleven states were saluted for increasing their membership by at least 50 members, thereby joining

the ranks of the Blue Blazer Club. The 1991 Blue Blazer winners were Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina,

North Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas.

For the sixth consecutive year, members finished their day with the FFA Alumni Auction, raising more than \$32,500 to finance FFA activities.

Former FFA member and Weberville, Mich., Alumni Affiliate member Bill Sheridan shouted and coaxed from the auction block, encouraging a rousing \$16,300 bid for the 1991 four-wheel drive, half-ton Silverado truck donated by Chevy Trucks. As the last person to nod in the bidding, Stockbridge, N.Y., FFA Advisor Raymond Lighthall bought the right to drive the truck home.

George Vanderzell, Tri-Valley, N.Y., put in the highest bid, \$1,550, for an 18-horsepower Huskee garden tractor donated by TSC Stores.

A 20-foot conveyor contributed by Patz, Inc., also brought a closing bid of \$1,550. Gary and Lorraine Wolf of Bonduel, Wis., were the highest bidders.

Although the final rap of the gavel closed their meeting, Alumni presence and support was felt throughout the convention. National FFA Alumni sponsored the six one-hour national leadership workshops.



George Vanderzell, Tri-Valley, N.Y., climbed aboard his new 18-horsepower Huskee garden tractor donated by TSC Stores. He paid \$1,550 for his new garden tractor, purchased at the FFA Alumni Auction. Auction proceeds support FFA programs.



Blue Jacket Club members were (left) Monte Womack, Oklahoma; Lori Grieger, North Dakota; Greg Hofman, Montana; John Kent, Iowa; Sue Hodskins, Kentucky; David Stille, Illinois; Shirley Carte, Florida; and Kim Vandyke, New Mexico. (Not pictured: Herschel Aichie, Indiana; Joe Clary, North Carolina; and U.D. Adams, Texas.)





*During the FFA Alumni Auction Troy Crowe, Michigan state vice president, cajoled and persuaded buyers to "bid just one more time. It's for a good cause. It's for the FFA."*

Workshops chairman Odell Miller, Marysville, Ohio, scheduled the presenters: Dan Shroer, 1989-90 national FFA vice president, Ohio; Kelli Evans-Brown, 1987-88 national FFA president, Nebraska; Donnell Brown, 1989-90 national FFA president, Texas; Jaye Hamby, 1988-89 national FFA vice president, Tennessee; Kevin Ochsner, 1987-88 national FFA secretary, Colorado; Dana Soukup, 1988-89 national FFA president, Nebraska; and Mark Mayfield, 1973-74 national FFA president, Kansas.

## Awards

The FFA Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award was presented to three longtime promoters of the National FFA Organization. Rick Metzger and Thomas Wolfe of Ohio, and Ken Natzke of Wisconsin, were honored at the Alumni Banquet in Bartle Hall.

Milton, Wis., was recognized as the first place winner of the Outstanding FFA Alumni Affiliate competition after winning second place honors last year. North Polk, Iowa, captured second place. Twenty-five other affiliates were designated as Outstanding Affiliates, earning gold, silver or bronze rankings.

## Gold

LeRoy, Ill.  
North Polk, Iowa  
Southern Cal, Iowa  
Washington, Kan.  
Frederick Co., Va.  
Black Hawk, Wis.  
Bonduel, Wis.  
Denmark, Wis.  
Milton, Wis.

## Silver

Sarasota, Fla.  
Clay Center, Kan.  
Hill City, Kan.  
Hopkins, Mich.  
Shields Valley, Mont.

Norfolk, Neb.  
Schuyler, Nev.  
Finley-Sharon, N.D.  
New Lexington, Ohio  
Pomeroy, Wash.  
Mauston, Wis.

## Bronze

Fort Valley State, Ga.  
Westmoreland, Kan.  
Apollo, Ky.  
Milan, Mo.  
Scottsbluff, Neb.  
South Rowan, N.C.  
Castle Rock, Wash.



# National Agricultural Career Show

FFA members who were not taking part in convention sessions were usually found at the Agricultural Career Show, a bustling showplace of agricultural opportunity. Companies, universities and associations were among the 229 exhibitors which offered educational and informative booths to convention attendees. Also exhibiting at the show were 12 state associations who took part in the "Hall of States."

The Career Show area was a popular gathering spot and host to a number of special activities during the convention. George Verzagt, show manager since 1978, said that 1,023 persons staffed the booths in the 40,000 square feet of exhibit space.

Agri-Covers Ltd. Aquaculture Equipment  
Agri-Education, Inc.  
Agricultural Communicators in Education  
Alaska Oil & Gas Association  
Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc. (DeLaval)  
Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity  
American Angus Association  
American Association of Nurserymen  
American Breeders Service  
American Cyanamid  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Gelbvieh Association  
American Hereford Association  
American International Charolais Association  
American Maine-Anjou Association  
American Morgan Horse Institute  
American Paint Horse Association  
American Polled Hereford Association  
American Salers Association  
American Sheep Industry Association, Inc.  
American Simmental Association  
American Soybean Association  
American Veterinary Medical Association  
Army & Air National Guard  
Auburn University  
Babson Bros. Co. /SURGE  
Barton County Community College  
Bel-Rea Institute  
(The) Best Campaign for a Drug-Free Tomorrow  
Brainerd Technical College  
Breaking New Ground Resource Center  
Briggs & Stratton Corporation  
CDC/NIOSH  
Cargill Inc., Nutrena Feeds  
Carquest Auto Parts  
Case IH  
Cenex/Land O'Lakes Ag Services  
Chevrolet Motor Division-Truck Merchandising  
Chicago Board of Trade  
Clemson University  
Coca-Cola USA  
Colby Community College  
Community Calendars  
ConAgra Technologies  
Cornell University  
Crosby Donkey Ball, Inc.  
Delaware Valley College

Delmar Publishers, Inc.  
Dodge Trucks  
Dow/Elanco  
Ertl Company, Inc.  
Equipment Manufacturers Institute  
Evergreen America Society  
Exxon Chemical Plastics Recycling Center  
Farm & Ranch Network Service Co.  
FarmHouse International Fraternity  
Farmland Industries  
Federal Aviation Administration, Central Region  
Florida Department of Citrus  
Food & Drug Administration  
Ford Division-Ford Motor Company  
Genetic Outreach  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America  
ICI Americas Inc-Agricultural Products  
Industrial Safety Equipment Association  
Instructional Materials Lab, University of Missouri  
Instructional Materials Service, Texas A&M University  
International Brangus Breeders Association  
Iowa State University  
Jeffers Vet Supply  
John Deere  
John Rinehart Taxidermy Supply Co.  
Johnson & Wales University  
Junior Beefmaster Breeders Association  
Kansas State University  
Kropf Fruit Company/Christian Kropf Gift Fruits  
LC Produce Fundraisers  
Laffing Cow Press  
Lincoln Technical Institute  
Lincoln University  
Louisiana State University  
Michigan State University  
Mid-America Dairymen, Inc.  
Mid-America Nazarene College  
Mid-America Vocational Curriculum Consortium (MAVCC)  
Mississippi State University  
Missouri Chapter—American Fisheries Society  
Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society  
Mobay Corporation  
Modesto Junior College

Monsanto Agricultural Company  
Na-Churs Plant Food Company  
National Agricultural Aviation Association  
National Agriscience Institute & Outreach Program  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Food & Energy Council, Inc.  
National Futures Association  
National Grain & Feed Association  
National High School Rodeo Association  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization  
National Rifle Association of America  
National Vocational Agricultural Teachers' Association, Inc. (NVATA)  
National Weather Service  
New Mexico State University  
North American Elk Breeders Association  
North American Limousin Foundation  
North Carolina State University  
North Central Kansas Area Vocational Technical School—Beloit & Hayes  
Northwest Missouri State University  
Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service  
Ohio State University  
Oklahoma Curriculum & Instructional Materials Center

Society of American Florists  
Society of American Foresters  
Society for Range Management  
South Carolina State College  
Southeast Community College  
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale  
Southwestern Technical College  
Stone Mfg. & Supply Company  
Student Conservation Association  
Stuppy Greenhouse Mfg. Co.  
Sunkist Growers, Inc.  
Take Pride in America (USDA)  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Tech University  
Tri-State Breeders  
Truly Special/Aunt Myra's  
US Air Force Recruiting Service  
US Army Recruiting Command  
US Coast Guard Recruiting  
US Custom Harvesters, Inc.  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
US Marine Corps  
US Navy Recruiting Command  
US Peace Corps  
USDA Agricultural Cooperative Service  
USDA Federal Crop Insurance Corporation  
USDA Soil Conservation Service-Earth Team Volunteers  
USDA Soil Conservation Service-Educational Relations  
USDI Bureau of Land Management  
University of Arkansas  
University of Florida  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois  
University of Maryland at College Park  
University of Minnesota-Crookston  
University of Minnesota-St. Paul  
University of Missouri  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
University of Southwestern Louisiana  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville  
University of Wisconsin-River Falls  
V-TECS/Curriculum Publications Clearinghouse  
Vigoro Industries  
Virginia Tech  
Vocational Marketing Services  
Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA)  
Washington Apple Commission  
Western States Colleges of Agriculture  
Winchester Ammunition  
Wix Filter Corporation  
Woman's Christian Temperance Union

## Hall of States

Alaska	Maryland
Arkansas	Massachusetts
Connecticut	Michigan
Delaware	Mississippi
Hawaii	Missouri
Idaho	Montana
Illinois	Nebraska
Indiana	North Dakota
Iowa	Puerto Rico
Kansas	South Dakota
Kentucky	Virginia
Louisiana	Utah

Oklahoma State University  
Park College  
Pecan Valley Nut Company, Inc.  
Pfizer-US Animal Health Division  
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.  
Pitman-Moore, Inc.  
Purdue University  
Remington Arms Company, Inc.  
Renco Corporation  
Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company  
Scale Models  
Seald-Sweet Growers, Inc.  
Select Sires, Inc.  
Sellstrom Manufacturing Company  
Sigma Alpha Sorority





# Honorary American FFA Degrees

Adults were honored at the Friday morning session for their support of the FFA program. People from many walks of life, and from as far away as Japan, were presented with the Honorary American FFA Degree and its accompanying beribboned key and certificate. Teachers, teacher educators, U.S. Senators, parents of national officers and Stars and representatives of business and associations were among those who received this high honor.

Two international guests were recognized. Junichiro Chidani, advisor of the Future Farmers of Japan, and Saburo Matsumoto, an agriculture teacher, were honored for their long-time support of Work Experience Abroad and the International Experience Program for National Officers.

**ALABAMA:** Ivan W. Smith II, Billingsley

**ARIZONA:** Eugene G. Sander, Tucson; Lyle Wright, Peoria

**ARKANSAS:** Bill Clinton, Little Rock; Jack T.

Harrington, Magnolia; David A. Sain, Little Rock

**CALIFORNIA:** Douglas D. Flesher, Oroville; Bob Heuvel, Sacramento; Robert R. Pershing, Davis

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:** LaVerne G. Ausman, Washington; Donald E. Bevan, Washington; Joseph H. Casello, Washington; Charles E. Grassley, Washington; Tom Harkin, Washington; Burleigh Leonard, Washington; Robert T. Scott, Washington

**FLORIDA:** Larry R. Arrington, Gainesville; George W. Busby Jr., Orlando; Mark A. Williams, Oviedo

**GEORGIA:** H. Cecil Beggs, Athens; Roger C. Byrd, Atlanta; Clark G. DeLoach, Eatonton; Diane DeLoach, Eatonton; T.M. Ewing, Macon; Harry E. Hemphill, Metter; Carol Nessmith, Statesboro; William Nessmith, Statesboro; Robert A. Walton, Savannah

**IDAHO:** John P. Biletz, Burley; Dave Bivens, Boise; Ben L. Kerfoot, Fruitland

**ILLINOIS:** Robert E. Gehrt, Glen Ellyn; Edward W. Osborne, Urbana; Earl R. Sorenson, Chicago

**INDIANA:** R. Mack Strickland, West Lafayette; Larry Timm, Fillmore; Ruth Timm, Fillmore

**KANSAS:** Barbara Borders, Overland Park; Vernon DeWerff, Ellinwood; Marian DeWerff, Ellinwood

**KENTUCKY:** Kathy Day, Lexington

**LOUISIANA:** Bonnie L. Tonn, Elton; Rudolph W. Tonn II, Elton

**MAINE:** Lionel Theriault Jr., Caribou; Virginia Theriault, Caribou

**MARYLAND:** Debbie Quigley, Chevy Chase

**MICHIGAN:** Gene F. Graham, Battle Creek

**MINNESOTA:** Thomas S. Adams, Mankato; Thomas O. Cochrane, Bloomington; Michael D. Heffron, St. Paul; John A. Hest, Hawley; Richard L. Knowlton, Austin; Vernon A. Nordaune, Austin; Bill Paterson, St. Paul; Dean Schumacher, Heron Lake; Judy Schumacher, Heron Lake

