

CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

November 13-15, 1986

Kansas City, Missouri

EXCELLENCE

Made in the FFA. This was the heart and soul of the 59th National FFA Convention. Members, guests, supporters and friends of the FFA showed just what the FFA makes. It makes leaders for our communities and the industry of agriculture. Leaders in all phases of agriculture could be seen emerging in the programs, projects and attitudes of FFA members, advisors/teachers and supporters. Many people received rewards and recognition, but more important, many others saw what is available and possible through the FFA.

May we all go home and encourage the FFA to make more so that we, agriculture and the country will benefit!



MADE IN THE FFA.



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1986-87 National FFA Officers



Kevin Yost
Secretary

Kevin Yost, 20, of DeWitt, Nebraska, is the National FFA Secretary for 1986-87. His local advisors are Marc Wittsruck and Ken Malone. Kevin, the son of Marvin and Gladys Yost, is a member of the Tri County FFA Chapter.

Before being elected state president, he served as chapter reporter and vice president and participated in parliamentary procedure, demonstration and livestock judging contests. Kevin's Supervised Occupational Experience program included a purebred and commercial cow/calf operation, hay and sorghum production and his own artificial insemination business.

Kevin will take a one-year leave of absence from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he is a junior majoring in agriscience and animal science. He plans a career in marketing and human resources. Kevin Yost, Route 2, Box 70, DeWitt, Nebraska 68341



Daren Coppel
Western Region
Vice President

Daren Coppel, 20, of Adams, Oregon, is the National FFA Vice President for the Western Region for 1986-87. His local advisor is William Peal. Daren, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Larry Coppel, is a member of the Pendleton FFA Chapter.

Before being elected state president, he won the state extemporaneous public speaking contest. He served as district president and participated in soil, crop and livestock judging contests. Daren's Supervised Occupational Experience program included wheat, barley, market steers, sheep and a small herd of registered shorthorn cattle.

Daren will take a one-year leave of absence from Oregon State University where he is a junior majoring in agriculture economics. Upon completion of college, he plans a career in agricultural finance or commodity marketing. Daren Coppel, P.O. Box 92, Adams, OR 97810



Dean Harder
Central Region
Vice President

Dean Harder, 20, of Mountain Lake, Minnesota, is the National FFA Vice President for the Central Region for 1986-87. His local advisors are Thomas D. Appel and James P. Crawford. Dean, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Harder, is a member of the Mountain Lake FFA Chapter.

Before being elected state president, he served as chapter president and district treasurer. He participated in parliamentary procedure, public speaking and judging contests. Dean's Supervised Occupational Experience program included a purebred Suffolk sheep flock.

Dean will take a one-year leave of absence from the University of Minnesota where he is a junior majoring in agribusiness education. Upon completion of college, he plans to teach vocational agriculture and farm. Dean Harder, Route 2, Box 227, Mountain Lake, MN 55159



Wiley Lotlin
Eastern Region
Vice President

Wiley Lotlin, 20, of Denton, North Carolina, is the National FFA Vice President for the Eastern Region for 1986-87. His local advisor is Ronald Keypley Wiley, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lotlin, is a member of the Denton FFA Chapter.

Before being elected state president, he served as chapter, district and federation officer. He participated in parliamentary procedure, land judging and poultry contests. Wiley's Supervised Occupational Experience program involves managing and operating a 60-acre dairy farm. His work on the dairy farm combined with his involvement with vegetable crops, landscape management and work on other farms earned recognition in a variety of proficiency areas.

Wiley will take a one-year leave of absence from North Carolina State University where he is a junior majoring in agricultural education. He plans to teach vocational agriculture. Wiley Lotlin, P.O. Box 123, Denton, N.C. 27239



Kevin Eblen
President

Kevin Eblen, 20, of Creston, Iowa, is the National FFA President for 1986-87. His local advisor is Galen Zumbach. Kevin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Eblen, is a member of the Creston FFA Chapter.

Before being elected state president, he served as state secretary, district vice president and reporter and held numerous chapter offices. He participated in public speaking, parliamentary procedure, and a variety of other leadership and judging contests.

