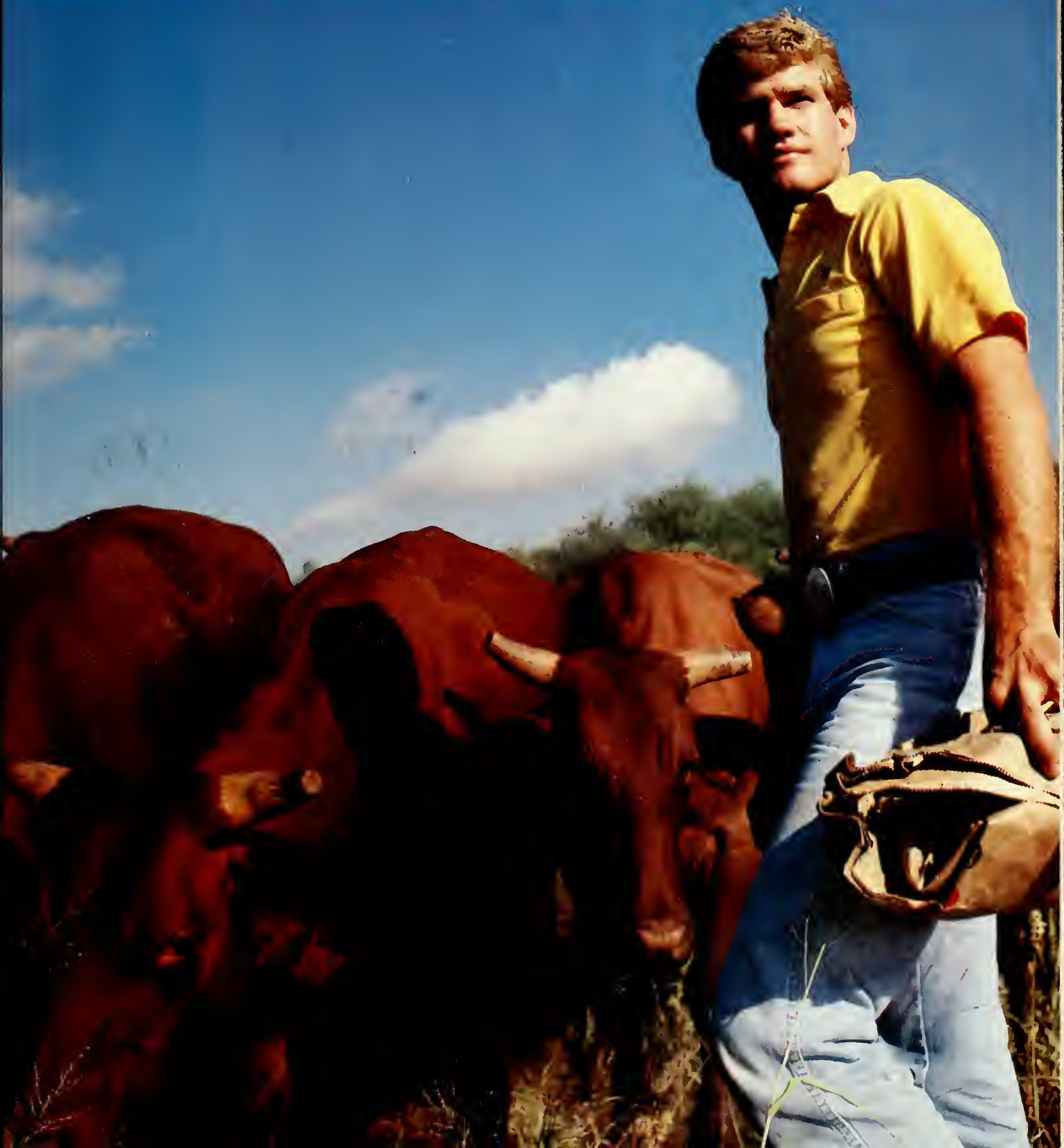


The National

October-November, 1950

Future Farmer

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The National
Future Farmer
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October-November, 1980

Volume 29 Number 1

ISSN 0027-9315

A Word With The Editor

On November 4, we will go to the polls and vote for the next president of the United States. This process will set the course of our nation for the next four years—both as it deals with domestic issues and in world affairs.

While the president must still be elected by the "electoral college," that procedure has become largely a formality in recent elections. So if you are 18 and registered to vote, the vote you cast on November 4 is an important one.

This history of our country is filled with accounts of how one vote determined the outcome of an election. Thomas Jefferson, John Quincy Adams and Rutherford B. Hayes were all elected by just one vote in the electoral college. The election of President Hayes was contested and referred to an electoral commission where he again won by a single vote. The deciding vote was cast by a congressman from Indiana who had been elected himself by a single vote. One vote gave statehood to California, Idaho, Oregon, Texas and Washington. President Andrew Johnson was acquitted at his impeachment trial in the senate by just one vote. And who among us does not share the excitement when we read that Caesar Rodney was busy with a Tory rebellion in his home state of Delaware when he got word that the Continental Congress was hopelessly deadlocked with a tie vote on the issue of independence. As a delegate to the Congress, he jumped on horseback and galloped the 86 miles to Philadelphia where he cast the deciding vote that created a new nation.

You may never cast a vote as dramatic as these but your one vote is important. It is also a responsibility of citizenship. When apathy sets in, small organized special interest groups can determine the outcome of an election. At one time very few FFA members were allowed to vote. But when the national voting age was lowered to 18, that changed. On November 4, some of you will cast your first vote for a president of the United States. A thrilling moment! When you leave the voting booth, you will have taken a major step into the adult world—and assumed one of your major responsibilities as a good citizen in a democracy.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Texas rancher Monty Vesper finishes up another feeding during this year's threatening drought. Monty, active in both FFA and production of registered Santa Gertrudis, is featured in a story on page 46.

Cover photo by Jeffrey Tennant

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FACT #1: ARMY ROTC COLLEGE DEGREE

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And in civilian life, your ROTC background will help you gain a lot of ground in today's competitive job market. Because it tells a potential employer you've got more to offer than just potential. You've got experience. As a leader. As a decision-maker. As a doer. Few recent college grads can offer this kind of experience. And few college courses provide this kind of unique training.

FACT #2: Taking Army ROTC won't interfere with your other studies. You'll attend ROTC classes only a few hours each week, along with the subjects in your major.

FACT #3: Not all of your ROTC training takes place in the classroom. Some of it takes place in the field, too. It's called adventure training. And you could find yourself doing any one of a number of adventurous activities. Like rappelling a cliff. Or shooting the rapids. Or finding your way out of a forest with nothing but a map and compass to guide you.

FACT #4: There's no military commitment whatsoever during your first two years of ROTC (Basic Course). Why? So you'll have the chance to look us over. And vice versa.

FACT #5: The Advanced Course, usually taken your last two years of college, is when you agree to serve as a 2nd Lieutenant in today's Army (including the Army Reserve and National Guard). If you decide to go on active duty, your commitment is only three years, unless you win an ROTC scholarship; then, it's four years. You'll also receive financial assistance—\$100 a month, up to \$1,000 a year—in the Advanced Course.

And now you can earn even more. Now you can also serve in the Army Reserve or Army National Guard while you're enrolled in ROTC. It's called the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). If you qualify, you'll serve as an officer trainee in a selected Reserve component, and earn \$70 or more a month, to start. Add the \$100 a month you'll receive in the Advanced Course, and you could end up with over \$170 a month for yourself.



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FACT#6: It takes more than brains or brawn to win an Army ROTC scholarship. Sure, your SAT or ACT score carries a lot of weight. And there are certain physical requirements. But Army ROTC looks for other qualities, too. Leadership qualities. So if you're involved in varsity sports, or your student government, or even if you're holding down a part-time job after school, ROTC will award you points for it toward winning a scholarship.

FACT#7: Army ROTC gives you two opportunities to win a four-year scholarship. Here's how it works: if you apply before August 15th, you may win one of the early scholarships available. If you miss the deadline, or if you don't win, your application will be automatically reviewed in a later cycle. And you may win one of the additional scholarships available then. Several hundred scholarships are awarded each year. Deadline for all four-year applications is December 1st. Army ROTC also has hundreds of three- and two-year scholarships available, too. So if you don't start college on one of our scholarships, you may still be able to finish on one.

FACT#8: Now, when you graduate from ROTC, you can opt to serve at home with an Army Reserve or Army National Guard unit part-time. It's called the Reserve Forces Option. Take advantage of it, and you can put your ROTC training to work in your civilian career right away. And to add to your civilian pay, you'll earn over \$1,600 a year, for serving usually 16 hours a month and two weeks a year as a 2nd Lieutenant.

FACT#9: Taking Army ROTC isn't a snap. But practically all those who have completed the program, from corporate presidents to national leaders, agree on one thing: their ROTC training made their college education more valuable. And ROTC will do the same for you. That's a fact!

For more information, send the attached postcard, or write: Army ROTC, P.O. Box 7000, Department H-N, Larchmont, New York 10538.

ARMY ROTC. LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO LEAD.

Readers Report

MAILBAG

Indianola, Oklahoma

I am writing to tell you that I read the FFA magazine every issue. And, as an FFA mother, I really enjoy the things that you put in it. I have three sons, two of them are out of school and my youngest is in the tenth grade.

My two oldest boys made State Farmer for the state of Oklahoma and my tenth grader is keeping up his books to apply for this achievement. I am really proud of my three sons. We are farmers, raising peanuts mostly, some maize, beans, wheat and other sorghums for hay. My three sons custom bale hay for other people and also sprig bermuda for the public. They have their own cattle operations and peanut farming that keeps them very busy.

I enjoy reading what some of the rest of the FFA boys in the U.S. are doing. I hope that some day we realize that farming is not so easy as it once used to be. Things are so expensive and inflation is so bad that it really takes the whole family working together to make ends meet. We have a wonderful FFA

teacher in our school system. He has only been here for six years but has done many outstanding feats with our FFA boys. We sure enjoy him and his family because they devote so much of their time with us and our FFA children.

Minnie Ketchum

Estacada, Oregon

I am proud to be a member of an organization such as the Future Farmers of America. I am grateful for the many opportunities that have been available to me through FFA, such as valuable training in meat identification and judging, which led me to one of my current occupations, being employed by a local custom meat processing business.

I wish to further inform my community of the activities of FFA members across the nation. I wish to send a gift subscription to the magazine to my current employers at Dodge Custom Meats.

Enclosed is money for the subscription. I appreciate your service to our organization.

Betty J. Shaw

This is a great idea and other members might like to copy your idea. Non-member subscriptions are \$2.00 per year.—Ed.

Willmar, Minnesota

I'm 14 years old. I'm not in FFA yet. I would like to subscribe to *The National FUTURE FARMER* because it tells more and it explains things more.

I read it in our school library. I like it. Here's money for my subscription.

Wayne DuHoux

West Bend, Iowa

I would like to write the young man mentioned in the article on ferns in the August-September issue. The young man's name is in the article, but no address. I love ferns and would like to write to him. Thank you.

Mrs. Donald Gralopp

Dade City, Florida

Hi, I am not in FFA but I read your magazine. My sister gets it. I had read your magazine and I read your article about ferns and it caught my eye. I love ferns and any kind of plants. I would like to write to Clint Albin and get more information about ferns. I would also like to ask him some questions about them.

Cilleen Kreusch

These letters from fern lovers were forwarded to Clint.—Ed.

Orlando, Florida

Put on your thinking cap; remember the guy who was hitchhiking around the country a few summers back and stopped at your office? I'm just writing to keep you abreast of my latest activities. As you may have guessed from the letterhead I am now in the Navy and I'm going to travel on the government now. I've half finished my manuscript on my FFA years and the traveling I've done. When it's finished I will send you a copy for the Archives (or to use to light fires when it gets cold).

What I would really like is the list of mem-

(Continued on Page 10)

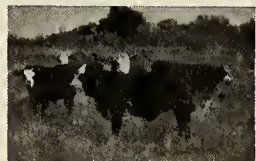
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Mailbag

(Continued from Page 8)

bers and their addresses from the 1977 National Chorus of which I was a member. I would like to write some of my friends and I've lost my list in moving around so much.

Bill Carson

Formerly of New Hampshire

Elk City, Kansas

I received my copy of *The National FUTURE FARMER* today and I saw a lot of sections which allow the reader to speak. Since this hot weather has descended upon us (I live in southeast Kansas) people have tried different things to get all the rain we can but we can't get any. We've heard of rain men, having statewide prayer days and even washing the car then leaving the windows down over night. Nothing works. So now I've written this poem. I know you don't publish poems so I'll just send this to you to do with it as you will. I hope if we can get people all across the nation to pray for rain for us maybe it'll work.

Tammy Finney

Her poem, called "A Farmer's Rain Prayer" concluded with "You've done a lot of things for us, I don't mean to complain. You've given us our lives and land, But Lord, we need some rain."—Ed.

Maroa, Illinois

I am very disappointed with a particular item in the "FFA in Action" department in the August-September issue. It seems that in the Action Lines column there was one statement that read "Just go ahead and say hello to her."

What about saying hello to "him" for us female members of the organization?

Marsha Jannusch

Columbus, Ohio

Congratulations on another fine issue (August-September, 1980).

The first item in your "News in Brief" column on page 13 caught my attention. I am concerned that you did not list OEA as one of the student vocational organizations. Although we are still a young organization, we now have over 75,000 members in our four divisions.

Jody Olson

Office Education Association

NPASO (National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization) and PBL (Phi Beta Lambda) were also not listed so add these three and the list should be complete.—Ed.

Westmoreland, New York

We recently received the August-September issue. As this issue's main theme was the horse, I reviewed it with eager hoping to find some mention of the Horse Proficiency award sponsored through our organization. Much to my disappointment I found no mention of this program.

Wayne G. Hipsley

American Morgan Horse Association

The National FUTURE FARMER

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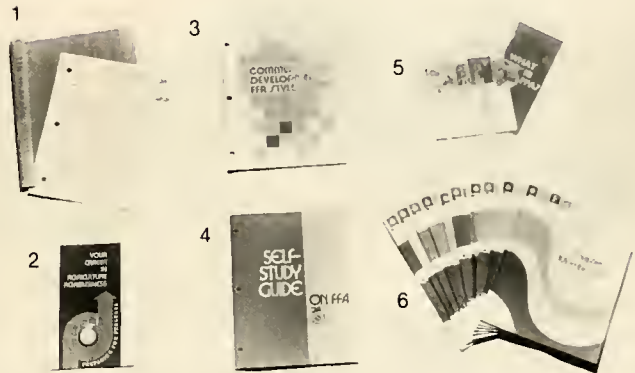
Now that your chapter has been organized for this years operation—it is time to make sure that you have the necessary tools to do the best job possible. Good record keeping is a necessity that can make or break any organization. You should have on hand the following items to be an effective chapter.



- A. Official Manual (at least 1 for each officer and extras for members)
- B. Secretary & Treasurer Books
- C. Reporters Handbook
- D. Student Handbook (1 for each member)
- E. Advisors Handbook
- F. Receipt Book
- G. Activity Handbook and Chapter Guide Notebook

Extra items that will make your chapter more effective!!