**MISSOURI:** Mervin D. Bettis, Maryville; Robert J. Birkenholz, Columbia; Jerry Crownover, Springfield; LeRoy Deles Dernier, Jefferson City; Robert H. Denker Sr., California; Kenneth L. McFate, Columbia; Sheila Pannell, Kansas City; Robert W. Reynolds, St. Louis; Harold B. Van Cleave, Warrensburg; Ray Wahrenbrock, Kansas City

**NEBRASKA:** Joan Classen, Ayr; Keith Classen, Ayr; Timothy P. Davis, Lincoln; William E. Johnson, Holdrege; Sharon L. Johnson, Holdrege; Edward C. Woepfel, Lincoln

**NEW JERSEY:** Samuel Garrison, Trenton; Nancy J. Trivette, Trenton

**NEW MEXICO:** Lowell B. Catlett, Las Cruces

**NORTH CAROLINA:** William B. Jenkins, Raleigh; James R. Oliver, Raleigh; Larry E. Price, Clinton

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Charles W. Moilanen, Fargo

**OHIO:** Steve Gratz, Columbus; David L. Kahler, Dublin; Ted Schmitmeyer, Versailles; Connie Schmitmeyer, Versailles; Fred Shiningier, Delta; Marjory Shiningier, Delta; Roxann L. Sommers, London

**OKLAHOMA:** Steve Collier, Oklahoma City; Ernest R. Davis, Guthrie; Harry L. Field, Stillwater; Judy Grellner, Kingfisher; Jim Grellner, Kingfisher; Rick Griffin, Shawnee; Gale L. Hagee, Lawton; Floyd J. Lark, Goodwell; Roy Peters Jr., Stillwater; James Steward, Stillwater

**OREGON:** Michael S. Macnab, Portland; Heike Ohling, Albany

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Doris M. Cavell, Hermitage

**PUERTO RICO:** Israel Flores-Rodriguez, Santurce

**RHODE ISLAND:** Marjorie J. Hammond, Providence

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Alan D. Fenner, Menno; Ben M. Handcock, Pierre; Van C. Kelley, Brookings

**TENNESSEE:** Randol Waters, Knoxville

**TEXAS:** D. Thomas Dayberry, San Marcos; U. Lewis Eggenberger, Lubbock; Katie King, Howe; Joe King, Howe; Billy R. Long, Nacogdoches; Roger D. Perritt, Nacogdoches

**VIRGINIA:** Joyce L. Berryman, Alexandria; Erna Gilker, Occoquan; Ellen Lohr, Broadway; Gary Lohr, Broadway; Andrew J. Markwart, Alexandria; Beth Seitzinger, Alexandria; Marshall Stewart, Alexandria



Andy Markwart, newly named Student Services Team Leader at the National FFA Center, congratulated fellow Honorary American FFA Degree recipients after they'd walked across the stage. Junichiro Chidani (left) and Saburo Matsumoto, advisors of the Future Farmers of Japan, have been instrumental in the National Officers' annual trip to Japan.

(Continued on Page 50)



# Honorary American FFA Degrees

**WASHINGTON:** Rod Erickson, Ferndale; Darlene Erickson, Ferndale; Harry Lang, Mount Vernon; Dolores Lang, Mount Vernon; Vince Pfaff, Tacoma; Dan Zandra, Woodinville  
**WEST VIRGINIA:** Kerry S. Odell, Morgantown; Edsel Redden, Hinton  
**WISCONSIN:** Merle H. Bodmer Jr., Racine; Barbara Gronemus, Madison  
**WYOMING:** Ronald H. Pulse, Cheyenne  
**JAPAN:** Junichiro Chidani, Tokyo; Saburo Matsumoto, Hyoko-ken

## Teachers

**ALABAMA:** William H. Bishop, Woodland; Lamar Dewberry, Lineville; William L. Gibson, Jasper; Michael L. Grissom, Quinton; Jimmy Owen, Dothan  
**ARIZONA:** Guillermo Zamudio, Safford  
**ARKANSAS:** John Neel, Marshall; Dwayne Webb, Lincoln  
**CALIFORNIA:** Mark Clement, Paso Robles; Max Corbett, Tulare; Robert Cummings, Shandon; Ralph W. Minto, Colusa; Dave Parker, Santa Maria; Gerald Wenstrand, Lake Isabella

**IDAHO:** Gaylen L. Smyer, Burley; Steven D. Wilder, Meridian  
**ILLINOIS:** William D. Cinnamon, Brimfield; Michael H. Marks, Greenville  
**IOWA:** Jack Cook, Mount Ayr; Clyde L. Johnson, Aplington  
**KANSAS:** Wayne I. DeWerff, Plainville  
**MARYLAND:** Edward F. Mayne Jr., Frederick  
**MICHIGAN:** Rod Evans, Homer  
**MINNESOTA:** David K. Acheson, Cold Spring; Thomas D. Appel, Mountain Lake; James E. Hahn, Dawson; Dennis L. Schroeder, Marshall  
**MISSOURI:** Doug Carpenter, Stet; William W. Cottrell Jr., Memphis; John Dillard, Carthage; Danny E. Hill, Sweet Springs; Lowell E. McInturff, Wheaton; Kevin Overfelt, Owensville; Dan J. Rains, Stockton  
**NEBRASKA:** Doug Malone, Firth; Bob Pedulla, Scottsbluff  
**NEVADA:** Michele Lewis, Minden; Susan L. Poland, Minden  
**NEW MEXICO:** Willard Hall, Truth or Consequences  
**NEW YORK:** Raymond G. Lighthall, Munnsville

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Ricky E. Joyner, Dudley; Glenn A. Perryman, Winston-Salem  
**OHIO:** Clifford Baughman, St. Paris; Samuel Custer, Versailles; David Mayer, Marion; Charles E. Miller, Amanda; Christopher E. Wolfe, New Lexington  
**OKLAHOMA:** Elmer Beshear, Woodward; Charles C. Curl Jr., Pawnee; Dale DeWitt, Braman; Lindell Duncan, Haskell; Bruce Farquhar, Altus; Philip F. Fuss, Red Rock; Tim Herren, Waynoka; R.J. Hollon, Woodward; Larry Nickeson, Fargo; C.M. D. Wells, Stratford  
**OREGON:** Dale Crawford, Culver  
**PENNSYLVANIA:** Earl K. Brown, Coudersport; Clifford J. Day, New Holland; Samuel R. Wagner, Elliptsburg  
**TENNESSEE:** Fred G. Laine, Lebanon  
**TEXAS:** Robert R. Austin, Raymondville; Roy Crawford Jr., Lancaster; Dale Mulkey, Garland; Ronald B. Smith, Dumas  
**UTAH:** Carl D. Swenson, Payson  
**WEST VIRGINIA:** John D. Bennett, Glenville; Doyle M. Fincham, Shenandoah Junction; J. Randall McCutcheon, Union  
**WISCONSIN:** John M. Emmons, Monroe; Herman H. Seebandt, Neillsville;  
**WYOMING:** William Despaign, Laramie



*Dave Parker, advisor of the Santa Maria, Calif., chapter, got a hearty handshake from Claudine Lopez, one of his students. Jose Hernandez patted Parker on the back while fellow Norte Vista, Calif., member Adam Derbo joined Megan Gurley, San Jose-Pioneer, Calif., chapter, in admiring his Honorary American FFA Degree.*



# Business

More delegates than ever before—466 in all—conducted the FFA's official business during committee meetings and convention sessions. Under a new system adopted in 1990, the number of delegates allotted to a state was based upon membership.

Despite the large number of decision makers, they were swift and decisive. Each delegate was assigned to a committee and a subcommittee which prepared a report for the consideration of the entire delegate body. These reports were voted on Wednesday, and forwarded to the National FFA Board of Directors for action at their January, 1992 meeting.

Surprisingly, what some predicted to be a controversial matter passed without discussion. FFA's four regions were realigned (see map) to equalize the number of states and members in each. Regions were also renamed. Eastern, southern, western and central were dropped in favor of 1 through 4. (For the complete wording of the recommendation, please see page 64.) If approved by the board of directors in 1992, the matter will be finalized at the 65th convention.

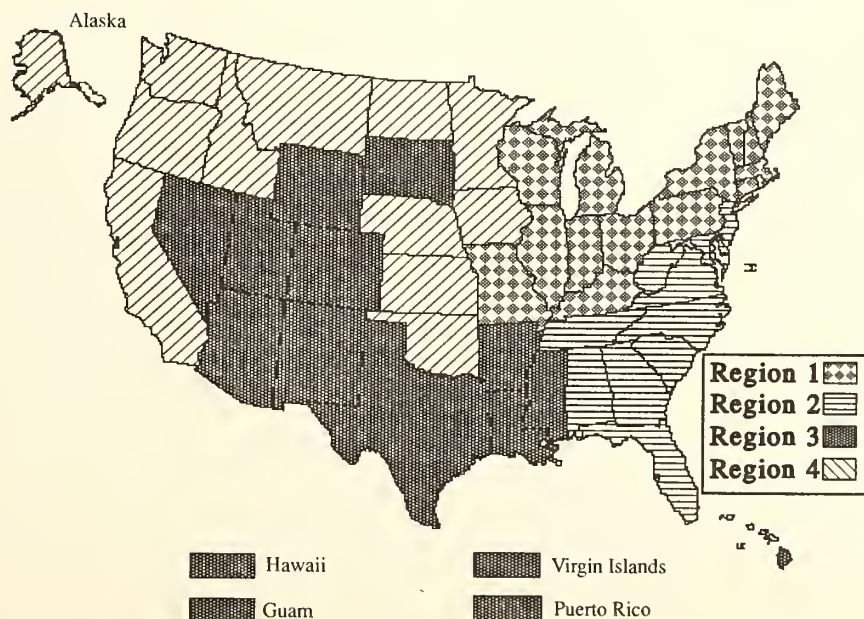
The 13 delegate committees studied some diverse issues. The nominating committee was charged with choosing six student officers to serve for the coming



*National committee members congregated before the convention and even started preparing reports and recommendations to shape FFA policies and activities.*

year. The national convention committee offered suggestions to improve future conventions and still others considered ways in which the National FFA Organization could better serve the organization's members. From a Spanish

edition of the Official FFA Manual to a creed speaking contest for greenhand members, delegates searched for innovative ideas. On the following pages, each committee report is reproduced.