Kevin's Supervised Occupational Experience program included corn, soybeans and beef production. He also managed his own agribusiness and worked for his father's farm drainage construction business. He was Iowa's candidate for Star Agribusinessman of America.

Kevin will take a one-year leave of absence from Iowa State University where he is a sophomore majoring in public service and administration in agriculture. Kevin Eblen, Route 4, Box 24, Creston, Iowa 50801



Jayme Feary
Southern Region
Vice President

Jayme Feary, 21, of Falkville, Alabama, is the National FFA Vice President for the Southern Region for 1986-87. His local advisor is B. W. Bryan. Jayme, the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Russell, is a member of the Falkville FFA Chapter.

After his election to state office, he served as chapter vice president. He's been involved in steer shows, quartet, livestock and public speaking contests.

Jayme's Supervised Occupational Experience Program included cattle, goats, horses and forage crops.

Jayme will take a one-year leave of absence from Auburn University where he is a junior majoring in agricultural education. Jayme Feary, Route 1, Box 125, Falkville, AL 36522

National Officer Candidates



Alabama: Jayme W. Feary, Falkville;
California: Diana W. Court, Santa Paula;
Colorado: M. Troy McCue, Arriba; **Florida:** James R. Mears, Blountstown;
Georgia: Marshall Bennett, Jr., Adel;
Illah: Brett W. Reynolds, Keok, Illinois;
Illinois: Charles M. Schone, Bluffs; **Iowa:** Kevin L. Eblen, Creston; **Kansas:** Daryl Yarrow, Clay Center; **Kentucky:** Kelly R. Smith, Bowling Green; **Maryland:** Sarah Daborn, Keymar; **Massachusetts:** Mitchell Richard, Lynn; **Michigan:** Bartley Marshall, Allen; **Minnesota:** Dean Harder, Mountain Lake, Mississippi; **Mississippi:** Duane Weems, Laurel; **Missouri:** Max Robert Aleger, Stratford; **Montana:** J. Bruce Gennie, Judith Gap; **Nebraska:** Kevin Yost, DeWitt; **North Carolina:** Wiley J. Lotlin, Jr., Denton; **Ohio:** Douglas Phillips, Kenton; **Oregon:** Daren Coppel, Adams; **Pennsylvania:** Laurie Jo Duran, Bulger; **South Carolina:** Brana J. Williams, Hemingway; **South Dakota:** Rebecca Miller, Clear Lake; **Tennessee:** Rector Miller, Lafayette; **Texas:** Jay Hays, Wolfe City; **Utah:** Treedy Phillips, Springville; **Virginia:** Richard DeWitt, Calaway; **Washington:** April Carling, Kennewick; **Wisconsin:** Cheryl Heimeld, Blanchardville; **Wyoming:** Charles Bayles, Gillette

Proceedings

Editors Box

Volume VI

The 59th National FFA Convention PROCEEDINGS is published by the National FFA Center Information Department as an official publication of the National FFA Organization.

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The 59th National FFA Convention PROCEEDINGS is the official printed proceedings of the National FFA Convention, held annually in Kansas City, Missouri. It is published the last day of the convention.

The FFA is the national organization of students preparing for careers in production agriculture and agribusiness. The FFA is in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC.

National FFA Center

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Additional copies of the 59th National FFA PROCEEDINGS are available through the National FFA Supply Service.

The 59th National FFA Convention PROCEEDINGS Staff is headquartered in the FFA Newsroom in the Little Theatre at the Municipal Auditorium.

Selected by their state associations these FFA members ran for the six national offices of the FFA. Each earned the American Farmer Degree and went through a week of intense screening by their peers on the Convention Nominating Committee.

Photographers

Photographers assisting with the FFA PROCEEDINGS included: Mike Wilson, Daria Wagner, Dale Lightfoot, Andy Markwart, Kristi Kountz, Cynthia Jelen and Thad Welch.

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Volunteers Saluted

Every year there are hundreds of volunteers who are the backbone of the national convention. The National FFA Organization would like to express its warmest and deepest thanks to those people who make the convention happen. Hard work and long hours are only the beginning. "Thank You" (everybody) Thanks to the Courtesy Corps, Stage Crew, News Crew, News Corps, contest helpers, K.C. Advisory Board and all the others too numerous to mention who are very much appreciated.