- 1. Proficiency Award Applications and Award Folder
- 2. Career Brochures
- 3. Community Development—FFA Style
- 4. Self-Study Guide on FFA
- 5. Pamphlets for Public Relations—(Give-a-ways)
- 6. Personal Development Series



All of the above items are listed in the Official Catalog along with many others.

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REMEMBER! The National FFA Supply Service is owned and operated by the National FFA Organization and is the only source for OFFICIAL FFA items. A complete catalog was mailed to all advisors in early August. Look for your chapters copy.



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The FFA

NEWS IN BRIEF

A NATIONAL SURVEY conducted by Advertising Manager Glenn Luedke of *The National FUTURE FARMER* reveals that 41 percent of the FFA members surveyed plan to farm or ranch.

The survey, taken of 2,582 subscribers to the national magazine, also showed 53 percent plan to go into some area of agribusiness. Some respondents, over 7 percent, indicated a desire to enter the field of vocational agriculture teaching. In a similar survey, 38 percent of the members claim ownership of a car, 26 percent a pickup.

NEW CO-SPONSOR of the sheep production proficiency award is the Y-Tex Corporation of Cody, Wyoming. The National FFA Foundation reports that Y-Tex joins the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., of Denver and Carnation Company-Milling Division of Los Angeles in sponsoring the award. As co-sponsors of the award, Y-Tex will help provide funds for the 1980 award program of medals, certificates, plaques and cash awards.

A NEW FILM designed to explain and strengthen the role of practical experience in vocational agriculture will soon be produced by the FFA through the sponsorship of the CIBA-GEIGY Cor-

poration. Under the working title, "The Strong Link," the film will have a primary audience of vocational agriculture students, their parents and potential employers. The film focuses on the linkage of classroom learning, hands-on experience and leadership development that makes up the total vocational agriculture and FFA program.

FFA MEMBERSHIP as of June 1, 1980, stood at 481,676 as compared with 494,394 in 1979. 1978 membership totalled 507,108. The June figures are considered final since all enrollments and membership requests should be posted by June. Only 14 states recorded an increase in membership over the 1979 year. The states of Alabama, Minnesota, North Carolina, Virginia and Wisconsin all reported drops of over 1,000 members in 1980. The states of Tennessee and West Virginia reported the largest increases, with Puerto Rico also showing a membership growth.

THE SUMMER JOINT MEETING of the FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Officers held in late July produced many decisions affecting FFA members. The action taken included: encouraging completion of the FFA National Hall of Achievement by March 31, 1980; authorizing the National FFA Supply Service to sell past tests from the agricultural mechanics, milk quality and dairy foods, farm business management, floriculture and nursery/landscape national contests; acceptance of revisions on the National Chapter Award, forestry proficiency award, and diversified livestock proficiency award applications; requesting a staff feasibility study on potential city hosts for the National FFA Convention.

R. M. Hendrickson, below left, cuts the ribbon signifying the opening of the first exhibit in the national FFA Hall of Achievement. **John Coy** of John Deere and **Lu Achilles Wall** observe the cutting along with FFA national officers. At right, FFA members browse through the new Hall gallery located at the FFA Center.





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Convention Preview

WHERE can you listen to America's top speakers, peek into your career future, mingle with FFA's finest competitors and meet thousands of vocational agriculture students from every state in the union? Where can you learn to lead, witness the action of a famous rodeo and stock show and hear some of the country's finest bands and singers?

Nowhere but the National FFA Convention in America's agribusiness capital: Kansas City, Missouri. The 1980 edition of the world's largest youth convention, November 12-14, promises excitement and learning at every turn. Convention sessions are loaded with interesting events. From the delegate business sessions which hand down decisions that affect all FFA members to the rousing entertainment finale on Friday night, convention goers find their days full of activities.

"You can see a perfect example of parliamentary procedure in the business sessions," says John Elliott of the New Berlin, New York, Chapter. The speeches of national FFA officers and sometimes

fiery discussions of FFA's most important business by delegates from each state kick the week off in an opening business session on Tuesday. National officers and the famed National FFA Chorus deliver motivating addresses and messages in song throughout the week. The National FFA Band, called the "mail-order" band because of its unique recruitment procedure, provides hours of enjoyable, and often mood-setting, music at every session.

"I learned much more about agricultural life from the tours we took in and around Kansas City," says FFA member Crissie-Ann Gorges of the SCT-BOCES in Elmira, New York. Tours to points of interest in Kansas City, "the breadbasket of the world," begin on Tuesday for members and advisors.

"It was interesting to listen to the national FFA public speaking finals—see how well-researched their topics were," says Mike Coon of Lohrville, Iowa, FFA. Regional competition in the prepared and extemporaneous speaking contests held prior to the opening convention session narrows the field to four finalists in each event. Listeners this year will be challenged, motivated, inspired and entertained by speakers such as Art Linkletter, baseball great Hank Aaron, Bob DeVaney, one of college

football's winningest coaches, and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland.

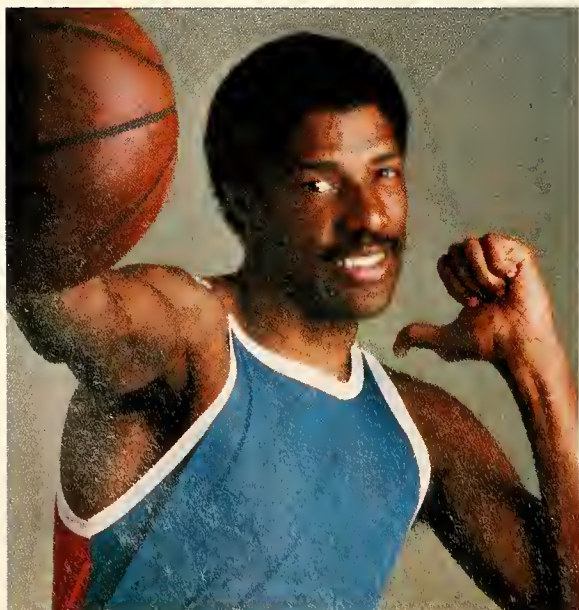
"Meeting and talking to people from other states is interesting as well as educational," says Tanya Waltons, Delta Junction, Alaska, reporter. Whether it's mingling with fellow FFA members in the lobby of your hotel, or sharing a taxi to the American Royal with your own chapter members, the convention week offers new friends and exchange of ideas. Many FFA members do head for the American Royal Livestock Show and Rodeo on Friday afternoon, proclaimed "FFA Day" by the Royal.

"I've attended leadership schools which are very helpful in learning to relate to others," says Ron Mahan, Jr., of the Santa Fe FFA Chapter in Alachua, Florida. National FFA Leadership Workshops, sponsored by the National FFA Alumni, begin on Tuesday and continue through Thursday. Outstanding young leaders in agricultural business and industry have inspired thousands over the years, and the tradition continues. This year, former national FFA officers Elvin Caraway, Kelly Grant, Mark Mayfield, Phil Johnson, Ken Johnson, Peg Armstrong, Dennis Sargent and Bobby Tucker are featured speakers. David Thomas, former National FFA Alumni

(Continued on Page 29)

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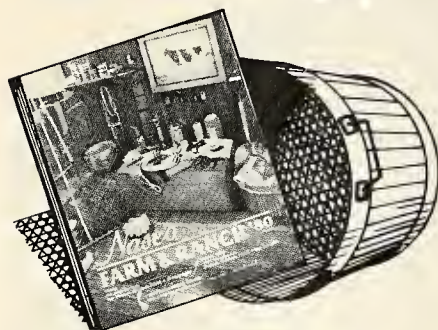
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Agriculture

LOOKING AHEAD

A "FOOD GLOBE" produced by the Agriculture Council of America reveals that 2 percent of the U.S. population is involved in agriculture and 14 percent of the average American's disposable income is spent for food. It takes 16 minutes to earn a pound of beef, 4 minutes to earn a pound of bread and 6 minutes to earn a dozen eggs. A pound of beef in Australia took 22 minutes to earn.

A TIGER IN THE TANK of your farm pickup may not be as practical someday as a sycamore or a black locust. University of Illinois researchers are studying fast-growing trees in a crop-type format to determine which ones could best be converted into fuel alcohol. Processed biomass materials, such as wood chips, sawdust, corn stalks, wheat straw, sugar cane residues and even garbage can be used alone as a fuel or mixed with unleaded gasoline to produce gasohol. Some trees such as the sycamore and black locust are good candidates for alcohol fuel because they become established and grow comparatively fast.

A HIGH EFFICIENCY CROP that would furnish food for humans, feed for livestock, fuel for vehicles and fiber for pressed wood for paper is perfectly feasible, according to plant breeders at Texas A&M University. In fact, they are working on it right now. The researchers say one crop has several attractive characteristics that make it an obvious choice for development as a multi-purpose crop. What is it? Sorghum.

BEFORE RIPPING in to an industrial barrel or other container, beware of potentially fatal explosions resulting from contained gas. Darrell Roberts, an agricultural engineer with the Clemson Extension Service, says, "Too many of them have had flammable materials. A drum kept tightly closed with no venting or leaks can be as deadly after 10 years as 10 minutes." Many injuries and deaths have occurred by touching off the flammable gas with a match, welding torch or other igniter.

BIOMASS BYPRODUCTS may be the ruminant feed of the future, says Dr. L. M. Schake, professor of animal science at Texas A&M University. Reporting at the Pfizer Research Conference in Atlanta, Schake says current biomass byproducts from energy production and conservation programs complement the maintenance and development of ruminants. Cattle feeders are already rationing distiller's grain residue from alcohol production to animals.


THE UNITED STATES produces more beef than any other country and is also the world's largest beef importer, according to extension economists at Iowa State University. The people of Argentina eat more beef than anyone else, however, and Australia is the leading beef exporter. Latest figures show U.S. beef producers ranked number one, with Russia second and Argentina, Brazil, Australia and France following.

THE HUMAN RACE lost ground last year in its struggle to feed itself. World food production (excluding China) fell for the first time in seven years, dropping 2.5 percent from the 1978 record high. With food production falling and population rising, the amount of food available per person declined more than 4 percent. Much of the production shortfall occurred in the Soviet Union, India, and many African countries.

A REPORT ON THE FUTURE issued by the USDA predicts that by the year 2000: Only 50,000 farms will account for 50 percent of the nation's farmland, two-thirds of all farm production. . . . One percent of all farms will account for about half of all farm production. . . . Most of the nation's farmland will be operated by farms containing at least 2,000 acres. . . . Capital requirements will rise to about \$2 million per farm. . . . Corporate farms will increase, while the number of partnerships will decline.

FARMERS RAISING INSECTS?

It may be a while, but the idea is no longer as far-fetched as it once seemed. Pressure is increasing to use corn, soybeans and other grains for human rather than livestock consumption. University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers are already seeking ways to use insects as livestock feed. As a general rule, dried insects contain approximately 60 percent crude protein. Chickens fed ground, dried crickets fared well, though the economic feasibility of the ration isn't yet known. Other insects being studied are southern armyworms, tomato hornworms and moths.



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Alamosa FFA representatives accepted the rare, yet well-deserved presidential citation.

Photo by Jeffrey Tennant

Alamosa Wins the Challenge

Crowned with a presidential citation, a Colorado FFA chapter continues its efforts of energy conservation.

A YEAR of dedicated efforts by FFA chapters to "take the lead among all youth groups in our war for energy security," as challenged by President Jimmy Carter, culminated with a presidential citation to the winning chapter presented by Carter in the White House Rose Garden.

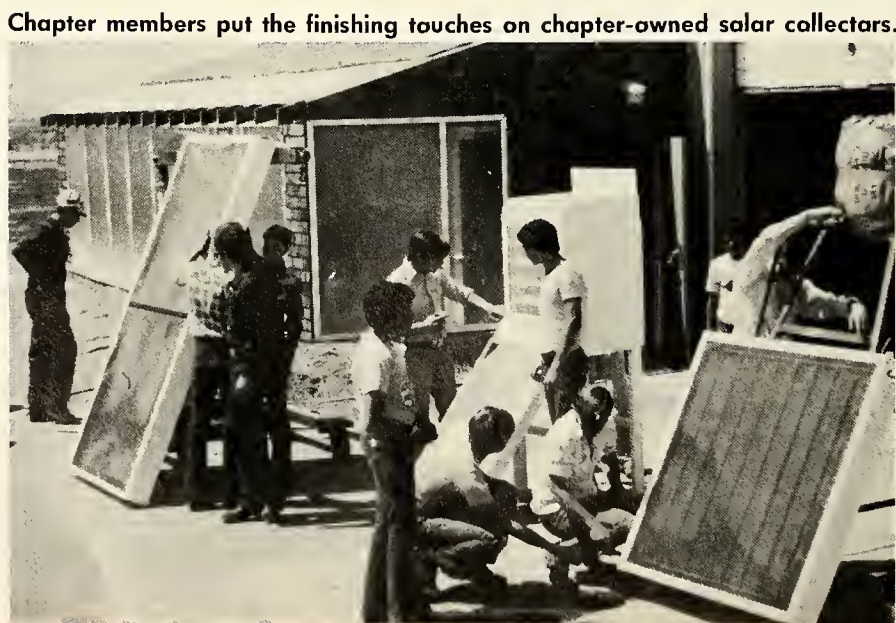
In July, 1979, Carter launched a nationwide program designed to motivate FFA chapters to record objectives and achieve goals in energy conservation. "The President's Challenge," coordinated by the national FFA organization, initiated and provided for competition among all FFA chapters. Ranked as

most outstanding, the Alamosa, Colorado, FFA Chapter was chosen national winner and presented a presidential citation on July 31, 1980.

"This is one award where the recognition's important but where every person in our country benefits," Carter said at the White House ceremony. "I know how serious an effort must be extended to marshal 43 (people) . . . to work in a consistent policy and then recruit . . . others to join in to make a successful community effort."

Alamosa FFA members Shawn Woods and Shannon Selvidge, along with Advisor Kirk Goble, accepted the citation on behalf of the 42-member chapter. Citing their outstanding efforts in using alternative energy sources, especially solar, and community motivation, Carter reminded the Alamosa delegates that, ". . . the greatest nation on earth becomes even greater because of your efforts."

Members of the winning chapter and Goble organized community workshops, conducted comprehensive home and chapter energy audits, built solar en-



Chapter members put the finishing touches on chapter-owned solar collectors.

(Continued on Page 22)

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AIR FORCE

Challenge

(Continued from Page 18)

ergy equipment and constructed a model fuel alcohol distillery as major projects in their energy conservation program.

"Our principal objective," the chapter reported, "was to reduce energy consumption by rural and urban groups and individuals in our community." The chapter set ten major goals to accomplish during the period of the President's Challenge program. Raising the energy consciousness of FFA members and promoting many energy conservation techniques, such as minimum tillage, served as main objectives for the chapter members. The chapter also adapted the philosophy that, "a kilowatt saved is a kilowatt produced," promoting the idea of energy conservation, not creation. The chapter did launch an extensive solar energy program, in addition to conservation measures. Construction of a new solar greenhouse for use by chapter members became a major project. Now completed, the greenhouse is designed to use more solar heat than conventional greenhouses that use scarcer fuels in cold temperatures.