# Official Delegates

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**ALABAMA:** Brandon Abbott, Arab; Norman Atkins Jr., Eutaw; Daryl Baxley, Opp; Josh Black, Athens; Jerie Browning, Rockford; Regina Chandler, Slocumb; John Clement, Athens; William Cockrell, Greensboro; Matt Cooper, Russellville; Aaron DeHart, Daleville; Christopher Foley, Centreville; Angela Headrick, Jasper; Jason Hickey, Goodwater; Kary Luken, Boaz; Casey Mattox, Collinsville; Chris Null, Bessemer; Adrian Pettis, Brewton; Mark Ponder, Lincoln; Chris Reeves, Birmingham; Marrio Seals, McIntosh; Tony Simmons, Dothan; Chris Tucker, Jasper; Britt Ward, Evergreen; Nina Weston, Boligee

**ALASKA:** Priscilla Mandulak, Delta Junction; John Orth, North Pole

**ARIZONA:** Wade Accomazzo, Tolleson; Tyler Grandil, Mesa; Holly Sharp, Roll; Tyson Stuhr, Wellton; Rosalie Zimmerman, Kingman

**ARKANSAS:** Carol Bettis, Quitman; Karinda Davis, Jonesboro; Christy Umphries, Taylor; Jason Martin, Jonesboro; Steven D. Mitchell, Pineville; David Nelson, Springdale; Brian Peters, Mena; Kimberly Reaves, Cabot; Jeremy Robertson, Ward; Toby Stephens, Taylor; Craig Villines, Jasper; Shelley Wright, Sparkman

**CALIFORNIA:** Colleen Aguiar, Livingston; Nicole Andrus, Fullerton; Mike Bennett, Santa Rosa; Devry Boughner, Gonzales; David Bright, Bakersfield; Melissa Claverie, Holtville; Brooke Collins, Sacramento; Nathan Cookson, Covelo; Carlos DeLaTorre, Hamilton City; David Dillabo, Gridley; Nicole Dillabo, Gridley; Kami Freitas, Lemoore; Brian Fry, Stockton; Lorinda Graham, Apple Valley; Travis Hagen, Chico; Courtney Hunt, Fullerton; Janine Kagay, Covina; Jeremy Kavanagh, Placentia; Nicole Kefalas, Covina; Brian Kooyman, Laton; Rhonda Maria, Walnut Grove; Arthur Mejia, El Centro; Susan Michl, Santa Paula; Brenda Moore, Hughson; Ben Moser, McFarland; Robin Perez, Clovis; Joshua Richards, Fall River Mills; Nathan Sedlander, Petaluma; Jason M. Stricker, Victorville; Amber Washington, San Bernardino; Stephanie Weaver, Elk Grove; Kevin White, Anderson; Stephanie Wilmeth, Kingsburg; Lila Worthington, Kelseyville

**COLORADO:** Robin Halley, Brush; Casey Mack, Cope; Jeff McElroy, Hasty; Kimberly Ruppel, Platteville; Terry Saffer, Arriba

**CONNECTICUT:** Liz Anderson, Southbury; Deanne Lamere, Winsted; Matthew A. Syme, South Windsor

**DELAWARE:** Bryan Melvin, Wyoming; Lisa Marie Ralph, Felton; Greg Sylvester, Felton; Sam Walters, Viola

**FLORIDA:** Trisha Bailey, Dover; Shawn Crocker, Haines City; Matt Elliott, Lake Placid; Brad Etheridge, Williston; Erin Freel, Weirsdale; Kimberly Godwin, Zolfo Springs; Kristy Harrison, Starke; Todd Hingson, McAlpin; Jason Keen, Lake Wales; Corey Parks, Sarasota; Kim Smith, Ruskin; Dawn Steinberg, Orlando; Alison Tuck, Lake Placid; Ralph Yoder, Altha

**GEORGIA:** Lynn Barber, Manor; Ryan Beard, Royston; Brandi Canady, Twin City; David Everingham, LaGrange; Kay Farmer, Crawford; Bobby Ferris, Monticello; Sharon Gandy, Thomasville; Andy Hart, Statesboro; Anthony Hickman, Chatsworth; Kelly Thompson, Tifton; Jeff Tucker, Ball Ground; Nancy Wheeler, Alma

**GUAM:** David Crisostomo, Sinajana; Denise J. Perez, Sinajana

**HAWAII:** Theresa Puu, Paho; Davelyn Villegas, Pahala

**IDAHO:** Kathy Cvancara, Genesee; Marci Hyatt, Fruitland; Stephen Kunzler, Rupert; Rachelle Owlsey, Hagerman; Renae Southwick, Glens Ferry

**ILLINOIS:** Joe Ash, Onarga; Wade Baumgartner, Windsor; Keith Eschmann, Columbia; Corey Flournoy, Chicago; Steve Hartley, Amboy; Sheila Heide, DeKalb; Raquel Lacey, Nokomis; Tim Marriott, Mt. Carmel; Kristie McDaniel, Eldorado; Chris Miller, Plainville; Sarah Ochs, Milford; Sam Taylor, Rushville; Anna Thompkins, Fairview

**INDIANA:** Melissa Beale, Trafalgar; Tracy M. Bolinger, Trafalgar; Jody Brinker, Trafalgar; Katie Gramling, Trafalgar; Aaron Johnson, Trafalgar; Karen Nelson, Trafalgar; Heather Newman, Princeton; Mat Spurgeon, Trafalgar; Scott Wooten, New Lisbon

**IOWA:** Jason Brockshus, Ocheyedan; Brad A. Chapman, Tipton; Dwayne D. Faidley, Colfax; Chandler W. Geater, Vinton; Shanelle L. Krause, Milford; Shaun Lambertsen, Martelle; Charles E. Nichols, Bridgewater; Danielle Patterson, Ankeny; Douglas Reynolds, Redfield; Julie L. Riedell, Lake View; Charles A. Staudt, Charles City

**KANSAS:** Amy Atherton, Cherryvale; Jennifer Burch, Manhattan; Gaylette Corley, Garnett; Stacey Hager, Girard; Jason Larison, Columbus; Matthew Schweer, Manhattan; Shannon Washburn, Manhattan

**KENTUCKY:** Gayle Aubrey, Hudson; Casey Bradshaw, Nicholasville; Jeff Edwards, Olaton; Beth Henderson, Irvington; Bradley S. Hornsby, McKee; Sherry Procter, Olmstead; Jason Propes, Fairplay; Ricky Rankin, LaGrange; Alisa Sexton, Wellington; Jennifer Sledge, Smith Grove; Brent White, Eddyville; Ryan White, Sturgis; Ryan Wood, Paducah

**LOUISIANA:** Dawn Daigle, Jennings; Matt Fannin, Jonesboro; Jill Guthrey, Iowa; Kelly Jones, Denham Springs; Ben Langlinais, Erath; Brett LaJeune, Midland; Tait Martin, Cut Off; Carrington Pelleria, Rayne; Patrick Sandel, Florien; Garrett Sonnier, Thibodaux; Clint Yates, Oak Grove

**MAINE:** Troy McCrum, Westfield; Alvin Winslow, Presque Isle

**MARYLAND:** George Bollinger, Thurmont; Howard Meredith Jr., Wye Mills; Trey Myers, Brunswick; Scott Page, Dickerson

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Bryan Armstrong, Sudbury; Craig Desjardins, Stow; Stacy Ly Joyce, Attleboro

**MICHIGAN:** Jason Abbott, Reading; Chad Bellville, Whittemore; Troy Crowe, Corunna; Corena Mills, White Pigeon; Sara Persons, Rodney; Ken Schapman, Almont; Mike Smego Jr., Cassopolis

**MINNESOTA:** Mark Anderson, Holland; Stacy Bauer, South Haven; Julie Eastvold, LeRoy; Edric Funk, Sebeka; Chris Matzdorf, Buffalo Lake; Dan Schueler, Willmar; Trevor Steeke, Perham; Brian Traxler, LeCenter; Matthew Vaupel, Grand Meadow; Tricia Weis, Pine Island

**MISSISSIPPI:** Tiffany Adred, Nettleton; John Branning, Philadelphia; Jeffrey Brock, Batesville; Keith Cain, Vaiden; Heath Fall, Laurel; Bob Gitter, Batesville; Jeff Mayo, Philadelphia; Micah Rutland, Jayess; Rhonda Whitmire, Weir

**MISSOURI:** April Bruffett, Carthage; Karen Eulinger, California; Stephanie Gable, Columbia; Stacy Handke, Garden City; Cody Hendley, Bloomfield; Amanda Hulet, Vandalia; John Kleiboeker, Stotts City; Brock Legan, Halfway; Andrew McCrea, Maysville; Michael Mills, Bernie; Michelle Orr, Mt. Vernon; Seth Ricketts, Salisbury; Jeff Schaumburg, West Plains; Dennis Toedebusch, Wright City; Gregg Wolf, Chillicothe

**MONTANA:** Laura N. Alisch, Culbertson; Jesse Andres, Missoula; Dean Jardee, Ekalaka; Matt McKamey, Great Falls

**NEBRASKA:** Candice Berndt, Lincoln; Emily Drozd, Genoa; Tara Eurek, Lincoln; Brad Jensen, Lincoln; Christopher M. Kalkowski, Basset; Brian Kubik, Lincoln; Jarrod Neilson, Lincoln; Jonathan W. Panning, Hooper

**NEVADA:** Melissa Barnes, Elko; Robert Duval, Fallon; Larissa Mathews, Reno; Jeanne Wright, Hiko



**NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Alice Moore, Nottingham; Douglas S. Ring, Alstead; Bruce D. Scamman, Stratham

**NEW JERSEY:** Donald R. Allen, Cream Ridge; Terry Brown, Allentown; Sharon Duckworth, Phillipsburg

**NEW MEXICO:** Sharen Jenkins, Aragon; Donita Massey, Portales; Paula Massey, Las Cruces; Shawna Wilcox, Loving; Charmyn Wiley, Greenville

**NEW YORK:** Michael Beckerink, North Clymer; Liam Brody, Greenville; Alan Butzer, Gowanda; Andrea Carroccio, Hamilton; Amy Cota, Pyrites; Kelley Frennier, Churubusco

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Josh Bledsoe, Dobson; Michelle Bowen, Newport; Karen Bowlin, Newport; Jason Chappell, Rosman; Clark Cox, Four Oaks; Victoria Graham, Henderson; Willie Howell, Goldsboro; Al Jones, Chinquapin; Kevin Jones, Elk Park; Edward King, Dover; Henry McDade, Durham; Kimberly Morris, Troy; Toye Putman, Catawba; Brian Wood, Raleigh; Donald Wrench, Dunn

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Gretchen Anderson, Carrington; Tony Boehm, Mandan; David Boehm, Mandan; Daryl Lies, Douglas; Robert Maddock, Maddock; Bridgette Rath, Wishek; Scott Thiel, Rugby

**OHIO:** Stephanie Gompf, Cardington; Andrew Lacy, Coshocton; Rob Lamp, Lancaster; Francis Maag, Cecil; Rick Mead, Kenton; Kevin Mosely, Hillsboro; Amy Nicol, Marysville; Ronald L. Osterholt, Maria Stein; Tammy Packard, Spencer; Rick Perkins, Bloomville; Kyle Sharp, Stoutsville; Jim Shertzer, Portage; Shawn Sprowl, Port Washington; Jane Taft, Lakeville; Sarah Turner, Bellevue; Deane Wagner, Beverly

**OKLAHOMA:** Brian Benson, Coyle; Amber Case, Bristow; Wade Detrick, Ames; Dia Evetts, Sentinel; Kari Flatlie, Davenport; Kevin Fruendt, Guthrie; Matt Garnett, Cashion; Greg Garrett, Kingfisher; Heather Hartsfield, Coalgate; Brian Johnson, Gotebo; Brent Kisling, Burlington; Rhett Laubach, Stillwater; Rachel Massey, Roosevelt; Tara Mueggenborg, Kingfisher; Rachell Reavis, Adair; Dana Redgate, Waynoka; Shandee Smith, Stillwater; BaLinda Stuckey, Mooreland; Heather Voth, Fairview; Justin Whitefield, Paoli; Jeremy Woodruff, Red Oak

**OREGON:** Casey Blackburn, Vale; Candy Boswell, Lostine; Kyle Holveck, Newberg; Mark Otter, Molalla; Jason Taylor, Klamath Falls; Christa Vibbert, Madras

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Alison Fry, Mifflinburg; Jodi Hall, State College; Wayne J. Hassinger II, Middleburg; Dale Heagy, Annville; George Inhof, Spring City; Michelle Kerdeman, Manheim; Tim Lehman, Mechanicsburg; Chris Reichard, Chambersburg; Andrew Smeltz, Lykens

**PUERTO RICO:** Waika Y. Acosta, San German; Pedro J. Cuevas, Utuado; Julia E. Hernandez, Florida; Manuel A. Tort, Utuado

**RHODE ISLAND:** Keith Moffat Jr., Foster; Todd Perkins, North Scituate

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** William Harman, Gilbert; Walter Lee High, Eutawville; Lee Mayfield, Wellford; Greg Padgett, Leesville; Tony Pope, Hemingway; Terri Williams, Greenville  
**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Laura Jaspers, Eden; Wade Lang, Freeman; Cory Schrag, Marion; Shawn Staley, Harrisburg

**TENNESSEE:** Dennis Beavers, Decatur; Kelly Carmack, Martin; Curt Davis, Knoxville; Joshua Guthrie, Riceville; Kerri Lamb, Martin; Travis Long, Shady Valley; Stefan Maupin, Martin; Michael Palmer, Dresden; Donnie Steed, Lebanon; Chad Tritt, Martin; Dillon Vanzant, Martin; Kelly Watson, Smithville

**TEXAS:** Cheryl Arnold, Dayton; Trent Ashby, Henderson; Hope Bay, Anderson; Tobin Boenig, Marion; Lance Bradley, McAllen; Bobby Briggs, Chillicothe; Courtney Burch, Wills Point; Kerry Burkley, Lorena; Curtis Childers, Nemo; Erica

Underbrink, Premont; Ron Vander Roest, Clint; Carrie Welch, Garland; Keely Wood, Morton  
**UTAH:** Kelly Campbell, Manila; Lex Godfrey, Fielding; Heather Heaton, Alton; Kellee Jones, Cedar City; Brian Williams, Lindon  
**VERMONT:** Jason Snow, Springfield; John Vander Wey, Ferrisburgh