National FFA Foundation

Bill Munsell, 1986 Foundation Chairman, announced that 1986 fund raising achieved a record \$2,500,000. Munsell said, "We asked all those who believe in FFA to stand up for American agriculture. Our sponsors answered that call with generosity." Since 1944, the National FFA Foundation has provided more than \$21 million to FFA members for incentive awards, leadership and citizenship activities, FFA films and international travel. Bob Langhrie, President and Chairman of Dickey-John Corporation, was named 1987 national FFA Foundation Chairman.

Distinguished Service Citations



This year four organizations received the Distinguished Service Citation in recognition for their exceptional service to the FFA by contributing time, money and personnel. They were:

Chevrolet Motor Corporation of Warren, Michigan. Chevrolet has provided a chairman for the National FFA Foundation, Inc. and the company sponsors the FFA State

Presidents Conference for state officers each year in Washington, D.C. This year, Chevy donated an "FFA Blue and Gold" pick-up truck to the National FFA Center.

Farm Aid, of Austin, Texas. Farm Aid provided great visibility for the agricultural sector and the FFA organization through its televised music special. With proceeds from their concert, Farm Aid supporters provided a \$30,000 grant and a \$300,000 endowment to go toward scholarships for FFA members.

The Fort Usage Vocational Technical School of Independence, Missouri. This school annually provides the site equipment and staff for the National FFA Agricultural Mechanics contests. More than 170 FFA members and industry and educational leaders meet at the school for the contests.

Interstate Printers and Publishers, Inc. of Danville, Illinois. Interstate is a major publisher of secondary vocational agriculture and agriculture teacher-education texts. The company has supported the organization through many years of FFA, educational and professional publications.

VIP Citations



The following six individuals were honored with the 1986 National FFA VIP Citation for their continual support and service to the FFA:

Robert M. Book, president of the Indiana Institute of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana. Book is a past chairman of the National FFA Foundation, Inc., and he serves on The National Council for Vocational and Technical Education in Agriculture. After 28 years at Elanco Products, Inc., he retired as vice president of marketing. Through Elanco, Book secured funding for FFA's first television special and presented it as a public relations activity to the National Agricultural Marketing Association (NAMA). He was named NAMA's Ag Marketer of the Year and was awarded FFA's Honorary American Farmer degree in 1983.

George R. Burg, Kansas City, Missouri, assistant to the publisher of the Kansas City Star. During the 38 years Burg has worked for the Kansas City Star Company, he has secured publication of FFA

Convention news and information, and is a member of Kansas City area FFA committees and advisory groups. He has hosted national FFA officers and national staff during stays in Kansas City. And he has supported corporate representatives judging the candidates for Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman at the National FFA Convention each year in Kansas City.

George Eib, Kansas City, Missouri, superintendent for forestry and landscaping at the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department. In 1976, Eib was a member of the committee that organized the first National FFA Horticulture Contest and was instrumental in establishing the national nursery/landscape, floriculture and forestry contests. He served as president and a board member of the National Professional Grounds Management Society and as a board member of the Missouri Parks and Recreation Society. Eib is a recipient of the FFA's Honorary American Farmer degree and Distinguished Service award.

Larry Judy, Kansas City, Kansas, systems programmer for United Telephone Systems, United Data Services, Inc. Judy formed and placed into operation the computer-scoring system for the National FFA Contests held each year during the convention. Through his system, the judging scores of more than 400 contest participants are scored and ranked. Judy also donates time and expertise to FFA state associations as well as assistance on the national level. He previously worked for the American Hereditarian in Kansas City.

Robert Taylor, Silver City, New Mexico, is executive director of the National Center for Research in Vocational Education at the Ohio State University at Columbus. This year Taylor retires after 20 years heading the Center and 35 years of service to vocational education on the local, state, national and international levels. He was a national FFA contest participant and state president during the 1940s. He served as the Arizona state executive secretary and is the co-publisher of the FFA and You. Taylor has already received the Honorary American Farmer degree and the FFA Distinguished Service award.