Chapter members also built ten solar collectors now being used in the local community. Three solar food driers built by the chapter are also in operation.

"These one-bushel driers," says Advisor Goble, "can be used to dry fruit or vegetables. The principles of the drier can be applied on a larger scale to grain drying with solar energy."

Solar collector workshops conducted by the chapter, advises Goble, have helped "show community members that solar energy can be used today, simply and economically. . . . Alamosa FFA members have turned to the sun as an abundant source of energy free from embargoes, shortages and monthly charges."

The chapter also worked on projects that explored the potential of other non-fossil fuel sources. Members used local potatoes and barley to produce mash and distill 180-proof alcohol for fuel. Alcohol fuel demonstrations, including the powering of a log splitter converted by members to alcohol fuel, were conducted for students, farmers and townspeople.

Besides working in alternative energy sources, the chapter encouraged car pooling and other group efforts and in-

corporated "farm energy management" as a course into the vocational agriculture curriculum. Individual efforts were undertaken by all Alamosa members. Efforts included planting windbreaks, installing wood stoves, caulking, and "parking the gas hog."

President Carter recognized the efforts of the Alamosa Chapter following judging of the four regional winners by a select, "blue ribbon," committee. In addition to western winner Alamosa, regional winners were Madison-Gary FFA, Madison, Florida, David Smith and E. R. Scott, advisors; Woodlan FFA Chapter, Woodburn, Indiana, Ron Hefty and Richard Grubaugh, advisors; Ridge-dale FFA Chapter, Morral, Ohio, John Everett, advisor.

The judging committee, chaired by Congressman Morris Udall of Arizona, included National FFA Advisor Byron Rawls, National FFA President Doug Rinker, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Alex Mercure, Assistant Secretary of Education Dan Taylor and Department of Energy Assistant Secretary Tom Stelson. Estech General Chemicals Corporation of Chicago, Illinois, sponsored regional awards and partial travel expenses for the four regional winners.

State FFA Leaders Convene in Washington

THE eventful week of the annual State Presidents' Conference in Washington, D.C., ranks second only to the National FFA Convention in news-making national FFA activities. Each year, the leaders of each state association and Puerto Rico gather in the nation's capital for leadership development seminars and meetings with FFA, business and industry and government officials.

This year's conference during the last week in July proved no different. Sponsored by General Motors Corporation, the conference is designed to help new state officers lead more effectively by expanding their knowledge of their nation and FFA. Participants in this year's conference witnessed first-hand many events of historical and educational significance.

The highlight of the week-long conference was a visit with President Jimmy Carter at the White House. The national officers and 100 state officers in attendance accepted the Presidential Energy Efficiency Award given by Carter to the national FFA organization.

"The president's award," Carter said, "for energy efficiency is awarded to the Future Farmers of America in recognition of outstanding contributions to American economic and national secu-

rity through exemplary leadership in a national effort to achieve energy efficiency."

A breakfast with members of the U.S. Congress preceded the White House visit. More than 100 Senators and Representatives or their assistants visited with

State officers mingled with government leaders and foreign visitors.



the FFA officers. Secretary of the Department of Education, Shirley Hufstедler; Vice President of General Motors, Robert Lund and Representative Tom Foley of Washington addressed the breakfast gathering. Foley is chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture.

Earlier in the week, the officers participated in a private question and answer session with Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland. Topics discussed included the Soviet grain embargo, crop price supports, livestock health and energy for agriculture.

To fulfill the FFA's purpose of developing citizenship, the officers placed wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery and at Mount Vernon, visited the Smithsonian Institution, met with legislators, toured the Capitol and witnessed military pageants.

The first exhibit of the national FFA Hall of Achievement was opened officially during the conference. John Coy of Deere and Company represented the sponsor of the exhibit, and 1980 Foundation Sponsoring Committee Chairman R. M. Hendrickson brought remarks. 1981 Chairman Lu Achilles Wall of the Hesston Corporation was in attendance throughout the week.

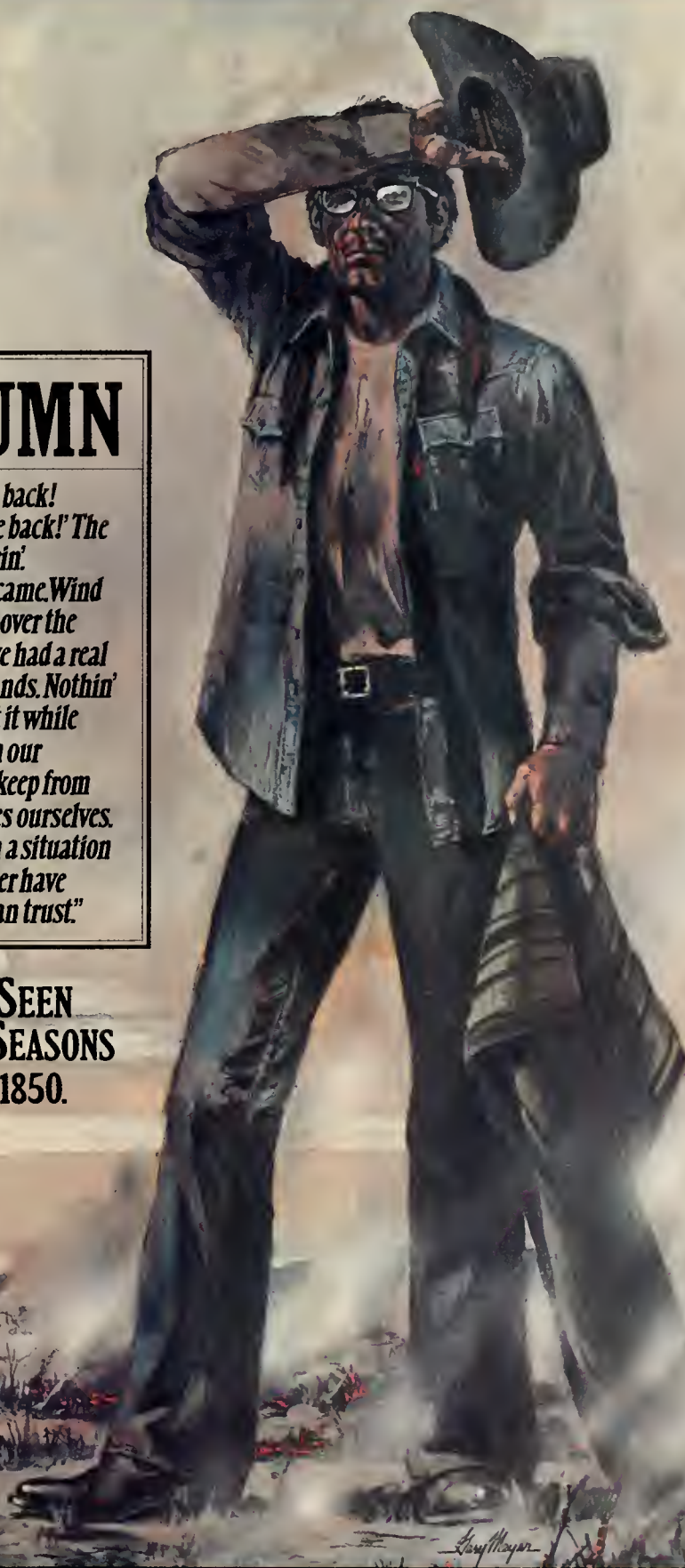
AUTUMN

*"Don't let it back!
Don't let it come back! The
boss was hollerin'.*

*But back it came. Wind
jumped it right over the
firebreak and we had a real
wreck on our hands. Nothin'
to do but beat at it while
we wetted down our
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(At right) Brian and his dad, Billy, run the cattle operation with little outside help. (Below, right) A calf of a champion is being groomed for a time when she, too, will shine in the showing. (Below, left) The Mississippi sun sets on the Pund feedlot.

by Jeffrey Tennant



A Cattleman with Confidence

Sharing in the managing of a 1,500-acre cattle and crops farm demands dedication but supplies rewards for this Future Farmer in the Deep South

Photos by Author



BRIAN Pund is one of the busiest 18-year-olds you'll ever meet. Just last month, Brian celebrated his birthday and a working partnership that is already several years old. Brian and his dad, Billy, are a real team—a team that knows well the “game” of feedlot farming and crop production.

Pund & Son Farms is headquartered near Batesville, Mississippi, on a rolling farm that covers 1,500 acres of cropland and pasture. Mississippi ranks high among southern states in commercial red meat production, due in part to operations such as Pund & Son. Compared to monstrous feedlots in states such as Iowa, Nebraska and Texas, the Punds' 400-head capacity lot is relatively small. But the stability and “pride in product” of such two-man family farms continues to play a vital role in American agriculture.

“We run three to four hundred head at all times,” says Brian, an FFA chapter leader who chooses his words carefully. “We also grow soybeans, corn for corn silage, milo for milo silage and wheat in the winter as a cash crop. We're slowly expanding into cotton.”

Most of the cattle in the lot are cross-bred commercial, or non-registered animals that the Punds are feeding out for later sale to a meat packer. Since the Punds' real profit lies in the final weight of an animal—the cattle are bought by wholesalers in dollars per pound—the challenge of feedlot farming begins at step one.

“Feeder calves are purchased for the lot,” says Brian, “after we size up the animals for their weight-gain potential. We look for things like muscling around the quarters and body length. The longer the body, the more weight can be added. We shoot for three pounds added daily in each calf, and sell at 1,200 pounds. Calves come in to the herd at around 800 pounds.”

With a good grasp on the farm's agribusiness, Brian's chores don't stop at evaluating and buying feeder calves. In the early morning and late afternoon hours that flank the school day, Brian maintains augers and equipment, feeds, vaccinates, tags, rides the fields and still has time to show. Showing, to Brian, can be as informal as a quick display to a prospective cattle buyer on the Pund farm or as ceremonious as the finals of a national stock show. Brian does both well. Last year, one of Brian's registered Herefords won state champion in the summer yearling class at the prestigious Mid-South Fair junior show in Tennessee. But feedlot work isn't all in cattle.

“We farm 200 acres of cotton, 300 acres of corn and 400 acres of soybeans,”

says the District Star Farmer, “and run cattle on around 600 acres of pasture. Most of the crops work comes in the summer, and we work cattle any off time.”

Planting, discing, fertilizing, liming and applying herbicide are all familiar chores to Brian. Each chore is important as the next, for the crops are a vital element in the Pund operation.

“We're feeding some 400 cattle twice a day,” says Brian, nodding to cattle sauntering in a maze of heavy board fence and metal gates surrounding the main feed trough. “We place steers and bulls on one side of the feeder, heifers on the other. We feed about 50 pounds of corn silage per head per day in the



Brian regulates the amount of silage flowing through the automatic feeder.

spring, oat silage in the summer and corn silage again in the fall. We sometimes feed maltage, a grainy, nutritious form of barley derived from the beer-making process. Minerals and protein supplement are also added to the silage.

The making of silage is a major task in the Punds' working schedule. Several tall Harvestore units border the main feedlot, each equipped with automatic feeders. The Harvestore system readily transports silage to the animals' feeding area. A panel of buttons and levers becomes the center of operations for Brian twice a day, as proper amounts of ration are distributed mechanically to troughs.

“The work in silage feeding begins in the field,” assures Brian, examining a handful of moist, sweet-smelling silage. “For the corn harvest, a silage cutter pulls behind a tractor, cutting stalks about six inches off the ground. The stalks go through a grinding process and are shot into another trailer. The trailers never have to be unhooked. Loaded silage is simply blown into a silo. Lime

and anhydrous ammonia is added to the silage to preserve it and build up nitrogen content.”

Corn silage is also fed to the 220 brood cows that roam the Pund pastures. Primarily a crossbred herd, the cows are bred to one of the Punds' four registered Angus, four registered Hereford, three Beefalo or two Simmental cross bulls. But soon, natural breeding will not account for all the calves.

“We plan to breed 100 heifers artificially,” says Brian, “and utilize a prostaglandin drug to synchronize the estrus cycle. The cattle will all come into heat at the same time, giving us greater control on when they calve. We want cows to calve in the winter. In the summer, we're too busy in the field to deal with calving.”

Brood cows are also kept on a planned ration. Corn silage, MoorMan's feed additive and MoorMan's red mineral salt blocks balance the cows' ingestion of bermuda grass from pasture. Calves are supplied with a whole oat ration placed in creep feeders.

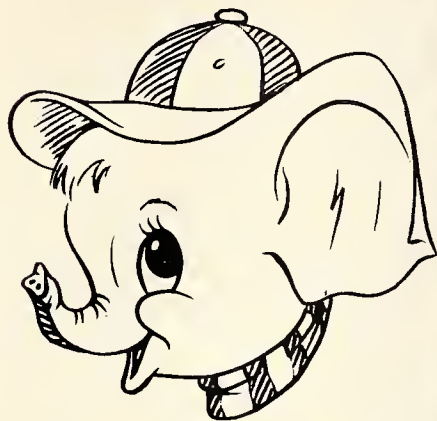
Though Brian spends much of his time on the farm, he has managed to stay very active in the South Panola FFA Chapter, headed by Advisors Guy Walker and Billy Smith. “Vocational agriculture,” says Brian, “has taught me much about soils, herbicides, pesticides and animal science that I can use on our farm.”

Leadership activities in FFA have high priority ranking for Brian. Having joined the South Panola junior chapter as a seventh grader, Brian served as junior president his eighth grade year. During those first two years, Brian led his land judging and parliamentary procedure teams to state championship. But Brian's involvement didn't stop upon graduation to ninth grade and the senior chapter. The South Panola standout has participated on land, meats and livestock judging teams and the parliamentary procedure team. He has served as chapter treasurer, and is going for gold in three proficiency award areas: beef production, crop production and soil and water management.

“Brian is an excellent student,” says Advisor Guy Walker. “He's got good work habits and a definite ‘feel’ for agriculture and FFA. He enjoys his FFA and farming activities more than anything. He's got his sights set on full-time farming, and I know he will make a good one.”

Brian says FFA helps people to learn to work together, building confidence in young leaders along the way. Confidence and competence—two highly visible traits in cattleman Brian Pund.

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26



Photos by Author

Advisor Virgil Wilkins guides his chapter to awards and honors each year.

IT'S only fitting that 100 students are enrolled in grades nine through twelve at Hundred High School in West Virginia's mountainous northwest. The school building, a neatly kept multi-story brick structure nestled at the foot of a steep mountainside, blends naturally with the village surroundings. A comparatively small school in a comparatively small town—an unassuming home for one of West Virginia's finest FFA chapters.

Ninety-eight FFA members, all anxious to learn and willing to achieve, work alongside their advisor, Virgil Wilkins, in many different kinds of supervised projects, judging events and FFA leadership activities. Ninety-eight FFA members—from a student body of 100.

"They all stay in, too," offers Advisor Wilkins, referring to the "holding power" of this spirited chapter. "Ninety-eight percent of all those who enroll in vocational agriculture and FFA stay through four years.

A look around the FFA classroom hints of pride and prestige—names of state farmers are prominently listed on a huge wooden board, banners and plaques of all kinds fill the wall above

A Hundred For Hundred

Hundred FFA in West Virginia comes close to claiming the entire student body for FFA.

by Jeffrey Tennant

the blackboard that stretches the width of the room. Spurs of FFA national superior chapter awards require two plaques for display. "All this," says Wilkins, "serves as incentive for our current and future teams. Our members meet the challenges set by former members."