**VIRGIN ISLANDS:** Chiku Hodge, Frederiksted St. Croix; Lydia E. Leon, Kingshill, St. Croix

**VIRGINIA:** Paul Cassell, Wytheville; Tammy Cole, Troutdale; Lyle Durer, Ruckersville; Laurie Fannon, Charlotte CH; Junior Good, New Market; Brian Kiser, Warrenton; Doug Lineberry, Glade Spring; Nikki May, Bridgewater; Robert J. Mills Jr., Danville; Robert Pollock, Danville; Jamie Rouse, Damascus; Ted Shockley, Cheriton; Shannon Tignor, Milford

**WASHINGTON:** Danielle Farrar, Elma; Gabe Ferguson, Yelm; Bryan Fix, Winlock; Chris Giles,



*The circle formation this committee sat in led to frank and open discussion of all issues these delegates had to face. The 466 delegates at the convention were divided into 12 committees.*

Clark, Mansfield; Jennie Colvin, Tom Bean; Coleburn Davis, Tolar; Dennis Degner, Malone; Mike Diezi Jr., Brookshire; Heather Dollins, Katy; Michael Eakin, Houston; Frank Franklin III, Tilden; Cheryl Garmon, Cumby; Royce Gerngross, San Angelo; Jason Grigg, Big Spring; Todd Harrell, Livingston; Trey Holloway, Avinger; Jon Ivy, Hale Center; Lynsia Jordan, Follett; Matt Krueger, McAllen; Jim McFadden, Utopia; Chris McMurrough, Channelview; Melanie Miles, Gonzales; Christi Payne, Robert Lee; JoAnn Petty, Kennard; Cathryn Piggott, Mansfield; Justin Ransom, Wichita Falls; Heather Retzliff, Pleasanton; Adrienne Rhone, Grapeland; John Robert, Apple Springs; Missy Rosenbusch, Florence; Michael Schertz, Krum; Cherie Shelton, Lamesa; Newley Spikes, Henrietta; Kim Stricklen, Lubbock; Russell Tabor, Lampasas; Davon Taylor, Ropesville; Kim Turley, Dublin; Jason

Kennewick; Laura Junevitch, Maple Valley; Page Newell, Mossyrock; Scott Picker, Prosser; Adam Thomason, Brewster; Dean Wilson, Pomeroy  
**WEST VIRGINIA:** Benjamin P. Cummings, Walton; Clark Hunt, Clendenin; Donald Poage, Middlebourne; Joe Skeen, Cottageville  
**WISCONSIN:** Jennifer Bergmann, Clayton; Brett Birnschein, Sturgeon Bay; Lori Bodart, Pulaski; Linda Burton, Baraboo; Brad Harrison, Madison; Jill Haugerud, Deer Park; Erik Huschitt, Browntown; Colleen Johnson, Turtle Lake; Christopher Lausted, Menomonie; Carol Loosen, Hartford; David Lulich, Mason; Toby Madsen, Maribel; Amy Meyer, Loyal; Bridgett Nottestad, Westby; Ryan Stubrud, Alma Center; Mark Taylor, Clinton; Lee Van Wyche, Kaukauna  
**WYOMING:** Casey Boardman, Powell; Cristina Dicklich, Evansville; Chris Timberman, Mills





## Awards & Degrees

We recommend that the National FFA Contests and Awards Committee, appointed by the National FFA Board of Directors, consider the following:

1. Review the "Scope" and "Approved Practices" sections in the overall scoring procedure for proficiency awards.
2. Incorporate "animal welfare" and "environmental practices" into the scoring procedure where appropriate.
3. Define the term "agribusiness" as recommended.
4. Define the term "agriproduction" as recommended.
5. Define the term "agridiversity" as recommended. Suggested definitions will be presented to the committee.
6. Implement "wage earnings summary" in all applications where appropriate.
7. Incorporate "placement with wage earnings" in all aspects of the application.
8. Promote articles concerning placement in agricultural production proficiency and all other proficiencies that allow placement provisions through *FFA New Horizons* and other publications.
9. Print a definition of "proficiency type" (from the *Agricultural Proficiency Award Handbook*) and a definition of both "placement" and "ownership" on the front of all proficiency applications.
10. Add aquaculture as a new proficiency area with suggested definition to be presented to the committee.
11. Divide the specialty animal proficiency award into two areas: Specialty Pleasure Animal and Specialty Agricultural Production Animal with suggested definitions to be presented to the committee.
12. Change the name of the following proficiency awards:
  - Outdoor Recreation to Outdoor Business Management
  - Agricultural Sales and/or Service to Non-Production

- Agricultural Marketing and/or Services
13. Add canola to the *Agricultural Proficiency Award Handbook* as an example of a product in Oil Crop Production.

### Respectfully Submitted:

Marci Hyatt, ID, (Chair)  
 Robin Perez, CA, (Vice Chair)  
 Waika Y. Acosta, PR  
 Donald R. Allen, NJ  
 Wade Baumgartner, IL  
 Ryan Beard, GA  
 Chad Bellville, MI  
 April Bruffett, MO  
 Kelly Carmack, TN  
 Andrea Carroccio, NY  
 Brad A. Chapman, IA  
 Kathy Cvacara, ID  
 Coleburn Davis, TX  
 Sharon Dawson, DE  
 Julie Eastvold, MN  
 Matt Elliott, FL  
 Laurie Fannon, VA  
 Brian Fry, CA  
 Royce Gerngross, TX  
 Katie Gramling, IN  
 Brian Johnson, OK  
 Al Jones, NC  
 Kelly Jones, LA  
 Matt Krueger, TX

Ben Langlinais, LA  
 Rhett Laubach, OK  
 Tim Lehman, PA  
 Kary Luken, AL  
 Rhonda Maria, CA  
 Larissa Mathews, NV  
 Robert J. Mills, Jr., VA  
 Ben Moser, CA  
 Karen Nelson, IN  
 Page Newell, WA  
 Bridgett Nottestad, WI  
 Bridgette Rath, ND  
 Jeremy Robertson, AR  
 Jeff Schaumburg, MO  
 Tony Simmons, AL  
 Russell Tabor, TX  
 Mark Taylor, WI  
 Sarah Turner, OH  
 Ryan White, KY  
 Rhonda Whitmire, MS  
 Keely Wood, TX  
 Nicole Andrus, CA



## Auditing

The Auditing Committee studied the independent auditor's report presented by Stoy, Malone, and Company. The accounting firm presented a concise and accurate auditor's report that suggested the report was in conformity with the one submitted by the national organization. The auditing committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Change the name on the auditing report from "Future Farmers of America" to "National FFA Organization."
2. Provide an outline and information to the committee for reference.
3. Explore ways to increase our national organization's revenue by considering all possible courses of action, including a dues increase.
4. Encourage all chapters and states to buy goods directly from the National FFA Supply Service to help increase revenue.
5. Require the National FFA staff and board to review all investments being made by our organization.
6. Schedule the submission of the auditing committee report so that it is given before the National Board proposals involving financial matters are voted on.

### Reference Points

1. Many of this year's additional costs are one-time operating fees.
2. An important consideration is that these are recommendations to increase our organization's revenue.

The committee would like to commend all of the people affiliated with money management for a job well done. We would also like to thank Marshall Stewart and Charles Keels for their outstanding help and guidance.

### Respectfully submitted:

Liam Brody, NY (Chair)  
 Erica Clark, TX  
 Dennis Degner, TX  
 Steven Mitchell, AR  
 Tracy Bolinger, IN

Edric Funk, MN  
 Wade Accomazzo, AZ  
 Jonathan Panning, NE  
 Robin Perez, CA  
 Jason Stricker, CA





# Chapter & State Association Operations

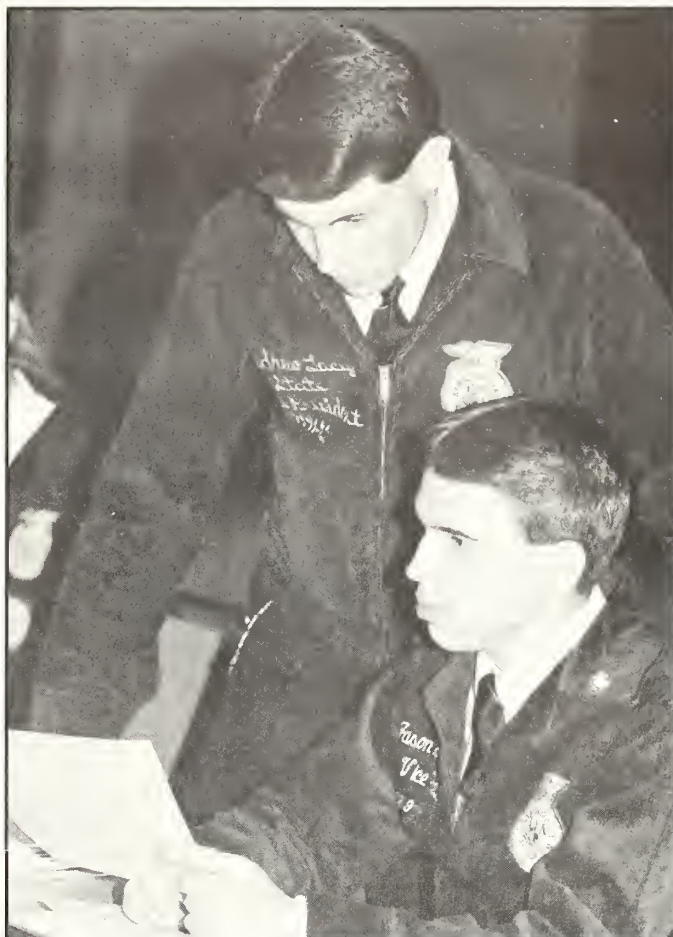
This committee studied ways to improve chapter and state associations and offers these recommendations:

## Effective Public Relations

1. Investigate the development of a coloring/activity book to educate the younger population about the issues and opportunities in agriculture. Possible subject areas include animal rights, environmental issues and food safety.
2. Encourage the national agricultural education family (FFA, Young Farmers, FFA Alumni, The Council and NVATA) to investigate the possibility of gaining national news exposure focusing on agricultural issues and/or FFA activities. (Examples include *60 Minutes*, *20/20* and *48 Hours*.)
3. Consider a contest for radio public service announcements at the state level, with the state winners' PSAs to be distributed on a national basis.
4. Encourage chapter and state associations to utilize road signs promoting opportunities available through the FFA.
5. Produce a ten-minute video featuring scenes from recent national conventions or other national activities to be used for chapter recruitment and/or promotion.
6. Provide National FFA Week materials to all chapters and state associations no later than December.

## Effective Leadership Development

1. Develop a packet for chapter officers which will include current responsibilities and opportunities, a code of ethics, a program of activities and motivational activities. This packet should be available through the National FFA Supply Service. Include additional ideas for mixers, group activities, eye openers and team building activities.
2. Develop and distribute to state presidents a list of topics which can be discussed with members during visits to local chapters. The following topics will be included: national initiatives, awards and proficiencies, alumni activities and opportunities.
3. Develop a program to train and assist local advisors with motivational techniques, professionalism and issues dealing with the national organization. This program could be delivered at state teacher conferences.
4. Continue to develop and provide news releases and public service announcements, and make them available to all chapters.
5. Investigate a means of funding for a series of videos which feature areas of the FFA, for example, a short video for each of the 29 proficiency areas and contests.
6. Continue to fully support projects such as "adopt a highway" or "adopt a river," and to support cooperative projects with community organizations.
7. Create a new informational packet on recycling and environmental concerns to be included with the BOAC information.
8. Request that state associations submit a video clip representative of their agricultural industry to the national organization for accumulation into a single video representing opportunities in agriculture.



*Convention delegates were busy setting policy to chart the course for FFA. Andrew Lacy, Ohio (left), looks over Californian Jason Stricker's shoulder during a committee meeting.*

## Securing Support

1. Identify the states at National Leadership Conferences for State Officers (NLCSOs) with foundations that are willing to aid other states in establishing foundations.
2. Publish a guide for states on how to obtain non-traditional and network sponsors, and follow-up procedures including recognition and securing of sponsors.
3. Produce a comprehensive package for chapters which would help them recognize the need for chapter alumni, including articles in *FFA New Horizons* magazine that highlight successful programs. Contact the producers of the FFA audio magazine tapes, which are already being sent to chapters, and encourage them to include beneficial information about alumni.
4. Encourage states to establish a network listing of successful alumni chapters, and have state and national officers promote chapter alumni participation.
5. Encourage a joint venture with the National FFA Alumni in strengthening chapter and state alumni groups.
6. Encourage states and state officers to identify and promote members of the National Young Farmers Association and the support they can offer.
7. Provide a training program through NLCSOs for state

*(Continued on Page 56)*



## Chapter & State Association Operations



*The National Band included a specialty group called the Fanfare Trumpets sponsored by The Getzen Company.*

officers to promote and secure support for FFA with policy makers, the business community and others who impact agricultural education and FFA.