Harold Haynes, retired vocational agriculture instructor from North Troy, Vermont. Haynes will be recognized for his 47 years of teaching vocational agriculture. During his early years of teaching, Haynes' classes yielded and earned as part of the war effort. In 1984, with a career vs. vs.-ag student contest, Haynes led the drive to buy and develop a 65-acre "Land Lab." Haynes guides FFA members in raising Christmas trees, growing apples and even building ski trails on his land. He has taught third-generation vs.-ag students in the North Troy and Newport schools.

Convention Speakers



The 59th National FFA Convention featured a variety of speakers and topics during the three days. U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng addressed the convention audience as well as motivational speaker Bob Motzaw, sponsored by ConAgra, Inc., and Bruce Jenner, Olympic decathlon champion co-sponsored by Ford Division—Ford Motor Company and Ford Tractor Operations. FFA members and guests also heard from Susan Forte, FFA Advisor and Teacher in Space finalist and Jack Anderson, President, Young Astronauts Program and news commentator.

Computers in Agriculture Award

Sponsored by AgriData Resources, Inc.



The 1986 National FFA Computers in Agriculture Seminar was held August 10-14, in Washington, DC, to recognize the top FFA members for their achievements and progress in utilizing computers. All of the state chapters in Agriculture winners received an expense paid trip to the National FFA Computers in Agriculture Award Seminar.

The award program recognizes FFA members who have achieved and made great progress in utilizing computers in agriculture and agribusiness. Students are judged on their ability to adapt computer technology to benefit their Supervised Occupational Experienced Program and/or local FFA Chapter.

National Winner—Van S. Zander, Washburn Rural FFA Chapter, Topke, Kansas
1st Runner-Up—H. Christopher Tompkins, Brandon FFA Chapter, Riverview, Florida
2nd Runner-Up—Chris Leman, Rosandee-Benson FFA Chapter, Rosandee, Illinois
3rd Runner-Up—John Fritz, Farmmore FFA Chapter, Farmmore, Wisconsin
4th Runner-Up—Patrick E. Settle, Dorman FFA Chapter, Iman, South Carolina

State Finalists

Alabama: Tim Williams, Hueytown, Arizona; Andrew Duvesco, Douglas; **Arizona:** George G. Copeland, Everton; **California:** James Jorge, Santa Maria; **Colorado:** Lance Scott, Burlington, Connecticut; Elizabeth Bassett, Coventry; **Florida:** H. Christopher Tompkins II, Riverview; **Georgia:** Rodney Lamar Chandler, Hill; **Idaho:** Crystal Longfellow, Kendrick; **Illinois:** Chris Leman, Rosandee; **Indiana:** John Stephens, Winslow; **Iowa:** Dale Brobst, Estherville; **Kansas:** Van S. Zander, Topke; **Kentucky:** Bill Pruden, Dventersburg; **Louisiana:** Travis Warren Smith, Mt. Hermon; **Maine:** Kenneth Page, Limestone; **Michigan:** Douglas Lee Pennington, Charlevoix; **Minnesota:** Glenn A. Sanbar, Northfield; **Mississippi:** Brett Wilder, Carthage; **Missouri:** Roger Neill, Shellville; **Montana:** Lisa Jo Coulston, Billings; **Nebraska:** Rodney Strieder, Ravenna; **Nevada:** Jim Carpenter, Eiko; **New Jersey:** Michelle Rowi, Sewell; **New Mexico:** Tod Pinnell, Melrose; **New York:** Tim Durant, Onida; **North Carolina:** Robert Crabb Jr., Milton; **North Dakota:** Darren Hoyme, Kindred; **Ohio:** Raymond J. Ulrich II, Cincinnati; **Oklahoma:** Eddie Sikes, Kingston; **Oregon:** Tony Schwartz, Powell Butte; **Pennsylvania:** M. Abraham Harpster, Spruce Creek; **South Carolina:** Patrick E. Settle, Iman; **South Dakota:** David Biersbach, Webster; **Tennessee:** Anita Golden, Arthur; **Texas:** Chris Cogburn, Herry; **Utah:** Neil Brown, Santaquin; **Vermont:** Claude Parent, Enosburg Falls; **Virginia:** Warren David Reed, Jr., Dillwyn; **Washington:** Mike Gibson II, Rainier; **West Virginia:** Dave Ferris, Sandyville; **Wisconsin:** John Fritz, Farmmore; **Wyoming:** Froste Spruay, Lander

Official Delegates



These state associations members represent the entire FFA membership in policy development, committees and voting on the convention floor. The number of delegates representing each state is proportional to their overall membership with a minimum of two delegates.