But award winning in FFA activities is only part of the total picture of excellence for most superior chapters. The students' individual initiative with supervised occupational experience programs (SOEP's) reflects on a chapter's strength. Hundred FFA members work diligently on a variety of projects.

"We have shaped the vo-ag program to the area," says Wilkins, calling attention to the predominantly industrial community of natural gas, coal and oil workers that reside near the school. "The mountainous land and family occupations in industry have created much small farming in cattle, swine, field crops and truck crops. Most of the students' SOEP's are market and show hogs and truck crops."

Since many of Hundred's FFA members have limited opportunity to farm on a large operation, the chapter continues a successful "swine ring" to benefit its members. Similar to rings set up by many chapters in America, the swine ring offers opportunity to the member who's seeking a project.

(Continued on Page 62)

Used in competition, country-cured hams are a trademark of Hundred FFA.

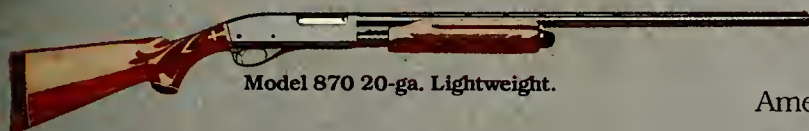


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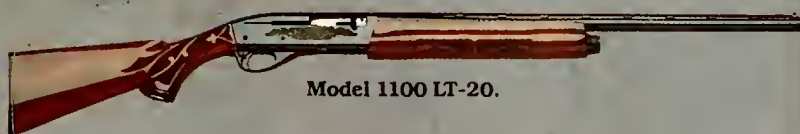


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Model 1100 LT-20.

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The Past Lives On

ONE can almost hear the toots of Model A's in the vocational agriculture classroom at Morland High School in northwest Kansas. A hard listen yields the squeaking of leather harness tugs straining against the horse collar. An antique telephone rings in another section of the room, resounding over the cacklin' of the old Dominique hen as she flies from the wire egg-laying basket. Hear the sound from the ungreased wagon wheel? Or the snapping of the hay fork as it unlocks its load of prairie hay into the barn loft?

This is just a bit of nostalgia emitting from the tools of a by-gone era that adorn the walls of the Morland classroom. The local museum started after the viewing of an educational film pertaining to farming methods used long ago. The idea to collect these articles struck several students at the same time—somewhat like a Kansas tornado. A new invocation to stimulate was born.

Agriculture students brought in many discarded items of memorabilia found around the home farm; instructor Oran Nunemaker furnished many that are uncommon today.

Stories unfolded. When member Bruce Engelman carried in an old wagon wheel, he told how his ancestors had slowly made their way across rugged Kansas prairie in a covered wagon. The many years of hardships the family encountered while struggling to make a living—drought, insects, weather and prices of commodities—remind us of sacrifices others made for our well-being.

Many of the mounted articles portray some part of the past's living conditions: the old kerosene lantern, its globe-cleaning job and the messy chore of re-fueling; the means of telephone communications; the hand grain seeder; the ice tongs. They all tell the actual story of the past.

Doren Tell found doubletrees (a hitching apparatus) in the weeds on his farm. He thought the crossbars should be displayed rather than left for termite food. A harness, collar, hames and bridle from Kevin Ray represent the horse power of the day. A left-handed sod plow inspired Dewey Boss to write "The Vanishing Prairie" for his Chapter Farmer degree report. A branding iron, fence stretcher, metal calf yoke and barbed wire collection supply historical interest in the formation of our cattle country.

When additional items of old articles were brought in for display, class time was often spent discussing its use. The food press developed lessons in butchering, meat processing, cider making and rendering pork fat into lard. The centrifugal bowl of a cream separator sparked interest in milk production, resulting in discussion on use of the separator.

Over in another corner of the classroom, a collection of old auto tags shows colors and styles used back to 1926.

FFA Advisor Nunemaker says the classroom is a showplace for education in farming history. Students at Morland can now be directly involved in the story of agriculture.

Bearing autographs of Presidents Carter and Ford, copies of *The National FUTURE FARMER* from Advisor Nunemaker's collection hang in the classroom.



National Convention

(Continued from Page 14)

president, is also at the helm of a workshop. And, for the first time, *The National FUTURE FARMER* will coordinate a public relations workshop for members and advisors interested in "making their chapter famous."

"I'm meeting many FFA sponsors, seeing the support angle of FFA and getting career contacts," says state officer Jerry Steiner of New Holstein, Wisconsin. The National Agricultural Career Show will feature hundreds of educational exhibits displayed by leading agricultural companies, professional societies and government agencies.

"Many opportunities are here for the taking if you are aggressive," assures Gary Butts of Cambridge, Idaho. Opportunity abounds so FFA members should take every advantage of the convention activities. Remember, too, you're in the spotlight. The national officers remind fellow members who attend any convention, contest or FFA event to remember the official dress code and FFA code of ethics.

1980 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, November 11

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- 1:30 p.m. Opening Agricultural Career Show, H. Roe Bartle Hall
- 2:30 p.m. Business Session
- 6:30 p.m. Special Performance "The United States Air Force Singing Sergeants and United States Air Force Band"
- 8:00 p.m. Vespers Program

Wednesday, November 12

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- Meats Contest
- Farm Business Management Contest
- 8:30 a.m. Milk Quality and Dairy Foods Contest
- Opening Session, FFA Convention
- 9:00 a.m. FFA Alumni Association Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Dairy Cattle Contest
- 12:30 p.m. Agricultural Mechanics Contest
- 1:00 p.m. Floriculture Contest
- 2:00 p.m. Extemporaneous Public Speaking
- 3:00 p.m. National Chapter Safety Awards
- Business Session
- 7:30 p.m. National Public Speaking Contest
- 9:30 p.m. VIP Citations
- Distinguished Service Citations

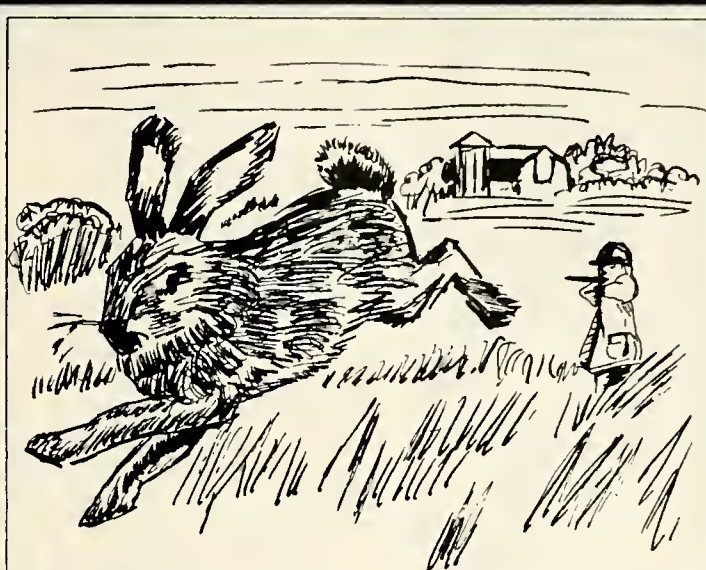
Thursday, November 13

- 7:00 a.m. Livestock Contest
- 8:30 a.m. Nursery/Landscape Contest
- 9:00 a.m. Poultry Contest
- National Proficiency Awards
- National Chapter Awards
- National BOAC Awards
- 2:00 p.m. Conferring Honorary Degrees
- 3:15 p.m. Conferring American Farmer Degrees
- 6:45 p.m. FFA Talent Show
- 7:45 p.m. Recognize Foundation Sponsors
- 1980 "Stars Over America" Pageant

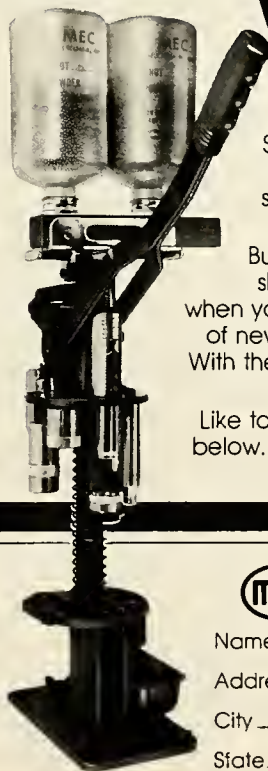
Friday, November 14

- 9:15 a.m. Announcement of National Contest Winners
- FFA International Activities
- Election of 1980-81 National Officers
- FFA Day at the American Royal
- 1:00 p.m. Installation of new National Officers
- 7:00 p.m. Special Entertainment

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Central Star Agribusinessman is Andy May, Green Bay East FFA, Wisconsin.



Henry Goodnight, eastern Star Agribusinessman, South Rowan, N. Carolina.

Western Star Agribusinessman is Jack Baber, Colusa, California, FFA.



Mike Tillman, southern Star Agribusinessman, Grand Ridge, Florida.



STARS!

Two new stars rise and shine at each National FFA Convention—here are the candidates.

By Rich Bennett and Becky Vining

THE following eight finalists, four in the production category and four in agribusiness, represent the most outstanding American Farmer degree candidates from a 1980 field of 782 applicants. Chosen on a comparative basis against every American Farmer candidate, the four finalists in each category will compete in November for the coveted Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman of America awards. Each finalist, who will represent his FFA national region in competition at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, has received a \$500 cash award. The Star Farmer and Agribusinessman both receive a cash award of \$1,000 and a plaque.

★ STAR FARMERS ★ Western Star

Bill Britain, a beef, cotton and alfalfa farmer in Yuma, Arizona, is western region Star Farmer. The 21-year-old son of Bill and Lois Britain plans to form a partnership with his father and brother and make farming his livelihood.

Bill enrolled in vocational agriculture and FFA at Yuma High while managing 50 acres of cropland and 65 beef animals. Upon graduation, he was responsible for 80 acres of cotton, 80 acres of sudan grass, 199 feeder steers and 115 head of breeding stock. Today, Bill maintains a smaller herd, but his efficiency factors have increased dramatically.

A standout in local, area and state FFA activities, Bill has served on countless local chapter committees, teams, and as state vice president of the Arizona FFA Association. "Bill very well epitomizes America's proud new generation," says Ralph Bernal, Yuma FFA advisor, "yet he maintains the pioneer spirit of a progressive agriculturalist."

Central Star

A diversified crops and livestock farm has earned Joe Mattingly from Toledo, Iowa, the central region Star Farmer award. Farming's been a way of life for Joe. When he joined FFA in 1973, he had 3 market pig litters, 20 head of breeding

(Continued on Page 32)



Joe Mattingly, South Tama County FFA, Iowa, central region Star Farmer.



Western Star Farmer is Bill Britain of the Yuma, Arizona, FFA.

William Foster, Jr., of the Bellevue, Tennessee, FFA is southern Star Farmer.



Eastern Star Farmer is Steve Vaughan, Marlington FFA, Alliance, Ohio.



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The Stars

(Continued from Page 30)

beef cattle, 40 acres of soybeans and 120 acres of corn. Joe's beef operation now includes 115 brood cows, 8 bulls, 35 replacement heifers and 42 steers on feed. The enterprising farmer has added dairy cattle, oats and pasture to the operation plus expanded his original enterprises.

The swine unit consists of 20 cross-bred sows and two Yorkshire boars. Joe's wife brought registered Brown Swiss dairy cattle into the operation. Cropping is also an important part of the Mattingly operation with 278 acres of corn, 154

acres of soybeans and 32 acres of oats.

Indicative of his leadership ability, Joe served as chapter FFA president and was regional runner-up in FFA home and/or farmstead improvement and crop production proficiency awards.

Eastern Star

Steve Vaughan wasn't raised on a dairy farm, but today he owns 55 highly productive registered Holsteins. This achievement has earned the 21-year-old son of Kay and Donna Vaughan from Hartville, Ohio, the title of eastern region Star Farmer.

Steve joined FFA in 1973, beginning his experience program with four cows.

The farm has grown to a top quality operation that includes an 80-cow tie-stall barn, the first in the United States with a low milk line. The Vaughans have marketed breeding bulls to France, Holland and Spain. Steve now owns 83 mature milking cows, 19 heifers and calves and 3 bulls. He has raised soybeans, corn, wheat and corn silage and now grazes his herd on 70 acres of hay and pasture ground. A national winner of FFA's dairy production proficiency award, Steve believes proper management is the key to his success.

An Ohio State senior in dairy science, Steve plans to finish veterinary medicine school, continue farming and practice large animal medicine.

Southern Star

William Foster of Bellevue, Tennessee, is the southern region's Star Farmer, a recognition gained by Bill's tremendous expansion of his farming project.

The 21-year-old son of W. Sparky and Celia Foster first joined FFA with an experience program of 12 hogs and 11 head of beef cattle. Over the next four years, the livestock enterprises grew and Bill added corn, soybeans and tobacco. Today, Bill maintains 1,600 acres of soybeans, 200 acres of wheat, a 185-head beef herd and 75 head of swine.

Farm improvements were a vital part of the project's growth. While in high school, Bill constructed a barn, barn extension for storage, holding pen, head-gate and watering system for his growing herd of livestock. He recently added a machinery storage shed and a large grain storage bin.

A competent leader in school, community and FFA activities, Bill served as local chapter president, District FFA Association vice president and is active in his local church.

★ STAR AGRIBUSINESSMEN ★

Western Star

Jack Baber says the ever-increasing challenge of feeding a hungry world will require new production methods combined with sound management practices. Because of his management abilities, the 19-year-old agricultural manager from Colusa, California, is western region Star Agribusinessman.

Jack, the son of Jack and Judith Baber, began his work experience program by leasing 30 acres of riceland from his father. With careful planning, good recordkeeping and careful management from the very beginning, he and his family started Baber Farms, Inc. Today, the family business involves itself in custom

(Continued on Page 39)

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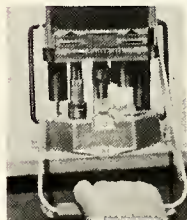
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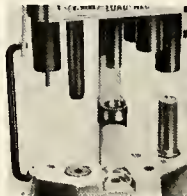
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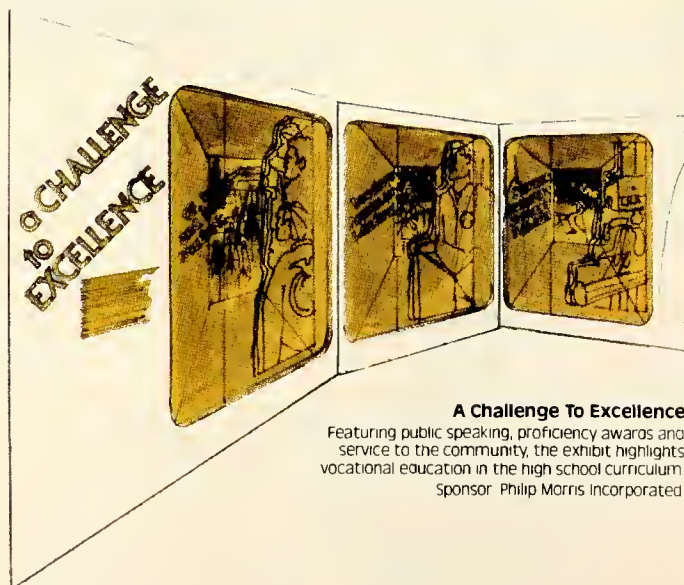


**A Golden Past,
A Brighter Future**

Honoring FFA's Golden Anniversary,
this is the first display viewed by visitors.
A presentation of current FFA officers adjoins.
Sponsor: Seald-Sweet Growers, Inc.