### Chapter and State Association Operations

1. Seek sponsorship to continue to publish a separate pamphlet "Go for the Gold." Until then, publish an article in *FFA New Horizons* about a chapter that has been successful on the national level in each of the 12 areas of the program of activities.
2. Place an article in *FFA New Horizons* focusing attention on the Outstanding Alumni Affiliate.
3. Promote and stress recreation by emphasizing its importance in the meeting agenda of the local chapters and dedicate one section of the "Chapter Scoop" in *FFA New Horizons* to promotion of recreation ideas.
4. Continue to develop and promote intensive leadership programs.
5. Encourage development of a "chapter of the year" award on the state level.
6. Encourage development of a "best-dressed chapter" award.
7. Encourage states to submit a list of the top ten motivational speakers for youth that they have used for compilation by the national center. The information should include cost, specialized areas, and speakers to contact to assist in locating quality presenters.
8. Formulate a list of motivational music that chapters and state associations can use at banquets and conventions. The list should include the composer, writer and location of source.
9. Encourage each state to publish a newsletter periodically throughout the year concerning chapter and state activities.
10. Produce effective slogans and advertising for year-round usage to assist in improving the image of the FFA. This material

can be distributed in recruitment packages.

11. Update pictures on promotional materials to include modern day technology, therefore portraying the new FFA image.

12. Encourage the development of state scrapbooks or yearbooks that would be available upon request to chapters.

### Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Schweer, KS, (Chair)  
Jonathan W. Panning, NE, (Vice Chair)  
Cheryl Arnold, TX  
Amy Atherton, KS  
Lynn Barber, GA  
Hope Bay, TX  
Casey Boardman, WY  
Regina Chandler, AL  
Nathan Cookson, CA  
Emily Drozd, NE  
Lyle Durer, VA  
Keith Eschmann, IL  
Brad Etheridge, FD  
Wayne D. Faidley, IA  
Heath Fall, MS  
Gabe Ferguson, WA  
Kari Flatlie, OK  
Sharon Gandy, GA  
Beth Henderson, KY  
Stacy Lynn Joyce, MA  
Nicole Kefalas, CA  
John Kleiboeker, MO  
Cheb Kruger, TX  
Paula Massey, NM

Jeff Mayo, MS  
Amy Meyer, WI  
Danielle Patterson, IA  
Todd Perkins, RI  
Theresa Puu, HI  
Seth Ricketts, MO  
Terry Saffer, CO  
Ken Schapman, MI  
Alisa Sexton, KY  
Ralph Yoder, FL  
Shawn Sprowl, OH  
Jane Taft, OH  
Jason Taylor, OR  
Shannon Tignor, VA  
Chad Tritt, TN  
Chris Tucker, AL  
Craig Villines, AR  
Carrie Welch, TX  
Terri Williams, SC  
Stephanie Wilmeth, CA  
Dean Wilson, WA  
Brian Wood, NC  
Donald Wrench, NC  
Ralph Yoder, FLA





# Contests

Our committee studied ways to improve contests at the national and state levels. We offer these recommendations:

1. Create a national creed speaking contest for freshman greenhand members that includes four predetermined questions to be asked after the creed is presented.
2. Create a national horse judging contest.
3. Create a national committee to survey the need for junior high contests in various areas, agricultural science fairs, agricultural science contests, crops judging and essay contests.
4. Encourage states to create and participate in agricultural science fair contests, agricultural science contests and essay contests.
5. Increase the number of members on the dairy, livestock and dairy foods contest teams to four and drop the lowest score.
6. Request that states submit surveys/reports to the national organization on how they conduct their state contests. The national organization would compile an overview report and forward it to state associations to be distributed at the chapter level. The national organization would also provide a means by which contest improvements or innovations could be suggested. This survey/report will be focused upon contests other than the 13 nationally recognized contests.
7. Change Item IC2 of the official board policy relating to the criteria for establishing new contests from 26 states to 50 percent of the associations.
8. State specifically in the Dairy Handler's Activity: "To be certified, each handler must obtain and submit an application to be provided by the national organization and forwarded through your state's supervisor or executive secretary."
9. Ensure that all contests do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, handicap, national origin and limited English proficiency.
10. Create a new item, #8 in Section II, General Rules in Bulletin #4: "The division superintendent will be responsible for scheduling FFA members from a different state association to assist contestants with limited English proficiency. States must report special assistance needs immediately following the qualifications for the national contests to the general superintendent of national FFA contests."
11. Integrate computers into the problem-solving portion of the National Farm Business Management Contest. A standard program must be designated. Refer to page 55 in Bulletin #4, Part II, Number 2.
12. Implement computers into the management portion of the Dairy Cattle Judging Contest.
13. Continue the use of computers in the 1991 Agricultural Mechanics Contest if possible.
14. Alphabetize the identification lists in the Horticulture and Nursery Landscaping contests according to the most common name. We also recommend the list be revised in conjunction with the Bulletin #4 revision.
15. Amend the bibliography section in Bulletin #4, Section XV, page 137 to read: "A bibliography must be included as part of the public speaker's manuscript, and quotations and ideas from any source of information must be identified in the bibliography. Direct quotes must also be enclosed in quotation marks. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify a contestant. This applies to all contests above the local level."



*Contests are a fun, exciting and educational part of the convention. The contest committee wants to keep these qualities and strives to make each contest a little better each year.*

16. Amend the travel expenses section in Bulletin #4, Sections XIV and XV, pages 132 and 136 respectively, to read: "A maximum of \$350 is provided to each contestant by the National FFA Foundation to assist contestants with expenses incurred in making the trip to the national FFA convention to participate in the national contest. This amount will be prorated on the basis of the distance traveled by each contestant from his or her state capital to the convention site."

## Respectfully submitted,

Donita Massey, NM (Chair)  
 Wade Accomazzo, AZ (Vice Chair)  
 Tony Boehm, ND  
 Scott Page, MD  
 Robin Halley, CO  
 Sam Taylor, IL  
 Clark Cox, NC  
 John VanderWey, VT  
 Dave Lulich, WI  
 Nathan Sedlander, CA  
 David Boehm, ND  
 Karen Bowlin, NC  
 Chris Null, AL  
 Ryan Stubrud, WI  
 Heather Newman, IN  
 Jason Propes, KY  
 Dia Evetts, OK  
 Mike Diezi, Jr., TX  
 Chris Giles, WA  
 Rick Mead, OH  
 Brett LeJeune, LA  
 Rachelle Owlsey, ID  
 Bob Gitter, MS  
 Sam Walters, DE

Jennifer Burch, KS  
 Clark Hunt, WV  
 Brian Kiser, VA  
 Justin Ransom, TX  
 Trey Holloway, TX  
 Devry Boughner, CA  
 Holly Sharp, AZ  
 Jason Martin, AR  
 William Cockrell, AL  
 Toby Madsen, WI  
 Michelle Kerdeman, PA  
 Kerri Lamb, TN  
 Amber Case, OK  
 Tracey Turner, TX  
 Travis Hagen, CA  
 Terry Brown, NJ  
 Sheila Heide, IL  
 Michelle Orr, MO  
 Anthony Hickman, GA  
 Alison Tuck, FL  
 Trevor Steeke, MN  
 Dana Redgate, OK  
 Curtis Childers, TX





## Information & Promotion

We make the following recommendations:

1. Use the *FFA New Horizons* magazine to distribute mail-back questionnaires which would allow members to express their wants and needs.
2. Reproduce FFA materials in foreign languages to serve the needs of a growing diverse membership.
3. Review and update FFA materials every three to five years. Review videos and PSAs every two years.
4. Public service announcements should:
  - be produced for a bilingual audience
  - feature celebrities with high national profiles
  - feature a national officer as spokesperson
  - incorporate a year-long theme
  - be distributed to media at least six weeks before anticipated use. A reminder should be sent one week in advance.
5. Obtain coverage on Channel 1. Special attention should be given during the national convention, FFA Week and other significant events.
6. Approach large agricultural advertisers about including FFA coverage in their advertisements. This should include print, radio and television media.
7. Seek sponsorship to allow *FFA New Horizons* to be distributed to public and middle school libraries. As an alternative to full sponsorship, chapters might "adopt" local libraries.
8. Include the "FFA Is..." brochures in mailings to guidance counselors.
9. Prioritize national officers' time as follows:

- national activities
- state activities
- chapter activities (priority given to chapters with greatest need).

10. We commend the national organization on the the newly revised *Student Handbook*.

We extend our most heartfelt thanks to Rich Katt, Neb., for his diligence and contribution to the success of this committee. Our thanks also go to Bill Stagg, Amy McDonald and their staff, as well as subcommittee consultants Jim Meek, Pete Dreisbach, Kirk Edney, and Terry Heiman.

### Respectfully submitted:

Tyson Stuhr, AZ, (chair),  
 Edric Funk, MN, (Vice Chair)  
 Michael Beckerink, NY  
 Candice Berndt, NE  
 Josh Black, AL  
 Casey Blackburn, OR  
 John Branning, MS  
 Jerie Browning, AL  
 Tony Pope, SC  
 Tammy Cole, VA  
 Tove Putman, NC  
 Brooke Collins, CA  
 Michael Schertz, TX

Wade Detrick, OK  
 Jason Snow, VT  
 Cristina Dicklich, WY  
 Donnie Steed, TN  
 Jeff Edwards, KY  
 Dawn Steinberg, FL  
 David Everingham, GA  
 Christy Umphries, AR  
 Junior Good, VA  
 Heather Voth, OK  
 Stacey Hager, KS  
 Britt Ward, AL  
 Todd Harrell, TX  
 Tricia Weis, MN  
 Brad Harrison, WI  
 Kevin White, CA  
 Steve Hartly, IL  
 Charmyn Wiley, NM  
 Walter High, SC  
 Gregg Wolf, MO  
 Jeff Jennings, AR  
 Jeremy Kavanagh, CA  
 Edward King, NC  
 Shanelle Krause, IA  
 Rob Lamy, OH  
 Carol Loosen, WI  
 Tait Martin, LA  
 Troy McCrum, ME  
 Chris McMurrough, TX  
 Michael Mills, MO  
 Amy Nicol, OH  
 Denise Perez, GU J  
 JoAnn Petty, TX  
 Scott Picker, WA

*In history classes, students learn about the future by studying the past. Several members appear to be implementing this idea as they peruse past covers of FFA New Horizons, formerly known as The National FUTURE FARMER.*





# International Development

*Ivan Babanski, right, offered a precious commodity to FFA Newsroom media: firsthand knowledge of life in the Soviet Union. A part of FFA's Soviet program, Babanski was selected to work for one year on a U.S. farm. Orion Samuelson, WGN-TV, Chicago, talked with Babanski about his impressions of American agriculture.*



Our committee studied ways to improve international development. It offers these recommendations:

## Promotions

1. Include at least one article and advertisement about all international programs (including inbound, outbound and financial information) in each issue of *FFA New Horizons*.
2. Include an information request card or cut-out with each article or advertisement in *FFA New Horizons*.
3. Have the national officers educate state officers about international programs at each National Leadership Conference for State Officers (NLCSO).
4. Provide each state association with a promotional package at the NLCSO. Include applications, scholarship information, a video, pamphlets and a new question/answer sheet.
5. Design a question/answer sheet that will include basic information about international programs.
6. Provide "ready to publish" press releases or advertisements to state associations for use in their state newsletters.
7. Send a national officer to the World Congress of Young Farmers, which is held every three years.
8. When funds become available, revise the international travel video "A World Journey" to include a segment about the short programs, and make the segment concerning the national officers' travel, proficiency travel and Stars' travel separate from the short- and long-term programs.

## Finance

1. Provide twelve scholarships for short term programs through the National FFA Foundation.
2. Encourage state FFA foundations and/or associations to assist in funding international programs.

3. Promote sponsorship from local chapters, alumni and community businesses.

4. Encourage younger members to plan long-range SAE programs to finance future international opportunities.

5. Promote financing programs within the state and/or national levels to match the full amount or a percentage of the local fund raising efforts of members.