Alabama: Bronwyn Bishop, Wetmore; **Ricky Dorman,** Levere; **Brad Lewis,** Elkton; **Alaska:** Robert Powalski, Two Rivers; **Mike Smith,** Fairbanks; **Arizona:** Leigh Longhead, Buckeye; **Bob Mellon,** Yuma; **Arkansas:** Leigh Fox, Hartford; **Bruce Westerman,** Lonsdale; **California:** Luaine Blacker, Williams; **Steven Davis,** Santa Paula; **Allison Demmer,** Colaba; **Nicholas Wells,** Hollville; **Colorado:** Roger Seedorf, Yuma; **Brent Viesel-meyer,** Amherst; **Connecticut:** Kerry Charler, Hartwinton; **Noomi Peckham,** E. Haddam; **Florida:** Chris Wilder, Lakefield; **Adrian Williams,** Lake Butler; **Georgia:** Greg Long, Ball Ground; **Stephen Tinsley,** Homerville; **Hawaii:** Keith Fajkawa, Kalahe, Maui; **Rayne Heleoma,** Kailua-Kona; **Idaho:** Jack Blather, Meridian; **Michelle Davis,** Nampa; **Hilina Billi,** Hills, Bushnell; **Scott Kurman,** Mt. Sterling; **Indiana:** Michael Burton, Tratalgar; **Scott Stamp,** Tratalgar; **Iowa:** Maureen Barber, DeWitt; **Matthew Muselman,** Bloomfield; **Kansas:** Cara Nick, Girard; **Kentucky:** Eddie Burns, Smith's Grove; **Brad Chambliss,** Hardingsburg; **Louisiana:** Michael McIntosh, Berwick; **Chris Reeves,** Jennings; **Maine:** Brent Buck, Mankton; **Frank Winslow,** Presque Isle; **Maryland:** Wayne Cesna, Clearville; **Massachusetts:** Christine Levine, Marlboro; **Melissa Lopez,** Taunton; **Michigan:** Wanda Burd, Deckerline; **Ron Hosteller,** Burr Oak; **Minnesota:** Brian Hicks, Tracy; **Amy Polkowski,** Byron; **Mississippi:** Wayne Thompson, Mize; **Ray Nash,** Corville; **Missouri:** Eddie Miller, Gerald; **Brian Malne,** Ridgeway; **Montana:** Romeo Carrocca, Big Timber; **Michael Mimms,** Miles City; **Nevada:** David Dam, Lincoln; **Scott Shabo,** Lincoln; **Mary Wilson,** Lebanon; **Nevada:** Noel Bando, Eiko; **Joe Payne,** Eiko; **New Hampshire:** Rick Martineau, Dover; **Michelle Sargent,** Steeplebrook; **New Jersey:** Dennis Symons, Robbinsville; **New Mexico:** Marilyn Copeland, St. Vrain; **Dave Frazier,** Melrose; **New York:** Perry Denton, Moravia; **Cherie Engelbrecht,** Madison; **North Carolina:** C. J. Elkins, Bannsville; **Mickey McCall,** Balsam Grove; **Hugh Solomon,** Williamston; **North Dakota:** Ellen Thomas, Mandan; **Marce York,** Knox; **Ohio:** Joyce Scott, Tontogany; **Scott Straton,** Jeff; **Okla:** Hilisboro; **Oklahoma:** Carrie Brown, Lawton; **Teri Lynn Hames,** Norman; **Lisa Mitsig,** Leighton; **Oregon:** Kathleen Reed, Vale; **Wesley Sand,** Roseburg; **Pennsylvania:** Shea Biddle, Williamsport; **Bill Blank,** Parkersburg; **Maryann Vogt,** Doylestown; **Maryann Vogt,** Doylestown; **Puerto Rico:** Jesus M. Marte, Jayuya; **Pedro A. Rivera,** Florida; **Rhode Island:** Alicia Horan, North Kingstown; **Linda Trelaust,** Pawtucket; **South Carolina:** Patricia Ford, Hemmingway; **William Ray,** Neeses; **South Dakota:** Michael J. Fossam, Canton; **Abe Halverson,** Bancroft; **Tennessee:** Philip Bark, Gordonsville; **Jay Hamby,** Benton; **Texas:** Mike Acker, Cleburne; **Bruce Cobb,** Lubbock; **Julie Davis,** Ackerly; **Teri Hardee,** Bryan; **Lee Haris,** Rusak; **Robert Pary,** Houston; **Liah Keith McLaughlin,** West Jordan; **David Wilson,** Lehi; **Vermont:** Claude Parent, Enosburg Falls; **Michael Trembley,** Irasburg; **Virginia:** Lee Arlington, Perchick; **Kathy Lindberg,** Middletown; **Washington:** Ian Charles Estes, Starton; **Paula McKillop,** Kennerly; **West Virginia:** B. J. Elliott, Waverly; **Micky Emore,** Union; **Wisconsin:** Rita Arcand, Clear Lake; **Darren Klittemer,** Mount Horeb; **Lisa Mullen,** Blossom; **Wyo:** Michael McBurnie, Pine Bluffs; **Jim Wilcox,** Douglas