The National FFA Foundation and The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine are proud to acknowledge the participation of FFA sponsors in the support of The FFA National Hall of Achievement, located at the FFA headquarters building in Alexandria, Virginia. As a monument to the achievements of the past, and a functional contribution to the activities of the future, The Hall of Achievement is a common meeting ground for national FFA members, FFA Advisors, national FFA leaders, state and government officials as well as the general public.

"There Is No Better Time To Recognize and Honor



A Challenge To Excellence

Featuring public speaking, proficiency awards and service to the community, the exhibit highlights vocational education in the high school curriculum.
Sponsor: Philip Morris Incorporated

Saluting all aspects of FFA involvement in vocational agriculture and agribusiness, The Hall of Achievement provides an overview of America's Future Farmers in action. Individual sponsors have funded planning of 10 exhibits including the library/resource center and memento room. Other sponsors have pledged to the General Fund for Hall of Achievement. Chapter contributions are also used in maintaining the General Fund. Pledges and contributions amounting to over \$350,000 have been received to date. The goal—\$600,000.

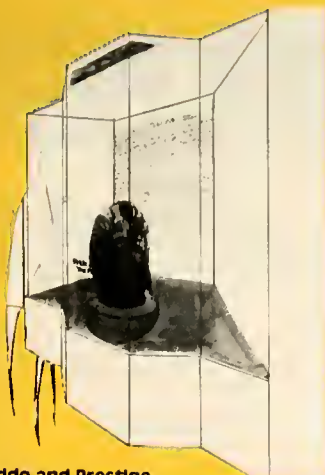
Progress is well underway as the development stage moves ahead to construction, with the Gallery display being dedicated this past July. On behalf of the Sponsoring Committee of the National FFA Foundation and everyone associated with FFA nationwide, our appreciation to those who have contributed to the project's on-going success.



FFA Achievers

Focussing on exceptional contributions to the agriculture industry made by FFA members, this display includes photos and artifacts from these outstanding achievements

Sponsor: Ford Motor Company Fund



Pride and Prestige

Serving as a symbol of cooperative spirit, the 2-millionth FFA Blue Jacket is a major part of this display commemorating the skills, knowledge and technological advances made by FFA members

Sponsor: The Upjohn Company—Agricultural Division



The Success Story of American Agriculture

Recognizing the outstanding achievements of FFA members, the exhibit stands as a tribute to the many improvements in ag production attributed to FFA involvement

Sponsor: Dekalb AgResearch, Inc.



Auditorium Gallery Display

A series of paneled wall units comprise this display along the auditorium hallway, featuring the major FFA supporting groups. These include the FFA Foundation, FFA Alumni Association, Presidential Recognition, Serving the Members, The National Headquarters, and FFA Program Support

Sponsor: John Deere Company

Sponsors to the General Fund

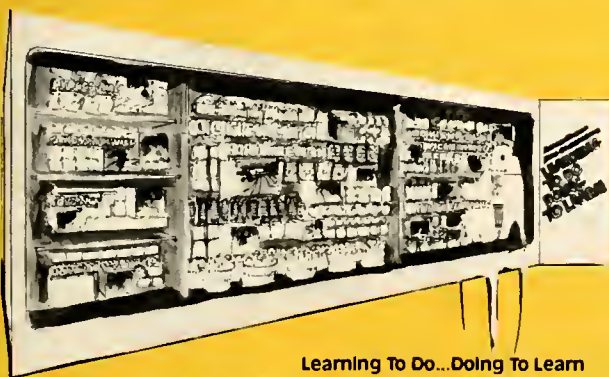
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Learning To Do...Doing To Learn

Showing career ideas to which FFA members aspire, the display includes agricultural production, mechanics, supply and service, horticulture, forestry and natural resources

Sponsor: Pfizer Inc. — Agricultural Division



FFA Memento Room

Housing trophies, awards, insignias and emblems, the FFA Memento Room preserves for the future the heritage of the past.

Sponsor: Sperry New Holland

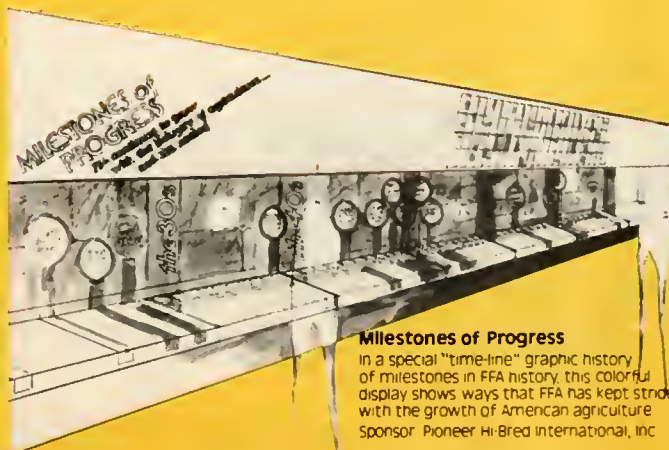
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Who's Who Among American High School Students

FFA Library and Resource Center

Providing reference books, documents, research papers, studies and specialized magazines on agriculture and agribusiness, the Library will serve as a modern resource center for FFA members, students and researchers. Here will be available specially produced films, slide presentations and programs developed by sponsors, educational groups and government agencies including U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Office of Education

Sponsor: John Deere Company



Milestones of Progress

In a special "time-line" graphic history of milestones in FFA history, this colorful display shows ways that FFA has kept stride with the growth of American agriculture

Sponsor: Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Is Your Chapter on this List?

Each of these chapters have paid one dollar per member to Hall of Achievement

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Antelope Union
Buckeye
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Yuma

ARKANSAS

Barton
Conway
Humphrey
South Side, Bee Branch

CALIFORNIA

Alisal, Salinas
Bakersfield West
Delta, Clarksburg
Dinuba—#165
Dos Palos
El Cajon
Quartz Hill
Simi Valley

COLORADO

Cortez
Eagle Valley, Gypsum
Flagler
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Holyoke
Lanimer County, Ft. Collins
Lone Star, Otis
Moffat County, Craig
Palisade

CONNECTICUT

Storrs Regional

DELAWARE

Caesar Rodney,
Camden-Wyoming
Newark High School
Sussex Central,
Georgetown

FLORIDA

Baker County, Macclenny
Frostproof Jr.
Orlando-Colonial, Orlando

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Norris City
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Azie
Blossing Grove
Bryan Greenhand
Comfort
Fairfurnas
Floresville
Ganado
Groome
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Midway, Hennesetta
Vega
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UTAH

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VERMONT

Craftsbury, Craftsbury
Common
Lake Region, Orleans
Middlebury

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Abingdon
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Lee A company of **V** corporation

The Stars

(Continued from Page 32)

rice production, laser land leveling, rice drying and storage and wildlife management.

Baber Farms is located in the Pacific flyway for migratory ducks and geese, so special efforts are made in the area of wildlife management. Jack maintains fresh water ponds to reduce the incidence of botulism and other diseases.

Jack, currently an agricultural economics major at the University of California at Davis, says vocational agriculture and FFA steered him toward an agribusiness career.

Southern Star

Mike Tillman, as service manager and head mechanic of a family farm equipment dealership, is well on his way to becoming established in agribusiness. His abilities have earned him the award of southern region Star Agribusinessman.

The 21-year-old Marianna, Florida, native entered vocational agriculture and FFA at nearby Grand Ridge High School. As a freshman, Mike had already engaged in agribusiness experience. He worked in the parts department of an equipment dealership, handling the duties of stocking, ordering and taking inventory. Later, Mike's responsibilities grew to assembling and repair of farm equipment.

Mike and his parents, Delmer and Ruth, started their own dealership in 1975. Now, as service manager in the family business, Mike is in charge of receiving, servicing and delivering tractors, combines, implements and other equipment.

Much of Mike's "ability to work with others" developed from participation in FFA contests and award programs. In 1978, Mike won the national FFA agricultural sales and/or service proficiency award. He continues to expand his technical knowledge, aiming for a goal of establishing a branch store.



"O.K. . . . that's three for and one against increasing milk production."

October-November, 1980

Central Star

Enthusiastic, informative, knowledgeable, personable—that's how Andy May's customers describe the 21-year-old salesman from Green Bay, Wisconsin. Such attributes have helped Andy achieve recognition as Star Agribusinessman of the central region.

Andy, son of Thomas and Virginia May, began his agricultural career when he enrolled in vocational agriculture in 1973. That year, he began working at Schroeder's Greenhouse in Green Bay.

Now working as a regional sales manager for the Vaughn Jacklin Corporation,

(Continued on Page 44)

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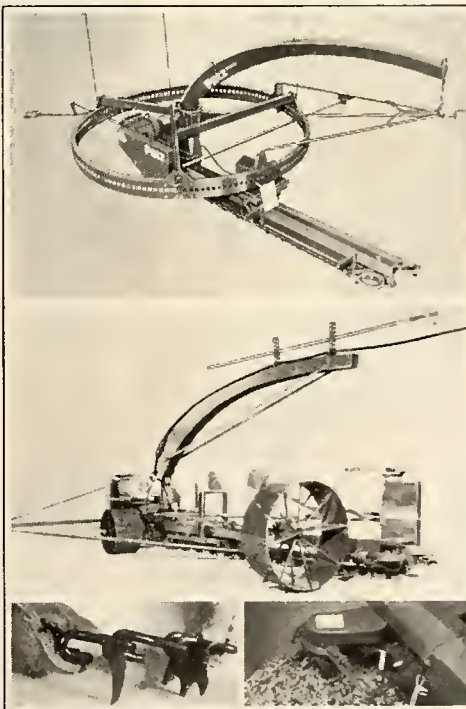


You know the problems caused by hard packed and frozen silage. Patz gives you two solutions to the problem — the Model RD-790 ring-drive silo unloader and the Model 99B surface-drive silo unloader.

Both unloaders feature a double-hook gathering chain with hardened steel cutters and claws that rip through frozen and packed silage. When you push the button, you know you can count on a smooth feeding operation.

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Want to know more about the Patz system? See your Patz dealer. He'll show you Patz quality and reliability . . . two important words to a farmer like you.

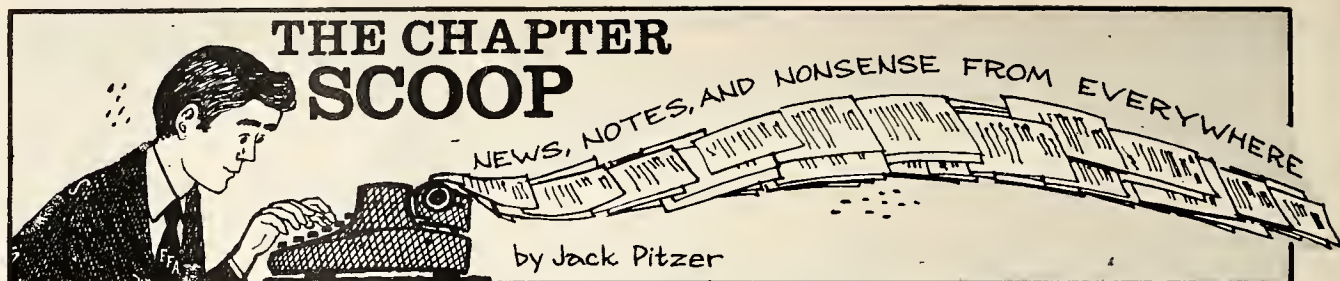


Patz double-hook gathering chain features cutters and claws.

Rotating steel blades keep the silo wall free of silage buildup (shown without guards).

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Performance Strong as Steel

SU-1



by Jack Pitzer

Sophomores in Loudonville, OH, reseeded low areas in Central Park after filling in with topsoil.

There's an FFA Alumni Affiliate "a-brewing" for Oshkosh North, WI, Chapter.

Out to make money, the Mexico, MO, Chapter raffled a processed hog plus held a rummage sale and car wash.

Nixa, MO, served mutton as the meat entree for their chapter banquet. It was provided by Robin Carnahan, the chapter's sheep proficiency winner.

Reporter Todd Jones publishes a nicely done (uses ditto) chapter newsletter for Spartanburg, SC.



When Columbus, MT, Chapter hosted the district public and extemporaneous speaking contests, officers called the meeting room to order and conducted opening ceremonies.

Oshkosh West, WI, Chapter newsletter had an interview with the new principal.

A get-to-know-you party for new chapter members was also a float building session of White Rose FFA, York, PA.

At an open house, Union FFA in Biggsville, IL, sponsored a seed identification contest in the ag classroom. Anyone who correctly identified ten crop seeds got a free hand calculator—an FFA pencil.

Vince Brunner and Bret Stieger of West Branch FFA set a new record in the relay wood chopping contest in the Ohio Woodsman contest.

Pettisville, OH, members brought their dirt bikes to Keith Bruner's farm and set up a motocross race. Fastest time was Steve Schrock.

After no entries in the county fair for 15 years, Houston, MO, came back with grand champion market hog, champion Berkshire gilt and Simmental bull.

Floral arrangements for a shopping mall fashion presentation were made by Lynnwood, WA, horticulture students as part of their exhibit in the mall.

Leading hitters on Pettisville, OH, FFA softball team are Keith Rupp, Keith Bruner, Kevin Miller, Lamar Gerig and Ty Nofziger. Team gives younger members a summer activity plus all the guys get experience so they can keep playing ball after high school.

Reporter Keith Smith sends word how members of his Enola, AR, Chapter enjoy their national magazine.

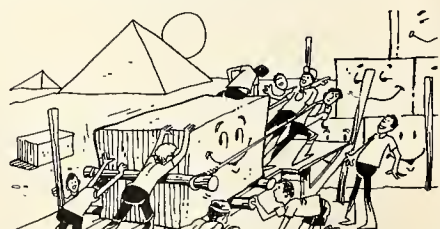
A record breaking 39-feet captured the watermelon seed spitting contest at OK FFA Alumni Camp. Winner was William Tall Bear, Jr., of Thomas.

Chapters have had some "hot" FFA meetings this summer like the 90-degree night for Miller, MO.

Advisor Thorp flew a plane with Catlin, IL, members out to attend the Washington Leadership Conference.

Hopkinsville, KY, members collected \$400 from area farmers for the FFA's service of conducting Operation ID.

Television cameras came to Woodbury, CT, open house and filmed interviews for "PM Magazine" show.



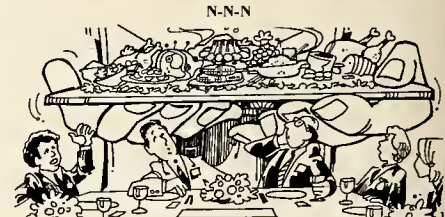
McCullough FFA from The Woodlands, TX, had a summer fun day with swimming, water football, frisbee and pyramid building.