6. Change the price list to indicate that travel expenses to point of departure are not included in estimated costs.

## Short Programs

1. Make the short programs available to eligible FFA members. This group includes juniors in high school through age 25, and includes past FFA members, collegiate members and Alumni members.

2. Include pages on emergency procedures in the participant handbook.

3. Provide a means for correspondence between participant and host family before departure.

4. When a participant is selected, send a personal information sheet, including a personal essay, to the host family.

5. Design and develop an FFA emblem pin and T-shirt specifically for international travel and as gifts for hosts.

6. Develop a gift information sheet concerning appropriate gifts, how they should be wrapped and when they should be presented.

7. Make foreign language books and tapes available through the National FFA Supply Service.

(Continued on Page 60)



## International Development

### Long Programs

1. Provide a means by which participants and host families may correspond before departure.
2. Encourage students to take a language course to enhance their experience.
3. Design and develop an emblem pin and T-shirt for use by participants and as gifts for hosts.
4. Develop a gift information sheet concerning appropriate gifts, how they should be wrapped and when they should be presented.
5. Develop information dealing with expectations of the program for outbound hosting families.
6. Provide a goal-setting session for participants before they depart for their state or country.



*Without the courage to seek out and challenge the unknown, Christopher Columbus would have never found America, National FFA Secretary Danny Grellner explained in his retiring address. Like Columbus, FFA members need to have courage and self-confidence in order to learn about and see foreign lands.*

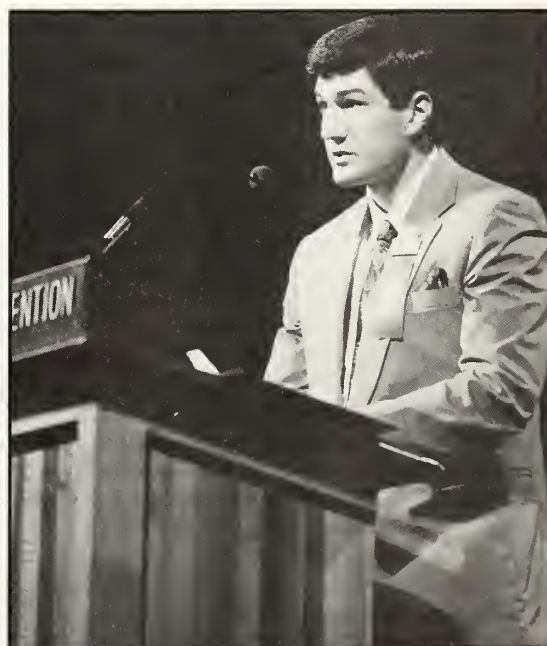
7. Include agricultural experiences, emphasis on the education of value, cultural understanding, policies, marketing/ international trade and career opportunities in the restructuring of the Work Experience Abroad (WEA) Program.

8. Rename this restructured program International Internship Program.

### Respectfully submitted:

Garrett Sonnier, LA (Chair)  
Liam Brody, NY (Vice Chair)  
Christa Vibbert, OR  
Douglas Ring, NH  
Wayne Hassinger, II, PA  
Liz Anderson, CT  
Kay Farmer, GA  
Lydia Leon, VI  
Sharen Jenkins, NM  
Shaun Lambertsen, IA  
Stacy Bauer, MN  
Kami Freitas, CA  
Brian Kooyman, CA  
Brian Peters, AR  
Karen Eulinger, MO  
John Clement, AL  
Charles Nichols, IA  
Robert Pollock, VA  
Greg Garrett, OK  
Colleen Aguiar, CA  
Victoria Graham, NC  
Chris Miller, IL  
Shawn Crocker, FL

Mat Spurgeon, IN  
Alison Fry, PA  
Travis Long, TN  
Frank Franklin, TX  
Kim Stricklen, TX  
Jim Shertzer, OH  
Craig Desjardins, MA  
Corena Mills, MI  
Matt McKamey, MT  
Tara Eurek, NE  
Lori Bodart, WI  
Gayle Aubrey, KY  
Davon Taylor, TX  
Cherie Shelton, TX  
Brenda Moore, CA  
Carrington Pelleria, LA  
Casey Mattox, AL  
Nancy Wheeler, GA  
Manuel Tort, PR  
Kelley Frennier, NY  
Justin Whitefield, OK  
Chris Timberman, WY



*The National FFA Convention didn't go unnoticed by Russian Republic Leader Boris Yeltsin. A letter was sent by fax to the National FFA Organization before the start of the convention and read to FFA members by Soviet Stepan Khrouslov. Khrouslov arrived in the U.S. last June for a year of hands-on training in agriculture.*



# Leadership



*Who says state officers don't know how to have fun? After diligently discussing the organization's business items, these delegates took time to enjoy the convention.*

Our committee studied ways to improve chapter and state associations. We offer these recommendations:

1. Provide a summary evaluation from each of the leadership conferences, including NLSCO, State Presidents Conference, Washington Conference Program and Made For Excellence. Distribute these to appropriate programmatic committees before the national convention.
2. Send all national mailings pertaining to leadership activities to chapters as well as to chapter advisors.
3. Encourage state associations to work with the FFA Alumni in continuing to promote and expand scholarship programs for leadership program participants.
4. Direct the Contest and Awards Committee to encourage state associations to develop quiz, creed and speech contests for sophomore FFA members.
5. Endorse the agricultural issues forum and continue with the development of this program.
6. Include visits with the secretary of agriculture and the secretary of education during SPC.
7. During SPC, join with WCP participants for an activity.
8. Include sessions on recruitment, leadership development and team building in the advisors' WCP and MFE.
9. Organize an advisor leadership workshop during the national convention.
10. Complete scheduling of national officers for national activities and state conventions in December. Confirm all other state activities three months before the activity date. Confirm all activities below the state level 45 days before the event.
11. Establish a committee to develop workshops at the national convention which would promote opportunities in agricultural issues.
12. Encourage all states to participate in the NLCSO. The NLCSO conference should also be held before the SPC. NLSCO should include:
  - more materials and handouts pertaining to current agricultural issues.
  - materials for speeches, chapter visits, eye openers and information on how to deal with legislative issues.

- a sample camp agenda.
  - a program of sophomore motivation.
13. Organize a special activity (dance, movie, sports, etc.) during free time at MFE.
  14. Publicize national leadership programs in the national publications.
  15. Develop separate promotional pamphlets for adult and student MFE and WCP.
  16. Produce a video to explain the concept of Project Pals.
  17. Implement an adult leadership series in *Between Issues*.
  18. Produce a satellite leadership program for chapter members, including:
    - update on national FFA programs, awards, etc.
    - team building
    - goal setting
    - a live teleconference hotline
  19. Implement a motivational exchange program by national officers for state officers.
  20. Develop a national outline addressing team building for chapter officers.
  21. Develop a telephone hotline to address programmatic questions from FFA's "customers." (proficiency, application, contests, chapter applications, etc.)
  22. Design a leadership development video series to develop leadership in individuals and chapters.
  23. Develop a directory of current and past national officers and staff to be available to states for their use in conducting workshops.
  24. Implement a satellite program aimed toward motivating and educating chapter advisors.

## Respectfully submitted:

Shannon Washburn, KS, (Chair)	Melanie Miles, TX
Tracey Bolinger, IN, (Vice Chair)	Alice Moore, NH
Laura Alisch, MT	Ronald L. Osterholt, OH
Trent Ashby, TX	Donald Poage, WV
Norman Atkins Jr., AL	Ricky Rankin, KY
Bobby Briggs, TX	John Robert, TX
David Bright, CA	Jamie Rouse, VA
Jeffrey Brock, MS	Micah Rutland, MS
Courtney Burch, TX	Dan Schueler, MN
Linda Burton, WI	Marrio Seals, AL
Alan Butzer, NY	Shandee Smith, OK
Gaylette Corley, KS	Shawn Staley, SD
Curt Davis, TN	Anna Thompkins, IL
Bryan Fiz, WA	Dennis Toedebusch, MO
William Harman, SC	Jeff Tucker, GA
Heather Hartsfield, OK	Davelyn Villegas, HI
Courtney Hunt, CA	Amber Washington, CA
George Inhof, PA	Ryan Wood, KY
Jason Keen, FL	Jeremy Woodruff, OK
Deanne Lamere, CT	Scott Wooten, IN
Daryl Lies, ND	Shelley Wright, AR
Casey Mack, CO	Clint Yates, LA
Robert Maddock, ND	Jennifer Eastan, AZ
Henry McDade, NC	



## Member Services

The Member Services Committee studied ways to improve chapter and state services. We offer these recommendations:

### Magazine Design

1. Insert inspirational quotes in articles and offset them from regular type for future reference.
2. Enlarge the subscription offer to make it more visible to readers and encourage the use of subscriptions as gifts to parents and sponsors.
3. Substitute an "A Week in the Life of a National Officer" article for "My Turn." This would bring the officers closer to the members and inform them of officer duties.
4. Decrease the number of posed shots and increase the number of action photos with detailed captions to encourage the reading of articles.
5. In reference to last year's Feedback Report, pages 40-47, we recommend increasing chapter correspondence by choosing the most unique chapter scoop and printing only their address as recognition.
6. Have an announcement page to inform members of dates for WCP, MFE and scholarships well in advance of budgets and deadlines.
7. Have a "Did you Know?" column for past events. There is great interest in FFA history. Limit this feature to three or four facts, not a whole page.
8. Have a "Quotes" feature in place of "Sports Champions" feature. A famous person or celebrity page of past FFA members is encouraged.
9. In articles on careers, include a footnote or a reference page on how to obtain more information.
10. Feature articles on student participation in FFA programs such as WEA, MFE, WCP, etc.
11. Continue funding for "Go for the Gold" and encourage publication. Continue the "You Make It Happen" series.
12. Rename one issue of Chapter Scoop of the *FFA New Horizons* "State Scoop" and include recreational activities from each state.
13. Publish news or ideas from outstanding FFA Alumni.
14. We recommend the *FFA New Horizons* cover be proportional to the regional agricultural diversity and the articles inside be equally represented.

### Polling

1. Compile a "mini student catalog" of personal items for insertion in *FFA New Horizons*. This recommendation arises from the Member Services Committee survey which showed that 31 percent of members polled have not seen a National FFA Supply Service catalog recently and that 77 percent of the members polled would like to be able to order items now in the catalog from a magazine insert.
2. Of members polled in the survey, 94 percent of the members who do not have a supply service booth at their state conventions would like to have one. We recommend that the Supply Service provide more information to state associations regarding such booths.
3. We recommend that *FFA New Horizons* staff encourage all states who publish a magazine or newsletter to send to the staff a copy of each publication to help keep the national publication informed.

### Subscriber Services

1. Add a one-page advisor and state officer circular to the magazine to explain how it can be used in their program and curriculum. It should encourage chapter advisors to check their rosters to prevent multiple magazines in a household.
2. Pursue the use of computer disks for roster storage.
3. Insert a two-page separate section for seasonal and or new items with a pull-out order form and coupon to be printed at least three times a year.
4. Print the catalog every year with a one-page coupon section considering the following options: a) not to limit coupons and b) coupon card club. If you order a certain number of items, you get a discount on the next items you order; c) put an expiration date on the coupons for that catalog year; d) each order makes a student eligible for a prize; e) seasonal coupons for slow times of the year.
5. Promote coupons in future issues of the magazine.



*The National Agricultural Career Show included all sorts of interesting items. These FFA members took an imaginary test drive in one of the many shiny, new vehicles on display.*

6. Provide the supply service with magazine advertising at cost.
7. Focus on the following categories of advertisers: shoes, hosiery, sunglasses, briefcases, luggage, computers, film, batteries, radio and car equipment manufacturers, colleges, airlines and other providers of transportation, livestock organizations, trucks such as Ford, Dodge and Chevrolet, fast food chains, and electronic communication companies such as AT&T and General Electric.

### Product Review and Development

We recommend that the National FFA Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors devise procedures to allow the collection of royalties by the National FFA Organization. The official emblem and initials "FFA" would be licensed. Present suggested procedures to the delegates of the 65th National FFA Convention for their approval.



## Member Services

The delegates request that any such plan include limiting the authority for approval of any royalty arrangements to the National FFA Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors. We further request that the plan address the following three comments and eight questions.

### Comments:

1. The National FFA Board should be responsible for approval, not the chief operating officer, national advisor or any other individual.
2. Company use of the emblem or letters should be granted for a probationary period.
3. Companies should not be allowed to duplicate items already sold by the supply service, unless it can be done in a manner which there is more profit in the licensing than in the sales through the supply service.