FFA organized a petting zoo for handicapped kids in Normal, IL.

Every chapter ought to own a decent camera to use in taking photos for slide shows at banquets, for photos in proficiency and chapter applications and for black and white photos to accompany articles to the magazine.

Mark Sanborn, past national president, spoke at Amanda-Clearcreek, OH.

How many of you have thought about being a vo-ag teacher? If you sort of think it's a possibility in your future, take a minute to tell your advisor about it. He can help you get experiences in FFA that will make you a better teacher.



Annandale, MN, Chapter banquet was served by this year's Greenhands.

Hereford, MD, FFA kicked off the year with a leadership picnic highlighted by barbecued chicken.

Saco, MT, FFA had the FFA Creed recited over the school intercom during National FFA WEEK.

Publicity Committee: Get a local sponsor for 1981 Official FFA Home & Office Calendars and then have them to pass out all over town at Christmas time. Better try to get the order in by October 30 so there's enough time to deliver 'em to your town.

The public relations committee organizes FFA WEEK events for Riceville, IA.

Many alumni affiliates paid for FFA members to come to the Washington Leadership Conference program this summer. As part of those conferences, over 1,600 members toured through the National FFA Center.

When advisor of Battle Lake, MN, offered to buy lunch for any team taking first place in regional contest, he had no idea he'd have to spring for two teams. Both horticulture and wildlife won.

Members of Killingly, CT, Chapter are looking forward to the completion of their addition on the vo-ag department.

Word came from West Iredell, NC, they have a pretty decent forestry team.

Good to see that Collinsville, OK, remembered to include their advisor in the list of chapter officers for next year.

Reporters: Get off to a good start in your term of office. Send in newsy items about your chapter to Scoop.

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local unit's needs.

\$2,000 JUST FOR ENLISTING.

The first \$2,000 of the \$6,000 we mentioned is the college aid that many units still offer high school graduates as an enlistment incentive. It's paid in yearly installments of \$500 so you'll stay in college. (Not all units offer the college aid, so check with your recruiter.)

You can make another \$2,200 from the monthly training sessions.

The remaining \$2,000-plus comes from summer training which pays you over \$448 a month. This includes seven weeks of Initial Entry Training one summer, two-

to-four months of job skill training the following summer, and yearly two-week training sessions.

The summer training usually gives you a chance to get out of town for a while.

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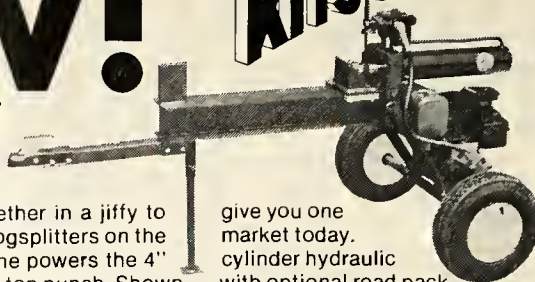
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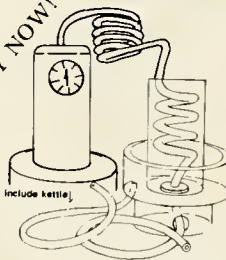
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The Stars

(Continued from page 39)

a horticultural supply firm, Andy covers Wisconsin and Upper Michigan territory. The youngest salesman in the company's 103 years of existence, his duties are to call on greenhouses, nurseries and garden centers to sell supplies, materials and equipment.

A standout in FFA activities, Andy served as chapter president, participated on numerous contest teams, served on several committees and received many awards, including the state floriculture proficiency award.

Eastern Star

When Henry Lee Goodnight enrolled in vocational agriculture in 1975, he had two goals: the American Farmer degree and partnership with parents, Lee and Hilda, in L. L. Goodnight and Sons Farm Supply Center.

One of these goals became a reality with the purchase agreement of one-third interest in the family business. And now, the 20-year-old from China Grove, North Carolina, is eastern region Star Agribusinessman.

Henry, holder of an associate's degree from North Carolina State University, is actively involved in the family business. The business started in 1975 with a decision to sell greenhouse plants and construct a large greenhouse adjacent to their existing store. Recently, the family added another greenhouse to keep up with increased demand for quality plants. Customers now buy plants, seed, fertilizer and other supplies at one stop.

Henry developed management and communication abilities through participation in a variety of FFA activities. Keeping accurate records helped earn him the 1978 state proficiency award in sales and/or service.



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A LONE STAR RANCHER

Texas Future Farmer Monty Vesper maintains a premier herd of Santa Gertrudis from his "home on the range."

by Jeffrey Tennant

A TORRID summer sun bathes the south Texas mesquite and cactus in a colorless hue of heat. Long-eared jackrabbits and pairs of whistling quail scurry to new hiding places as Monty and J. B. Vesper bring their truck to a halt. A long, beckoning yell brings more life to the plain as mahogany-red cattle make their way through a dusty cover to a common feeding ground. The cattle, the Vesper family and the ranch are stories in themselves, each a picture of life in Lone Star agriculture.

"Grandfather purchased the original part of the ranch in 1875," says Monty, a Cotulla, Texas, FFA member who has garnered countless awards over his past five years of active membership. "And we've been building ever since."

Monty, his father, J. B., "Dick", mother, Leslie, and sister, Kelly, call the shots on this 15,000 acre ranch, just one of two ranches operated by the family. The other spread, 5,200 acres, complements the main ranch that covers two counties around the ranching community of Cotulla. Here, cowboys are real. The horse, massive herds of cattle, rattlesnakes and even the barbecue are authentic, unique to a part of America where ranches take on their true meaning.

"We now own a herd of 1,000 registered Santa Gertrudis cows," shares the elder Vesper, a man who witnessed firsthand the expansion of Santa Gertrudis, the only true cattle breed originated in America. "At one time, my father, J. H. Vesper, was a registered Brahman breeder. He started crossing the Brahman with Shorthorn and Herefords to arrive at a generation of cattle well-adapted to this country. These crosses did so well, he began looking for a true breed. In 1939, he went to King Ranch and purchased the original Santa Gertrudis bulls we put with our cross-bred cows. From that foundation, we've built our entire herd."

The Vespers have never purchased a female for their herd. The Vesper ranch is one of the first American ranches to work and sell registered Santa Gertrudis. The King Ranch, the largest ranch in North America with its estimated 850,000

acres, lies within 100 miles of the Vesper fenceline. The King Ranch made history with its development of the Santa Gertrudis, America's first and only true breed. The Vespers, with sales of animals to satisfied buyers from all over the world, have confidence in their herd's quality. The family is also active in the breed's association, Santa Gertrudis Breeders International, based nearby in Kingsville.

"I just completed a term as the first national president of the National Santa Gertrudis Junior Association," says Monty, also a recently retired state vice-president for the Texas FFA Association. The 19-year-old Texas A & M veterinary science student presided over the association's first year, traveling the country on behalf of the breed. Monty's FFA awards, such as Area Star Greenhand, Star Chapter Farmer of Texas, and Star Lone Star (State) Farmer, came as a result of diligent work and building in his own herd of Santa Gertrudis.

"I branded Monty's first registered heifer when he was 11 months old," says J. B. "Monty has built that beginning into a herd that numbers over 90 registered cows. He's done a lot of showing, but instead of selling the animal after the show, he puts her back into his breeding herd."

"I've been able to show for the last 13 years," adds Monty, "at top stock shows across Texas and out of state." By adding the shown heifers to the permanent herd,

Monty has tripled the herd since joining FFA with 26 head.

"I use the same management practices my dad uses," he continues. "No matter whether the heifer is a champion or not, she's culled and sold to slaughter if she doesn't calve every year. That's a rigid rule, but it accounts for the 96.6 percent live calf crop in our overall herd. By eliminating such animals we've 'bred in' a good calving percentage."

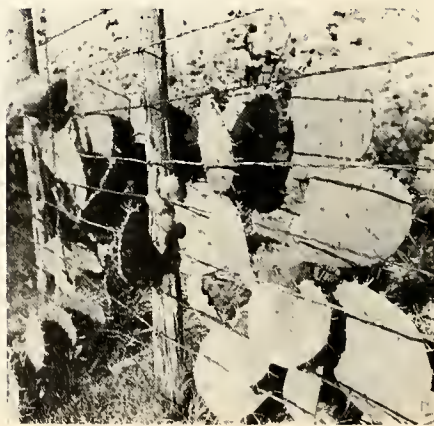
"No steers are kept in the herd," J. B. explains. "And we go straight to the feedlot with anything we feel can't go on to make a breeding bull. At weaning time, we determine top-end bulls. As they grow out, we keep culling them. Once they reach 12 months old, they can be classified by Santa Gertrudis International, and branded with an 'S.' The top-end bulls then go to our herd as breeding bulls."

Periodically, Vesper bulls go up for sale to buyers from the U.S. and countries such as Canada, Spain, the Philippine Islands, central South America and South Africa. Bulls are divided in two classes. Number one bulls sell for \$3,500 to \$5,000, with number two's going for \$2,500 to \$3,500. With animals worth such amounts, a tight watch is kept on cattle inventories.

"We separate the fields into small parcels," explains Monty. "We know exactly how many cattle are in each pasture, where the pasture is and whether bulls, cows or heifers are held there."

Feeding and watering of the herd can be accomplished efficiently and with little worry about lack of rain. When feeding is necessary, such as under drought conditions, range cubes are provided. Santa Gertrudis have adapted well to the south Texas rangeland so grazing often suffices. Stock tanks, or large ponds, are scattered over the Vesper ranch with deep-water wells and 25 miles of pipeline below the surface. Since all the animals are bred and calved on the ranch, vaccinating with a 7-way vaccine at two to three months wards off many health problems.

Standardized, five-foot fences divide the sprawling ranch. But cattle aren't the





Monty and his father, J. B., "Dick," Vesper, carefully select only choice male and female Santa Gertrudis to remain in the herd.

only animals that are kept in check by the fencing.

"Several years ago," says Monty, "we instituted a program to keep deer and other wildlife populations up on our ranch. Cotulla is known as the white-tail deer capital of the world. Many records are set in this country. Because of the intensive hunting, though, control is necessary. Our pastures are managed with both game and livestock in mind. Instead of plowing an entire field, for instance, or removing all brush, we leave 50-acre patches. The brush gives protec-

tion to both cattle and wildlife."

The work involved in managing a large ranch stocked with registered animals entails many long hours. Monty's leadership activities in FFA and school and college studies have prevented Monty's full devotion to the ranch. But he still finds time to maintain his FFA projects.

"School has always kept me busy," says Monty, something you'd expect from a student with a \$6,000 scholarship to attend college. "But we've always been able to tie in agriculture—it's a way of life for south Texas kids. With voca-

tional agriculture's importance here, we were given special privileges as far as showing calves, traveling to speak at banquets and such. My activities didn't really affect my school work."

Leadership activities and the scurrying jackrabbits that appear only when surprised are as much a part of the Vesper's ranch as the cattle. Complete managerial control, concern and a simple love for ranching will likely maintain the Vespers' strong reputation as fine cattle ranchers—as long as the Lone Star sun shines.

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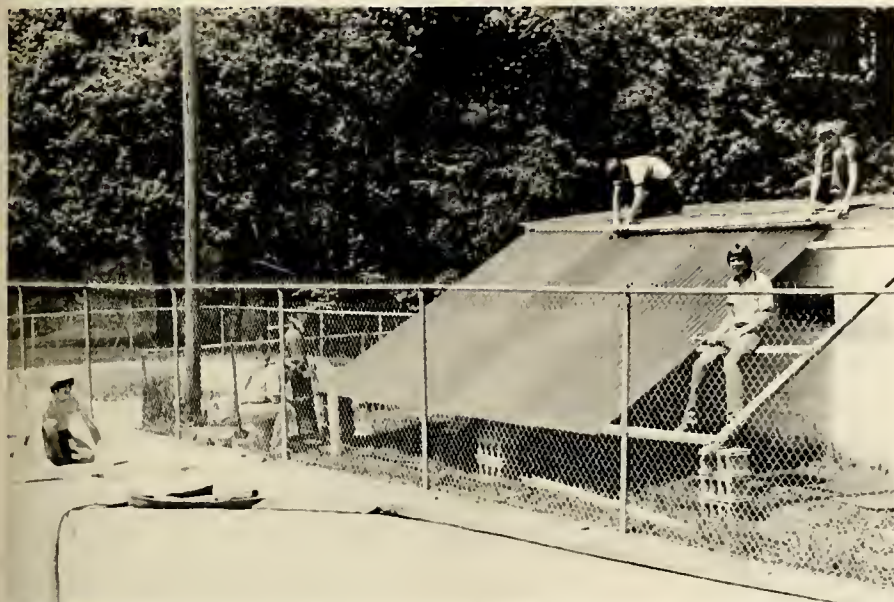
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IN ACTION



FFA members erected a solar water heating device to heat the water for the community's swimming pool. Water trickles down the dark brown-colored corrugated metal siding before going into the pool. On the roof are Steve Tainter (left) and Mark Everson. On the ground, from left, Bill Flesch, Phil Crick and Todd Olson.

ENERGY ACTION:

WARMING UP THE OLE SWIMMING HOLE

The North Crawford FFA Chapter of Gays Mills in southwest Wisconsin designed and constructed a solar water heater for the village swimming pool. The heater is designed to help raise the temperature of the water to a more comfortable level in the spring and to maintain it longer in the fall, thus lengthening the swimming season.

The solar heater is based on the old "tin roof" theory. Dark-colored corrugated tin is used as a collector. Water is taken from the pool's pump and filter system, distributed to the valleys of the tin where it "wipes" the heat from the tin, is collected in an eave trough and gravity-fed back to the pool. The junior agriculture class designed and built the 200-square-foot collector system. It cost less than \$300 to construct. According to Advisor Gibbs the heater is working well. *(Mark Haynes, Reporter)*

VOLCANIC CLEANUP

When the Mount St. Helens volcano erupted Sunday, May 18, it left the Zillah, Washington, area covered with a powdery ash, so a day from school was taken to get our campus back in shape following this natural disaster.

Zillah FFA stepped into a leadership role in cleaning up the high school campus. Fire hoses were obtained from the city and teams of vo-ag students manned them to hose the ash off of the parking lots. Other members grabbed brooms and shovels and helped to clean sidewalks and hallways.

Our greenhouse was covered inside and out with the gray dust in amounts up to one inch. A crew of FFA members hosed the structure off and had to shovel the gutters out as the ash turned to something like cement when it was wet.

Over 100 FFA members participated in this cleanup and in only one day our campus was reusable.

THEY FILMED THEMSELVES TO CHINA

The Arkansas City Chapter in Kansas assisted in a foreign educational seminar by making an informative audio-visual program which was shown to professors at the University of Peking this summer.

The video tape was taken to China June 1 by Dr. Lynne Belaies, associate professor of philosophy at City University of New York.

Dr. Belaies taught a seminar at Peking this summer on American culture, in-

cluding history, literature, philosophy, science and sociology.

FFA members taped a panel discussion in which we explained the business of agriculture in the United States from the standpoint of its size, complexities, and the levels and efficiencies of production. The members gave facts on agriculture as a whole in this country and pointed out that the American farmer has made tremendous strides in increasing their productivity.

Much time on the 45-minute program was spent explaining vocational education in agriculture that is being taught in our public schools. We talked about everything from the history and development of vocational agriculture to the specific courses offered at Arkansas City High School.

Some members were asked to explain their own farming program and agribusiness program. We thought that this would be of particular interest to the Chinese professors to realize that young people of high school age could have ownership of such large programs.

The Arkansas City FFA felt quite honored by the opportunity to present this program, but also felt the great responsibility of representing American agriculture and the FFA. *(Rod Nulik, Advisor)*



Members of the chapter appeared on video tape and recorded a panel discussion. They had to "do their homework" in order to give the correct story of American agriculture.

THAT'S YUKKY

The Cory-Rawson FFA, Ohio, Chapter distributed "Mr. Yuk" stickers as a safety project. The stickers are to be put on cans containing a poisonous substance as a poison control mechanism. The stickers have a green scowling face, warning children of danger. In addition,

(Continued on Page 52)

FFA **IN ACTION**

(Pick up ACTION from Page 51)

each "Mr. Yuk" sticker contains the phone number of the Poison Center.

We got our "Mr. Yuk" stickers from the Children's Hospital. Articles about the stickers appeared in the local newspaper, telling the public to call the school for the stickers or to contact any FFA member.

TRACTOR PEDALERS PULL TO VICTORY

The Pike Central Chapter in Peters-

burg, Indiana, was contacted by several community organizations to put on a pedal tractor pull as entertainment for the children at public functions. The pedal tractors were donated to the chapter by area equipment dealers.

The pull contestants are weighed into three classes: 50 pounds and under, 50-75 pounds and 75-100 pounds. The top three in each class were selected at the township Ruritan Fourth of July celebration in an elimination heat. Then the top three competed for first place trophy on the dirt track between classes of the big tractor pull being held that day. It was a big crowd pleaser. (Roger Knight, Advisor)

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FACTS FOR ACTION

An estimated 4,240,000 have coronary heart disease. 638,427 died of heart attack in 1977—350,000 before they reached the hospital. Many thousands of these might have been saved if the victims had heeded the signals.

Delay spells danger. When you suffer a heart attack, minutes—especially the first few minutes—count.

KNOW THE SIGNALS

- Uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in center of chest lasting 2 minutes or more.
- Pain may spread to shoulders, neck or arms.
- Severe pain, dizziness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath may also occur. Sharp, stabbing twinges of pain are usually not signals of a heart attack.

EMERGENCY ACTION

If you are having typical chest discomfort which lasts for 2 minutes or more, call the local emergency rescue service immediately. If you can get to a hospital faster by car, have someone drive you. Find out which hospitals have 24-hour emergency cardiac care and discuss with your doctor the possible choices. Plan in advance the route that's best from where you live and work. Keep a list of emergency rescue service numbers next to your telephone and in a prominent place in your pocket, wallet or purse.

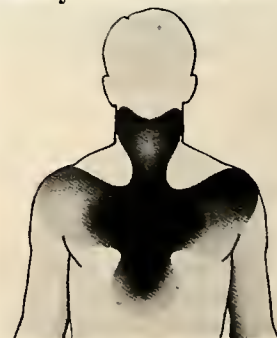
BE A HEART SAVER

If you are with someone who is having the "signals," and if they last for two minutes or longer, act at once.

Expect a "denial." It is normal to deny the possibility of anything as serious as a heart attack—but insist on taking prompt action.

- (1) call the emergency rescue service, or
- (2) get to the nearest hospital emergency room which offers 24-hour emergency cardiac care,
- (3) give mouth-to-mouth breathing and chest compression (CPR) if it is necessary and if you are properly trained.

Intensity and Location of Pain



American Heart Association

(Continued on Page 55)

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FFA ACTION

(Pick up ACTION from Page 52)

PRIDE IN TOBACCO



Maryland FFA 1980 "Pride in Tobacco" production award winners were treated to a day-long tour of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company facilities as part of the award. Thomas Cryer, left, of Leonardtown, won first-place and second-place winner, right, was Bryan Wood of Huntington. Joseph Coulby of Newburgh finished third. 1980 is the first year that Reynolds Tobacco has sponsored a state association tobacco production award program in Maryland. Winners were presented with cash awards of \$100, \$75 and \$50, respectively, at Maryland's state convention in June. R. J. Reynolds now has similar tobacco production award programs established in eight states. The company is also the new sponsor of FFA's BOAC program through the National FFA Foundation.

CHAIRS FOR CROWDS OF LISTENERS

Members of the Vallivue High School FFA Chapter in Caldwell, Idaho, worked the better part of a humid Idaho day, setting up a fieldhouse full of chairs for an appearance by Paul Harvey, nationally known commentator.

The next evening the building filled to capacity as 4,200 Idahoans paid \$15 a seat to eat a barbeque beef dinner, enjoy bluegrass music and hear the featured speaker. Harvey was sponsored by the Owyhee County Cattlemen's Association and the newly formed Sagebrush Rebellion, Inc., a movement primarily in western states to have the government release some of its control on large amounts of land.

The Vallivue Chapter and their advisor became concerned about this issue of state versus federal land control through a speech given by past chapter president and current state Treasurer Rozie Hursh at the chapter's public speaking contest. When the two organi-

zations sponsoring the Harvey benefit requested help, the chapter jumped at the chance. "As the coming generation of agriculturalists, I felt it was important for us to get involved in an issue that could well determine a lot about the future of agriculture in the west," comments Hursh. (Renee Cummings)

PILES OF PAPER, PAGE PROOFS AND THE BIG PRESS



The arrival of the annual Supply Service catalog in vo-ag classrooms is a fun point during a school year. The 1981 edition was mailed in August to every vo-ag instructor. Before they were put in the mail, Supply Service Manager Harry Andrews had a last chance to give an okay on the color page proofs.



The paper stock for the 19,000 copies printed took over 20 tons of paper in sheets 36 inches by 42 inches. It was printed by French Bray Printing Company in Baltimore, Maryland, on their high speed four-color press.

(Continued on Page 56)

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RED TOMATOES FOR CHRISTMAS

There's a lot more to growing tomatoes than just sticking a plant in the ground—at least the way vo-ag students at Calhoun, Georgia, High School do it. In fact, these students don't use soil at all to grow their tomatoes.

That's how the chapter can give fresh red tomatoes for Christmas gifts in their community.

You've probably guessed by now that the Calhoun students operate a hydroponic greenhouse where the tomatoes and other vegetables are grown in nutrient solutions instead of soil.

Under the direction of vo-ag teacher Joel Dailey, two greenhouses are used to teach ornamental horticulture at Calhoun High. Each greenhouse is 28 feet by 68 feet. One is a regular greenhouse used to grow all types of bedding plants, house plants, etc.

The hydroponic house contains five beds 50 feet by 2 feet each. Each bed is filled with 18 inches of washed gravel.



Fresh tomatoes for Christmas are indeed a novelty for most people, but for FFA members in Calhoun they are a commodity for which they have become famous. Michael Brambelt, above, is pictured on December 13 in the hydroponic greenhouse where they were harvesting almost 100 pounds three times a week. Below, Lynn DeFaor and Tony Miller display a case of the ripe fruit.



"The gravel is used only as an anchor for the growing plant," said Mr. Dailey. "Each bed is connected to a liquid-holding tank which contains approximately 1,000 gallons of water and nutrient mix for growing the plants."

Through the use of timers, the water solution is pumped into the beds three to four times daily according to the amount of sunlight available that day. According to Mr. Dailey the solution stays in each bed for approximately 15 minutes. During this time the plant takes up water and nutrients for growth. At the end of 15 minutes, the liquid drains out of the beds and back into the holding tank for the next feeding.

"Our house is a little different from the regular commercial hydroponic house," says Mr. Dailey. "We wanted to be able to experiment with different feeding levels, so a partition was placed in the tank to enable us to feed two rows differently from the other three. This enables us to gather data on the response of plants to different conditions and nutrient levels. It is a little more trouble to take care of, but good for experimental purposes."

The high point of the class has to be the harvesting of the product when the students can see the "fruit" of their labor. In the hydroponic house about 5,000 pounds of marketable tomatoes can be produced. The students do their own processing and marketing. They sell to individuals and to local stores. They package the tomatoes in 20-pound boxes and deliver them to the buyer.

Besides tomatoes, the Calhoun students have produced cucumbers, beans, lettuce and cabbage. (From the "Georgia Future Farmer")

"TOPS" IN THE PARADE

When their town hosted the 106th annual Northwest Ohio Volunteer Firemen's Convention, the Monroeville, Ohio, FFA entered a 30-foot float in the 206-unit parade. The FFA float theme was "Agriculture is Tops" and featured an 8-foot turning top and a trainload of farm products. FFA Queen Doreen Simon rode the float and was surrounded by a mountain of lollipops. The float won first place in the float division receiving a \$50 cash award. (Shannon Smith, Reporter)

RURAL LIFE CENTER

The Marysville, Ohio, FFA BOAC program is the Keckley Rural Life Center, located northwest of town on Bear Swamp Road. The site was set aside by the Ina Keckley estate to be developed by a rural youth program.

Members of the Marysville Chapter have taken great pride over the past few years in working on the Keckley Rural Life Center. Some of the projects already completed by the chapter for the

BOAC program include putting a concrete floor in the shelter house, building picnic tables, constructing a softball field, building barbeque grills, cleaning out the pond, putting gravel in the driveway and building a parking lot, installing a board panel fence in front of the center and building a merry-go-round, teeter-totters and various other playground equipment.

Other plans for the Keckley Center include a combination basketball, volleyball and tennis court, more playground equipment and recreational facilities.

Before Ina Keckley died, she set aside funds and her land to be used as a recreation park or community. After she died, the funds were available and the FFA needed a BOAC project, so the Kiwanis and the FFA combined forces to make it a park. The Boy Scouts of America also helped.

The center is maintained by the Marysville FFA. We mow the grass and maintain everything. The FFA keeps building more things to make Keckley a better park. (Wes Leeper, Reporter)

ACTION LINES

- Send in a joke that's *really* funny to the FFA magazine.
- Spotlight your flower bed.
- Be the first in your chapter to join the FFA Alumni.
- Start a collection of something that's just "you"—like pencils.
- How about a sandwich of peanut butter and sliced tomatoes?
- Take pictures at the family reunion.
- Just go ahead and ask for advice.
- Be helpful.
- Give yourself a new belt.
- Climb to the top of the tree on the back forty.
- Decorate your room with different color lights.
- Get into needlepoint.
- Go visit a truck depot.
- Bring home a newsstand copy of a magazine the family doesn't usually get to read.
- Gather pine cones in the woods for the senior citizens' project.
- Build a monument on your farm.
- Invite another teacher in the school to come to the judging contest with the chapter's team.
- Try to be top salesman at your next chapter fund-raising project.
- Hug a heifer.
- Improve your handwriting.
- Christmas gift ideas: jelly from berries you picked along a country road, ornaments you carved out of the osage orange tree down the lane, shelled pecans or walnuts you gathered, fresh mistletoe you shot down in the woods.



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Hunting The White-tail Buck

By Samuel L. Skeen

IF the Future Farmers of America was being formed today and the founders opted to select an animal to represent each officer's station, the logical choice for the secretary's post would be the white-tailed deer. Like corn, a variety of white-tailed deer can be found in every state of the union. And just as corn is the most popular crop grown in the United States, the deer is America's favorite big game animal.

Like FFA, the growth of America's white-tailed deer herd is a success story. From a low ebb in the early 1900's when it appeared doomed, the herd rebounded and has steadily increased to approximately ten million today. Several states now have herds in excess of a quarter million.

Although there are more deer today than there were in the "good ol' days," bagging a white-tailed buck remains no easy task. While millions of nimrods pursue him each autumn, the woods' monarch manages to elude most hunters. Those gunners who continue to succeed year after year are not just lucky. They are successful because they have studied their quarry and done their homework. You can do the same.

At first glance the whitetail seems invincible. He is aware of every nook, cranny, hiding spot and escape route in the one square mile area he knows as home. And what about his senses? There is an old Indian proverb that states, "when a pine needle falls in the forest, the turkey sees it, the bear smells it and the deer hears it." Couple this hearing ability with keen eyesight and a nose that can outsniff any dog and you have a specimen finely tuned for survival. But we know the buck is not invincible. By circumventing these senses somewhat, the hunter can stack the odds in his favor.

The highest percentage of successful hunters are those who wait for the buck to come to them. In the deer hunting fraternity they are known as stand hunters or stump sitters. The successful stand hunter does not offer the deer the advan-



The wily white-tailed buck above is caught in an unfamiliar pose—still and in the open. The white-tail doe, left, is as evasive as her male counterpart.



Photos by J. O. Stevenson and Luther C. Goldman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

tage. The buck's hearing cannot detect a non-moving hunter. Likewise, the immobile hunter offers little movement for the deer to detect. Since deer are colorblind and see everything in shades of gray, they cannot differentiate between a sitting hunter and a tree stump. But deer know that stumps don't move. The stand hunter, when he must move, must be slow and deliberate.

What about the sense of smell—the antler bearer's ace in the hole? If you choose a hunting area occupied by a number of other hunters, your control over the human scent is more limited than if you were hunting a more remote and undisturbed spot. In either situation you can employ a couple of techniques. Several brands of commercially prepared scents are on the market that can be used to your advantage. The true purposes of the scent is to mask human odor and not to attract a buck as many manufacturers claim. A few drops on your boots before you enter the woods will suffice. Secondly, anticipate the direction from which you expect the buck to approach, determine the direction of the

prevailing breeze and locate your stand so that your scent will not be carried toward the buck's trail.

If they are legal in your state, a tree stand will give you an even greater advantage. Deer are accustomed to expect danger at ground level and do not anticipate it from above. A hunter in a tree stand can see more area and will not be as limited in his movements. The human odor will also dissipate upward more rapidly.

Before you can bag the elusive white-tail, you must find him. Your search for the buck's backyard should begin a week or two prior to opening day. The purpose of this trip afield is to more accurately pinpoint the buck's whereabouts.

A likely area to begin scouting is where you have seen deer before. For the most part, deer are home-bodies. However, the area in which you saw deer during the summer and early fall may harbor only a few animals by late autumn. The lack of available food and cover may cause the deer to move from their summer quarters so make your search a thorough one. When scouting prospective deer habitat look for fresh tracks, droppings, beds and evidence of feeding. Once these tell-tale signs are found, you know you are in deer territory. But is it a buck or doe sign? The question can't be answered so the search must continue.