### Questions:

1. Will there be a limit on the number of companies or products receiving this permission?
2. How long will a company have the right to use the emblem?
3. Will the organization reserve the right to review any advertising campaigns associated with promotion of items that use the emblem?
4. Can the organization reserve the right to revoke the permission under certain circumstances?
5. Will this mean penalties for companies that do not receive permission?
6. What legal action can or will be taken against a company using the emblem without permission?
7. How can unauthorized use be controlled?
8. What legal liability is implied in the use of the emblem by

other companies, i.e., can the organization be held responsible for false or misleading advertising claims, even if presented in good faith?

### We offer these recommendations:

1. Use the FFA mural as the front cover for the catalog.
2. Offer the FFA mural for purchase as a poster through the catalog.
3. Update the FFA greenhand shirt to a modern style.
4. Design and produce an international emblem (that depicts the United States and FFA) to be given to visiting representatives from foreign countries. We suggest this to be an upright paper weight of the official emblem with two cloth flags crossing behind, a U.S. flag and the visiting country's flag.
5. Stress quality in all items offered.
6. Take steps to make the FFA catalog more accessible to the members.
7. Raise awareness of the catalog items which are 100 percent guaranteed.
8. Print a Spanish edition of the Official FFA Manual to better serve Spanish-speaking members.

We would like to thank Nancy Trivette for her dedication to our task and to the national staff members who provided insight into these issues.

### Respectfully submitted,

Michael Smego, MI (Chair)  
 Steven Mitchell, AR (Vice Chair)  
 Rachel Massey, OK  
 Laura Junevitch, WA  
 Keith Moffat, RI  
 Tammy Packard, OH  
 Priscilla Mandulak, AK  
 Lorinda Graham, CA  
 Brian Williams, UT  
 Keith Cain, MS  
 Mark Anderson, MN  
 Christopher Foley, AL  
 Erin Freil, FL  
 Bryan Melvin, DE  
 Tyler Grandil, AZ  
 Amy Cota, NY  
 Jill Guthrey, LA  
 Brent White, KY  
 Scott Thiel, ND  
 Stefan Maupin, TN  
 Bobby Ferris, GA  
 Jim McFaddin, TX

Kelly Campbell, UT  
 Lynsia Jordan, TX  
 Chris Richard, PA  
 Charles Staudt, IA  
 Kevin Jones, NC  
 Corey Flournoy, IL  
 Mike Bennett, CA  
 Carol Bettis, AR  
 Renae Southwick, ID  
 Mathew Vaupel, MN  
 Brock Legan, MO  
 Kerry Burkley, TX  
 Nina Weston, AL  
 Cheryl Garmon, TX  
 Coleen Johnson, WI  
 Trisha Baily, FL  
 Melissa Beale, IN  
 Doug Lineberry, VA  
 Sherry Proctor, KY  
 David Lulich, WI



FFA members shopped the National FFA Supply Service booth at the agricultural career show. The booth was a city block long, said Supply Service Convention Manager Dennis Shafer. The most popular items were specially designed T-shirts and sweatshirts. Shafer estimated that as many as 10,000 orders were taken over three days.

## Membership Development

### National Equity

We recommend that the National FFA Organization shall have four equal regions based on membership and number of associations. Evaluation shall take place every three years, and realignment of regions shall occur when membership of a region varies more than 15 percent of the regional average and/or number of associations varies by more than two of the average. During the annual January board meeting, the National FFA Board of Directors shall consider a new realignment that would become effective September, 1992.

We recommend that the new regions be aligned as follows:

**Region I** - 15 states, 24.8 percent, 94,903 FFA members

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky and Missouri

**Region II** - 12 states, 24.4 percent 93,209 FFA members

New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and District of Columbia

**Region III** - 15 states, 24.8 percent, 98,874 FFA members

Mississippi, Louisiana, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, South Dakota, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and Guam

**Region IV** - 12 states, 25.9 percent, 94,459 FFA members

Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California and Alaska

### Developing FFA Partners

We make these recommendations.

1. Form a task force to develop a fact sheet and video for guidance counselors/administration. The fact sheet would be sent first to each guidance office offering the free video. The video and fact sheet should include scholarship opportunities, statistics, careers, and testimonials (video only).

2. Develop a booth promoting Agricultural Education/FFA for use at national education conventions.

3. Send national officers to national education conventions as a part of their official duties. National officers should visit each state convention for administrators/guidance counselors based on a five-year rotation plan. States showing membership decline should be given first priority.

4. Include a special section under the Chapter Visits section of the NLC SO Handbook dealing with guidance counselors/administration. We also suggest that national officers stress this section to state officers.

We support the Agricultural Education Business and Education Forum.

5. Include an orientation, at least two workshops and a final banquet in the forum.

6. Encourage guidance counselors/administration to attend at least two business sessions and at least one Alumni Leadership Workshop.

### Junior FFA Development

We submit these recommendations:

1. Offer states the option of choosing activities in which Jr. FFA members can be involved.

2. Provide a wide variety of traditional and non-traditional contests that relate to the curriculum.

3. Provide an optional award based upon level of accomplishment and class completion.

4. Include items such as careers in agriculture, agriculture technology and an introduction to the FFA in the curriculum.

### Recruitment and Retention

We offer these recommendations.

1. Provide opportunities for hands-on recruitment and retention experience at NLC SO.

2. Surveys should be taken at the national convention to review needs for next year.

3. Include past state officers on the planning committee for NLC SO.

4. Create a new recruitment video focusing on the diversity of students in the FFA. This video should show that students can participate in sports, music and other activities as well as the FFA. Focus on teamwork, leadership and direction and their correlation to FFA and every day high school life. Toward the end of video have short clips of famous past FFA members.

5. Provide one copy of all recruitment material to each state.

6. Include written lesson plans in the "Make It Happen!" packet for teachers.

7. Choose bright blue and yellow for the "Make It Happen!" cover. Each section should be a different color.

8. Include an explanation on the "1+3" poster of the program, the advantages of participation and directions on how to get more information.

9. Include an article on the 1+3 program in the fall issue of *FFA New Horizons*.

10. Send a packet of scholarship and academic benefits of agricultural education and the FFA to counseling offices.

We would like to recognize Phil Berkenbile, Raymond Cochrum, Troy Newton and Steve Brown for their assistance

#### Respectfully submitted:

Andrew Lacy, OH (Chair)  
Jason Stricker, CA (Vice Chair)  
Bryan Armstrong, MA  
Lee Van Wychen, WI  
Bruce Scamman, NH  
Jodi Hall, PA  
Kellee Jones, UT  
Heather Retzliff, TX  
Robert Duval, NV  
Kyle Sharp, OH  
Chiku Hodge, VI  
David Dillabo, CA  
Laura Jaspers, SD  
Amanda Hulett, MO  
Kelly Watson, TN  
Kevin Mosely, OH

Brian Kubik, NE  
Lila Worthington, CA  
Kristy Harrison, FL  
Matt Fannin, LA  
Jody Brinker, IN  
Sara Persons, MI  
Kevin Fruendt, OK  
Jason Hickey, AL  
Jason Grigg, TX  
Chris Reeves, AL  
Mark Otter, OR  
Greg Padgett, SC  
Jay Ramsey, IL  
Kelly Thompson, GA  
Shawna Wilcox, NM  
Lex Godfrey, UT

George Bollinger, MD  
Beth R. Miller, VA  
Arthur Mejia, CA  
Jeff McElroy, CO  
Michelle Bowen, NC  
David Nelson, AR  
Aron DeHart, AL  
Julie L. Riedell, IA  
Bradley S. Hornsby, KY  
Dillon Vanzant, TN





# National FFA Convention

The National FFA Convention Committee makes the following recommendations:

## Career Show

1. Promote times and location of the Career Show by advertising in *FFA New Horizons*, printing information on registration forms and pre-convention materials; post banners and signs around the convention complex, especially by the escalators; and promote on the audio visual screens.

2. Provide each exhibitor with a subscription to *FFA New Horizons*.

3. Recognize exhibitors in *FFA New Horizons*.

4. Extend show hours and improve room temperature.

5. Place a directory, with legend, at the show entrance.



*FFA members cut the carpet with their fancy footwork.*

## Convention Program

1. Maintain high quality speakers that identify with the FFA.
2. Develop a rotational system for awards and degree presentations.

3. Place a map in the program showing the areas surrounding the convention hall, including restaurants and shops.

4. Improve the sound system and consider the technical needs of all individuals and groups on the convention program.

5. Require every member appearing on stage be in official dress.

6. Encourage the band and chorus to coordinate presentations with talent directors to avoid duplications and to enhance session themes.

## Convention Operations

1. Recognize courtesy corps members with a "dutch treat" meal function; publish corp members' names in the Convention *Proceedings*; and provide each member with a pin.

2. Direct corp members to be more assertive in maintaining order in the auditorium, especially during business sessions.

3. Locate band, chorus and talent groups in isolated practice rooms to eliminate distractions during contests and interviews.

4. Organize meal functions in Bartle Hall "cafeteria style" with more appropriate foods and a greater selection of beverages.

## Delegate Operations

1. Expand seating in delegate area to allow easy access for all delegates, including the handicapped. Rotate states with national officers. Provide each state with a well-defined seating area.

2. Mail extra delegate packets for substitute delegates to all states.

3. List phone numbers and addresses of full and subcommittee chairs and vice chairs in the delegate packets mailed to states.

4. During the State Presidents' Conference, encourage all State Associations to hold national delegate orientation and training sessions prior to the National Convention.

5. Distribute each state's delegates more equally among committees.

6. Allow states to pay registration fees in advance and on site. Clearly identify registration places and procedures.

Respectfully submitted:

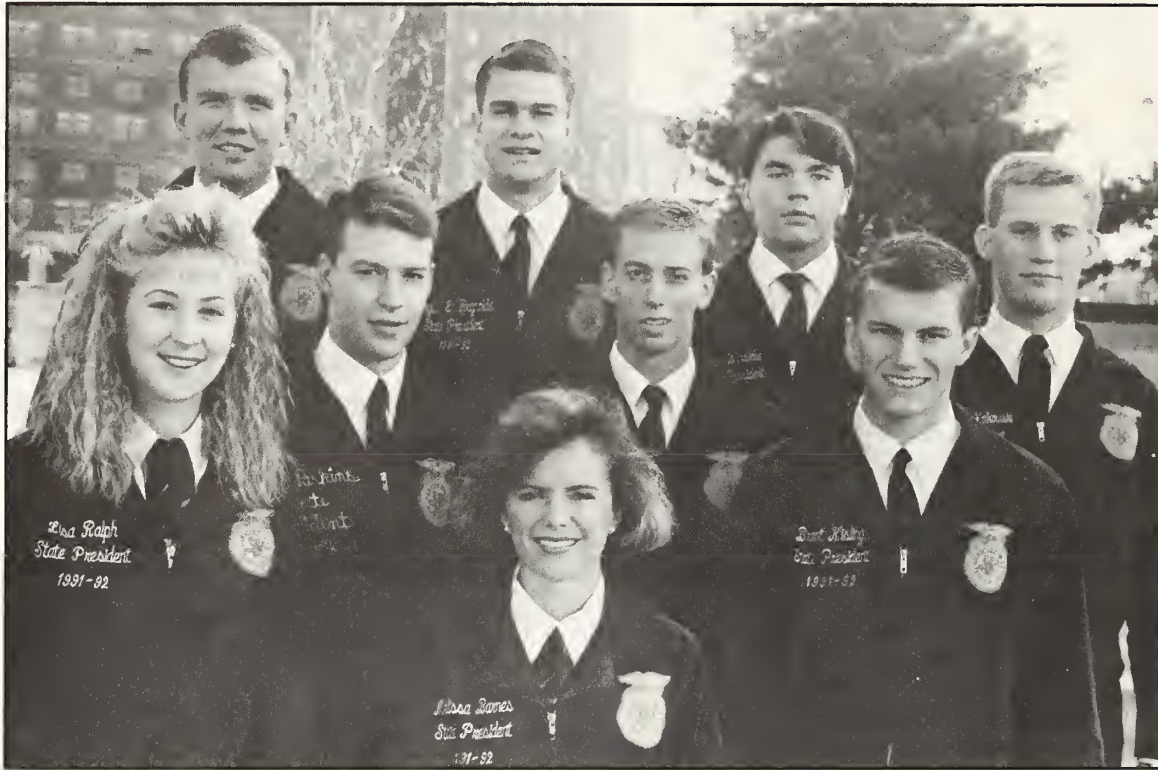
Toby Stephens, AR (Chair)  
 Erica Clark, TX (Vice Chair)  
 Chandler W. Geater, IA  
 Casey Bradshaw, KY  
 Nicole Dillabo, CA  
 Matt Garnett, OK  
 Kimberly Ruppel, CO  
 Jason Underbrink, TX  
 Dean Jardee, MT  
 Francis Maag, OH  
 Brandi Canady, GA  
 Patrick Sandel, LA  
 Corey Parks, FL  
 Stacy Handke, MO  
 Aaron Johnson, IN  
 Daryl Baxley, AL  
 Nikki May, VA  
 Erik Huschitt, WI  
 Chris Matzdorf, MN  
 Trey Myers, MD  
 Jon Ivy, TX  
 Christi Payne, TX  
 Susan Michl, CA

Cathryn Piggott, TX  
 Jason Abbott, MI  
 Jason Brockshus, IA  
 Kristie McDaniel, IL  
 Cory Schrag, SD  
 Karinda Davis, AR  
 Howard Meredith, Jr., MD  
 Angela Headrick, AL  
 Raquel Lacey, IL  
 Heather Heaton, UT  
 Pedro J. Cuevas, PR  
 Andrew Smeltz, PA  
 Josh Bledsoe, NC  
 Michael Palmer, TN  
 Adam Thomason, WA  
 Tara Mueggenborg, OK  
 Stephen Kunzler, ID  
 Carlos DeLaTorre, CA

Matthew A. Syme, CT  
 Jason Chappell, NC  
 Hanna Carter, ME  
 Mark Ponder, AL  
 Brad Jensen, NE  
 Julia E. Hernandez, PR



## Nominating



*The Nominating Committee spent many hours pondering their choices for the 1991-92 National FFA Officer team. The nine-member committee's task was anything but easy. From 39 highly qualified candidates, they narrowed the field to six during a process that spanned five days. The members were, front row from left, Lisa Ralph, Rick Perkins, Melissa Barnes, Todd Hingson and Brent Kisling. Top row, from left, Josh Guthrie, Doug Reynolds, Alvin Winslow and Chris Kaldowski.*

We have given careful and deliberate consideration to all applicants running for national office. The committee nominates the following slate of candidates to the delegates of the 64th National FFA Convention to serve as national officers for the year 1991-92.

**President—Lee Thurber, Neb.**

**Secretary—Michael Stevenson, Mont.**  
**Vice President**

**Central Region—Chadwick Luthro, Iowa**

**Vice President**  
**Eastern Region—Wesley Barefoot, N.C.**

**Vice President**  
**Southern Region—Shane Black, Ala.**

**Vice President**  
**Western Region—Louie Brown, Jr., Calif.**

**National Treasurer—Charles L. Keels, N.C.**

**National Executive Secretary—C. Coleman Harris, Washington, D.C.**

**National Advisor—Larry D. Case, Washington, D.C.**

### Respectfully submitted:

Rick Perkins, OH (Chair)  
Brent Kisling, OK  
Melissa Barnes, NV  
Douglas Reynolds, IA  
Josh Guthrie, TN  
Lisa Ralph, DL  
Chris Kalkowski, NB  
Todd Hingson, FL  
Alvin Winslow, ME  
Sidney E. Koon, Jr. (Consultant)  
Stacy A. Gartin (Consultant)





# Program of Activities

The program of activities committee encourages the National FFA Board of Directors to continue the implementation of the current Program of Activities with the following recommendations:

1. Update and revise the *FFA New Horizons* directory every year.
2. Update the Program of Activities to include recent additions to the FFA Alumni scholarship program.
3. Update the Program of Activities every year so that it complies with constitutional amendments.
4. Revise the Program of Activities to reflect the recent restructuring at the National FFA Center.

## Respectfully submitted:

Shannon Washburn, KS (Chair)  
 Matthew Schweer, KS (Vice Chair)  
 Donita Massey, NM  
 Marci Hyatt, ID  
 Andrew Lacy, OH  
 Garrett Sonnier, LA  
 Erin Freel, FL  
 Tyson Stuhr, AZ  
 Toby Stephens, AR



*Amber Washington, California's state secretary, served as an official delegate for the second time. "It's amazing that so much power and responsibility has been entrusted to us," she said. "It makes me feel like I'm really important and that what we say really means something."*



*Weather conditions during the convention were fickle: one day's glimpses of sunshine led to another's rain and fog. These members faced the wind to take in Kansas City sights.*



# Support Services

The Support Services Programmatic Committee makes these recommendations:

1. Investigate publications which would update FFA members about current events in various secondary and postsecondary agricultural organizations. This may be published periodically and/or incorporated into an existing publication. We also recommend that the National FFA Organization continue to communicate with these organizations through general correspondence.

2. Create an informational packet, including a pamphlet and an idea video that summarizes the types of youth organizations available to secondary and postsecondary students. Gear this information toward younger secondary students.

3. National boards, including the national officers, of all secondary and postsecondary vocational student organizations meet in Washington, D.C., for a joint board meeting for leadership training and team building within the respective vocational student organizations.

4. Encourage joint leadership activities at the state level that deal purely with the promotion of leadership and not the promotion of individual organizations. Publicize these activities on the state and community levels.

5. Develop an informational poster which would be distributed to all local FFA chapters. Included should be brief descriptions about FFA resource organizations and their addresses. Reply cards should be made available so that members could contact individual organizations to receive more information.

6. Invite the national representatives of resource organizations to the National FFA Convention. Recognize these individuals and their organizations' contributions.

7. Send current FFA information, such as the *FFA New Horizons* magazine to national resource organizations.

8. Continue to encourage the development of state councils of agricultural education which include representatives from resource organizations. Also encourage the cooperation of state councils at the regional and national levels.

9. Provide supplemental information about the Council on Agricultural Education and the National FFA Foundation scholarship program in the *FFA New Horizons* magazine.

10. Encourage the Foundation to continue to support special high school programs that the Council is developing.

11. Continue to stress the importance of writing thank you notes to sponsors. Include pertinent information about writing these notes in the *FFA New Horizons* magazine.

12. Conduct a seminar for state coordinators of FFA fund raising. Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation, the seminar would feature a professional philanthropy specialist.

13. Encourage all agriculture educators to attend in-service training sessions that are provided by the Council to teach them about new curriculums.

14. Formulate new Alumni guidelines for each state to follow in establishing and continuing a sound Alumni program. Guidelines may include set dues, responsibilities, leadership and identification of chapters without affiliates.

15. Encourage state officer teams to implement programs to inform FFA members about the National Alumni Organization. These programs may take the form of chapter visits, career shows, conferences, workshops, or conventions. Each program

should follow the guidelines stated in the first recommendation.

16. State officers should become active in their State Alumni programs by attending meetings, conferences and conventions.

17. Actively pursue membership development in the FFA Alumni. This Alumni membership development program should be patterned after current FFA membership development programs with use of Alumni recruitment pamphlets, brochures, videotapes, and other relevant promotional material. In addition, we request that FFA *New Horizons* magazine dedicate a minimum of one article per issue to Alumni. This program should promote development of weak Alumni chapters and creation of new Alumni chapters.

18. We request that FFA Alumni offer a three-year membership package as an additional option to the current FFA 3-year package. In addition, we suggest FFA Alumni communicate with other Alumni organizations in search of innovative membership development programs. We suggest that the leadership of the FFA Alumni submit articles to the *FFA New Horizons* Magazine.

19. Change the name of Support Services Committee to Cooperative Relations Committee.

## Respectively submitted,

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Dennis Degner, TX (Vice Chair)  
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# Behind the Scenes

Long before National President Mark Timm raised the opening gavel, countless individuals were making preparations for the 64th National FFA Convention.

National FFA officers and staff members at the National FFA Center concentrated on the big issues as well as the smallest details to ensure a smooth, professional convention. Who would speak? What business issues should be addressed by committees? What color should the ink on the printed program

be? How many rows of chairs should line the convention floor?

The list of questions was endless, but because of the dedication of individuals who assisted, the convention came together like pieces of an intricate jigsaw. From supervisors of national contests to parents who chaperoned their children, all were important. All were appreciated and all were vital to the success of the largest annual youth convention in the world.



The Courtesy Corps worked fast and furiously behind the scenes, eager to ensure the convention ran smoothly. The 1,300 FFA members representing 258 chapters did everything, from checking for badges, to distributing the FFA TIMES every morning, to running to the drugstore in search of aspirin for an aching staff member's headache, to stuffing news packets for the media.

## National Convention Proceedings

Volume LXIV

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Special thanks to Jeri Mattics,  
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# Behind the Scenes

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*Lola Lang beamed while she visited with Bob Seefeldt, national FFA convention manager for the awards area. Lane, of Mount Vernon, Wash., was the Western Region Star in Agribusiness.*

## Convention Managers

- Coleman Harris** - Convention General Manager
- Lennie Gamage** - Convention Business and Registration
- Woody Cox** - Alumni
- Carol Duval** - Contests
- Tony Hoyt** - Convention Program
- Jack Pitzer** - Courtesy Corps
- Robert Seefeldt** - Awards
- Dennis Shafer** - Supply Service
- William Stagg** - News and Information
- Bernie Staller** - Sponsors
- Marshall Stewart** - Delegate Operations
- George Verzagt** - Career Show



Prepared and published by the National FFA Organization in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies.



*So long for now...*



**Mark your calendars:**

1992...Nov. 12-14...65th National Convention  
1993...Nov. 11-13...66th National Convention  
1994...Nov. 10-12...67th National Convention  
1995...Nov. 9-11...68th National Convention  
1996...Nov. 14-16...69th National Convention

# 1991-92 National FFA Officers



*National officers elected at the 64th National FFA Convention were (from left) Mike Stevenson, Louie Brown, Jr., Shane Black, Wesley Barefoot, Chad Luthro and Lee Thurber.*

The 1991-1992 national FFA president is **Lee Thurber**, 20, of **Roca, Neb.** Thurber is a member of the Norris FFA Chapter, and served as Nebraska state FFA president last year. He was the state winner in both the extemporaneous and prepared public speaking contests, and was a national FFA scholarship recipient.

Thurber's Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program consists of a feeder to finish swine operation, market cattle and market lambs. He attends the University of Nebraska Lincoln, where he is a sophomore majoring in agribusiness. He plans to pursue a master's degree after graduation.

**Mike Stevenson**, 19, of **Hobson, Mont.**, will serve as 1991-92 national FFA secretary. In Montana, Stevenson served as first vice president, and earned recognition as the state and regional beef proficiency winner, as well as star state farmer. Stevenson is a member of the Hobson FFA Chapter.

Stevenson's SAE program includes a registered black Angus and Columbia sheep operation. He is a freshman at Montana State University, where he is majoring in business administration. After graduation, he plans a career as a professional speaker and farm operator.

**Chad Luthro**, 21, of **Moorland, Iowa**,

was elected national FFA vice president for the central region. Luthro is a member of the Prairie Valley FFA Chapter, and served as the 1989-90 Iowa FFA Association secretary. In 1990, he was named the American Star in Agribusiness, and was winner of the national Computers in Agriculture program in 1989.

For his SAE program, Luthro founded a corporation, Agri-Tech Products Company, which provides computer and software sales and service to meet the needs of agricultural clients. He plans to obtain a degree in agricultural education from Iowa State University, and teach agriculture at the high school level.

**Wesley Barefoot**, 19, of **Dunn, N.C.**, was elected national FFA vice president for the eastern region. He is a member of the Midway FFA Chapter. Barefoot served as North Carolina FFA vice president, and was selected star state agribusinessman in 1990. He was also the 1988 National Fiber Crop Proficiency winner.

Barefoot's SAE program consists of cotton production, custom cotton picking and a cotton picker repair business. He attends Wayne Community College and plans to transfer to North Carolina State

University to receive a degree in agricultural education.

**Shane Black**, 21, **Athens, Ala.**, was elected national FFA vice president of the southern region. He is a member of the Clements FFA Chapter, and participated in the state public speaking, nursery landscape and quartet contests. He was FFA vice president for Alabama.

Black's SAE program consists of cotton production and work placement at *Progressive Farmer* magazine. He attends Birmingham-Southern College, where he studies political science. He plans to pursue a career in agricultural law.

**Louie Brown Jr.**, 21, of **Hanford, Calif.**, was elected national FFA vice president of the western region. He is a member of the **Hanford FFA Chapter**, and served as California FFA vice president.

Brown's SAE program included work placement with an electronic fruit sorting company and a USDA Dairy Herd Improvement laboratory. He also operated a small flock of sheep.

He attends California Polytechnic State University, where he is a sophomore studying agricultural business policy. After graduation, he plans to obtain a law degree and pursue a career in agricultural lobbying.