Most everyone who hunts deer knows the buck makes rubs on small trees and saplings. Hunters once thought the purpose of rubbing was to remove velvet from the hardening antlers. Recent research into deer behavior, though, dismisses this theory in favor of one suggesting the buck is marking his territory and conducting mock battles in prepara-

(Continued on Page 63)

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Hundred

(Continued from Page 26)

"The chapter will loan money to any student to get started, and no interest is charged," explains Wilkens. "The students don't sign any kind of formal agreement, but we do expect good records. The student pays for facilities such as guardrails, proper lighting and heating. If we determine the facilities are proper—dry, clean and sanitary—the chapter furnishes a minimum of two and not more than four animals of breeding age bred to a chapter boar. The students offer pigs from the eventual litter to other chapter members in the form of a "pay-back" for the original two to four hogs loaned. All profits, from showing and selling market hogs not picked by chapter members, are turned over to the student for operating capital."

Philip Milliken, a Hundred FFA member from Knob Fork, "didn't know anything" about raising hogs when he entered the chapter swine ring. Philip now owns a two-stall farrowing barn and two productive sows. He grinds and mixes his own feed and plans soon to double the size of his project.

"I've had nine-pig litters weighing from 4.25 to 5.25 pounds each from the Duroc and Hampshire sows," says Philip. "Last year I sold all the pigs back to chapter members for \$60 each. Half of the good bacon and ham pigs were bought and fed out by FFA members."

Bacon and ham pigs—such an animal is easily spotted by many West Virginia FFA members. Ham, bacon and egg shows are state-wide events anxiously awaited by FFA members who have tended their hogs from hoof to ham. The shows provide a valuable education to the members, incentive to take an animal through feeding to processing.

In 1975, at the Charleston, West Virginia, state show, a Hundred FFA member sold his grand champion ham for \$11,977, a world record. "The boy took the money and paid for college educa-

Charles Miller stokes the fire that smokes the chapter's meats.



Hoping to expand his project, Philip Milliken sizes up available land.

tion toward a degree in forestry," says Virgil.

"We've sold approximately \$160,000 worth of meat over the past 12 years," he adds, "and the money's gone to the students. This year, students received up to \$48 per pound for hams and \$51 per pound for bacons at the county show and sale. We were fortunate; we had all the champions in each class this year. Of the \$9,000 paid at the sale, our members took \$6,500. Three to four percent of that is taken for prizes and judging expenses but the students get the rest."

Most of the meats are purchased by businesses and leading citizens. Some of the more affordable meats, though, are purchased by individuals who simply love the taste of a country-cured slice of meat. The curing process is very important to the overall quality of meats on show. Charles Miller, a member with curing facilities on his farm, cures all the meat for his fellow chapter members.

"We use sassafras and hickory wood to smoke the meat," says Charles, "after it's cured with a mixture of brown sugar, saltpeter and salt. The meats are smoked in a small shed for about three days after curing. Color of the meat is controlled by using varying amounts of wood—dark meat indicates hickory smoke and light indicates sassafras."

Over 250 hams and bacons each year are processed from animals raised by Hundred chapter members. The two chapter greenhouses, impressive facilities full of hanging plants, garden vegetables and flowers, are used as carcass processing rooms until a planned meats lab is constructed by the chapter members. Advisor Wilkens says his students will soon have opportunity to work in the entire cycle of the meat industry, from raising the animal to processing.

Opportunity to learn by doing, a spirit of winning tradition and a concerned advisor: just three of the reasons for this chapter's mighty accomplishments. Ninety-eight percent of Hundred's student body can't be wrong—FFA has something for everyone.

White-tail Buck

(Continued from Page 60)

tion for the rut or mating season. When you find these rubs, you know a buck has been in the area.

Bucks in search of does leave calling cards for their prospective mates. The buck will paw the ground until an area of one to two feet in diameter is cleaned. All the leaves and grass are removed until the earth is bare. The buck leaves his scent in the scrape in an attempt to attract a doe. A passing doe will be drawn to the scrape and wait nearby until the buck returns. If the female tires of waiting, she leaves her scent in the scrape and ambles off. When the buck returns to freshen his scrape, he picks up the doe's scent and begins to trail her. During the height of the rut, the buck will check his scrapes several times a day.

Locating the buck's calling card is no easy task. When you begin looking for scrapes, head for thick cover that offers the secretive and wary bucks their protection. While you may find some scrapes in the open and along the edge of cover, such locations are more often the exception than the rule.

Once you have selected a stand within

sight of the scrape, plan to arrive at your station of ambush well before daylight. At dawn, does will move toward their bedding areas and the buck may travel with them. If your stand is located at ground level, be certain you have something to lean against. In addition to being more comfortable, a tree will help break your outline. Clear away the leaves from underfoot and remove any obstruction to swinging your firearm. Get into a relaxed position and stay alert.

Deer are called the gray ghosts of the forest for good reason. Many times deer seem to appear from out of nowhere and your buck may do the same. Too many hunters expect to see their trophy standing broadside as if it were posing for a photograph. Rarely is a buck ever caught in such a position. The best method of sighting deer is to look for parts of the animal. Most forest shapes are vertical. A horizontal form could be a fallen tree or it might be the back or belly of a deer. Deer are constantly flicking their ears so be on the lookout for these subtle movements. Sunshine on an antler tine can attract your gaze if you are attentive. The key is not to merely scan the territory but instead give the cover a penetrating look. As you study the terrain keep your head movements slow and deliberate. Do so and you can put venison on the table.

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Poster Style and the Home and Office Style calendars feature a full-color painting of a Greenhand with his new lamb as cover illustrations. Besides those pictures, the Home and Office has 12 monthly color shots of FFA members in all kinds of typical FFA/vo-ag scenes. The tent style Desk calendar also features the annual painting as its cover.

These calendars are high quality color lithography and the cover illustration painting is taken from an original painting by renowned artist Arthur Sarnoff.

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Please send the calendars I checked. I understand they have a general imprint message about FFA on them, not our name.

_____ Set of All Five Styles @ \$2.25

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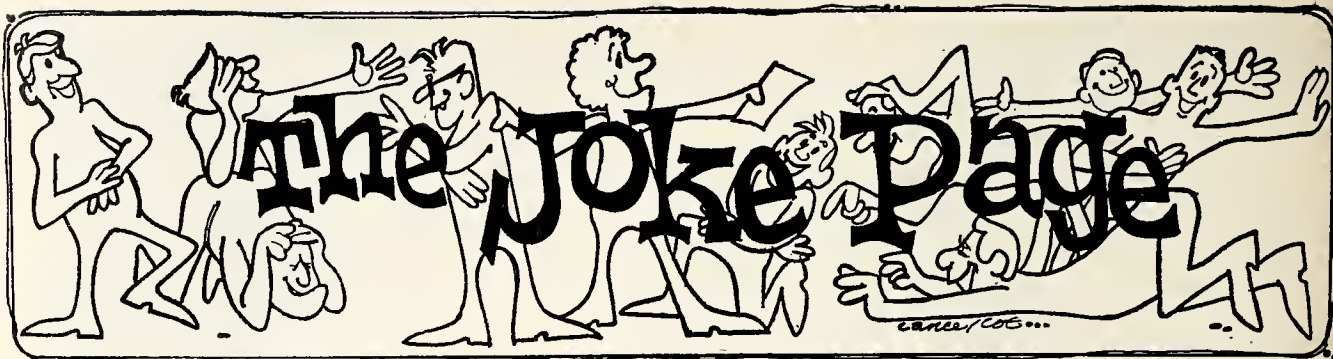
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Official FFA Calendar Department
The National FUTURE FARMER
P.O. Box 15130
Alexandria, VA 22309



Three elderly women were discussing their lives. One of them said, "I have this problem. Sometimes when I go to the refrigerator I can't remember whether I'm taking something out or putting it in."

"That's nothing," said another. "I find myself standing at the stairs wondering if I'm going up or if I've just come down."

The third woman said, "Well, I'm thankful I don't have any such problems," and she knocked on wood. "Oh, oh," she said, "there's someone at the door."

Bobbie Mae Cooley
Bowen, Illinois



"We're not lost . . . all we have to do is follow this trail of litter back to civilization. . ."

Q: How do you get a one-armed moron out of a tree?

A: You wave to him.

Lloyd Wilkerson
Spring Valley, California

Sign in school cafeteria: "Shoes are required to eat in cafeteria."

Someone wrote below: "Socks can eat wherever they want."

Kathy Juenemann
Clements, Minnesota

Ed: "Do you believe in free speech?"

Fred: "Certainly."

Ed: "Great! May I use your telephone?"

Steve Claburn
Corinth, Mississippi

A man had been smoking cigarettes for 20 years, but fearful of possible consequences to his health, he would take only one puff, throw the cigarette down and step on it. And what do you think he has today? Cancer of the shoe!

Don Lindal
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Betty: "I didn't know you were on the football team. What do you do?"

Henry: "I'm an aerialist."

Betty: "An aerialist?"

Henry: "Yes, I keep footballs blown up."

Thomas LaMance
Modesto, California

A greenhand asked a cowboy, "How do you use that long rope on your saddle?"

The cowboy answered, "That's for catching cows."

"How interesting," said the greenhand, "what do you use for bait?"

Grant Trierweiler
Sisseton, South Dakota

Boy: "What would I have to give you for one little kiss?"

Girl: "Chloroform."

Susan Keith
Centerville, Ohio

You know what radar spells backwards—radar. That's why they can get you coming and going.

Gary Heshelman
Bloomfield, Indiana

Teacher: "John, please wash your hands, they're dirty. What would you say if I came into the classroom with such dirty hands?"

John: "I'd be too polite to mention it."

Ruth Moore
Liberty, Kentucky

Guide: "This castle has stood for 600 years. Not a stone has been touched. Not a thing has been altered, absolutely nothing replaced."

Tour visitor: "Sounds as if they have the same landlord I have."

Brian Smith
Flintstone, Maryland

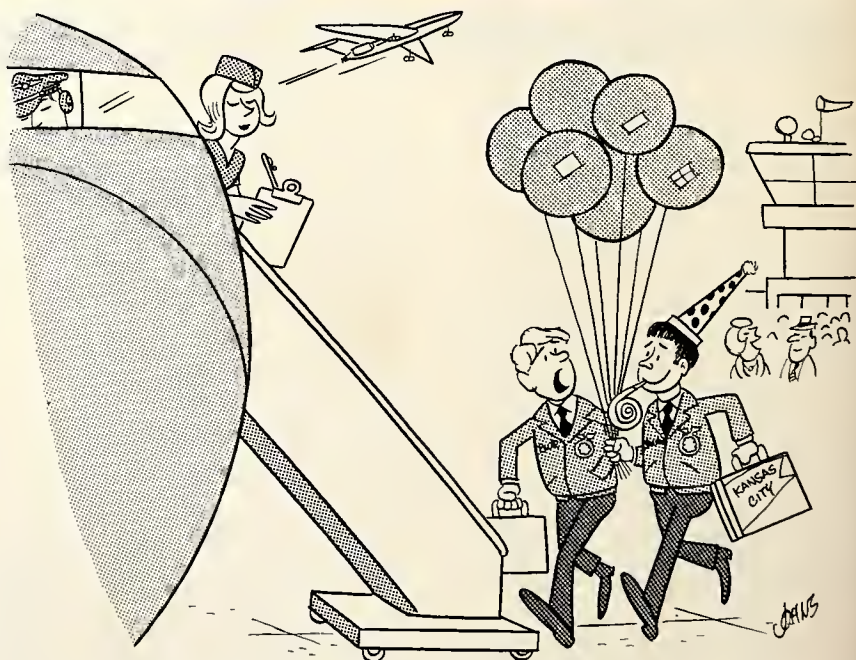
The little boy tugged on his mother's sleeve in church and asked, "What's the lady next to me singing?"

"Alto," his mother whispered hastily.

"No wonder she sounds so funny," blurted the lad. "We're singing 'America, the Beautiful.'"

Chuck Sukut
Sisseton, South Dakota

Charlie, the Greenhand



"Charlie, I think you're going to find the FFA Convention run a little differently from the Republican and Democratic ones you saw on TV."

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BY TONY LAMA

El Rey is the ultimate in gentlemen's western boots. Boots you cannot dismiss as mere luxury. These boots are created for those who demand unique combinations of comfort, style, and rare good looks. El Rey Boots are made of the finest grades of domestic and imported leathers as well as exotics. From the cutting of the leathers to the hand finishing, only a selected group of Tony Lama craftsmen work on El Reys. The El Rey Collection adds elegant style to any lifestyle...

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Style #E0030
Cameo French Calf foot and top



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Recipe: Split whole ducks in halves and flatten with side of cleaver. Place on rack in flat bake pan and bake at 375° for 1 hour. Baste every 10 minutes with barbecue sauce. Turn and cook other sides 1 hour. Continue basting. For sauce: mix ½ lb. butter, ½ cup catsup, 1 tbsp. sugar, 1½ tbsps. lemon juice, 1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce, ground pepper to taste, 1 tsp. salt, 1 clove pressed garlic, 1 chopped small onion, ½ tsp. Tabasco sauce. Simmer covered, 5 minutes. Makes sauce for 4 halves.

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THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO MAKE A MARLIN.

If there's a heaven for duck hunters, there's only one place it could be — The Chesapeake.

But as out-of-this-world as the duck hunting is, it's the duck recipes that are really special. And Chesapeake Barbecued Duck is a delicious example.

We hope you'll try it. But remember. Don't change a thing. After all, nothing can ruin a good recipe like fooling with the ingredients.

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checked American black walnut stock, with ventilated recoil pad.

Available in 12-gauge, the 120 Deluxe handles 2¾" Regular, 2¾" Magnum and 3" Magnum shells interchangeably.

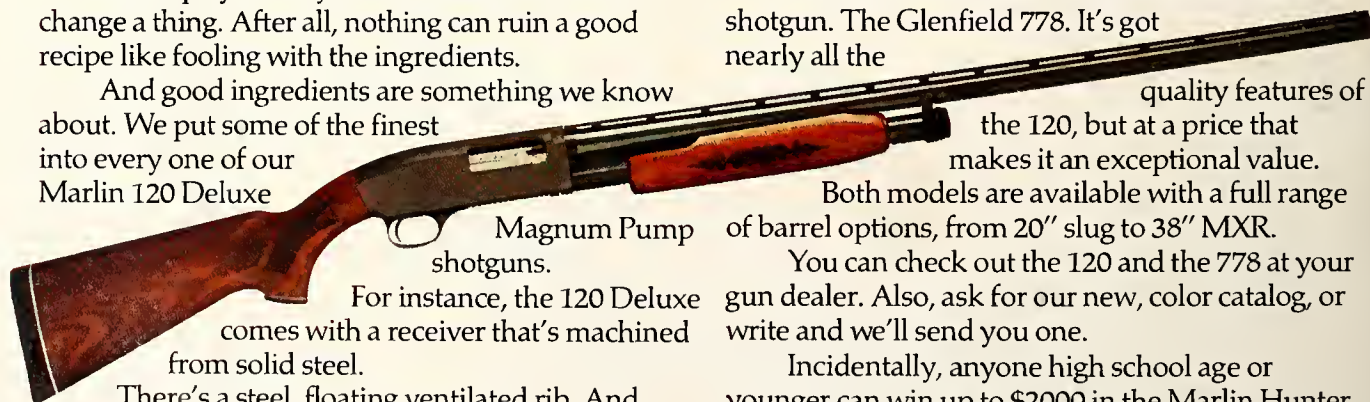
And now there's a new version of this classic shotgun. The Glenfield 778. It's got nearly all the

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