The Agricultural Career Recruitment Program

Increased enrollment is a phone call away!

ORDER FREE!



The Agricultural Career Recruitment Program

Sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Products Co.

The new Agricultural Career Recruitment Program was introduced during the convention. A special audio-visual in the Main Arena and a booth in the National Agricultural Career Show helped explain the program.

FFA advisors nationwide will be able to order the recruitment program through a toll-free 800 number. The kits contain materials necessary to plan and implement persuasive presentations to junior high school students.

A brochure featuring detailed ordering instructions will be mailed to all FFA chapters immediately after the convention.

15, 25 & 35 Year Foundation Sponsors



These sponsors were recognized for their continuous contributions to the FFA through the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

15 Year Sponsors

ABC Publishing Agricultural; Group; Farm Progress Publications-Miller Publishing; Carolina Power & Light Company; Diamond W Mills Incorporated; First; Mack; Minnesota; Land O'Lakes, Incorporated; MacMillan Bloedel Incorporated; National Cooperative Relined Association; Nordim Laboratories

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For more information stop by booth 726 in the Career Show

Sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Products Co.

Agri-Science Teacher of the Year Award

Sponsored by The Stauffer Agricultural Products Division of Cesebrough-Ponds, Inc.



This is the first time a program has recognized vo-ag instructors and given the award in the field of agri-science. A total of 103 vo-ag instructors applied for this first time award. In mid-October 42 state winners and twelve regional finalists were chosen. During the convention, the twelve was first narrowed to four and from those four the national winner was announced during the Friday morning session. The twelve regional finalists each received \$500 and a plaque. The final four each received incited clocks and \$750 to attend the AVA-NVATA National Convention in Dallas, Texas. Finally, the national winner received an additional \$1,000, a plaque, an all-expense paid tour of the Stauffer research facility and a plaque to be presented to their school.



National Winner— Steven McKay, Booneville, California
Central Region Winner— Robert Mareth, El Dorado Springs, Missouri
Eastern Region Winner— Brad Moffitt, Morral, Ohio
Southern Region Winner— Susan Forte, Pensacola, Florida

National Finalists

California: Steven Alan McKay, Booneville, Florida; Susan Elizabeth Warren Forte, Gulf Breeze; **Louisiana:** Charles E. Hoan, Choudant, Missouri; Robert E. Mareth, El Dorado Springs, New York; Douglas Allen Wright, Buffalo, Ohio; Brad Moffitt, Morral, Pennsylvania; Frederick H. Stillwagon, Schnecksville, South Carolina; Charles Gerald Moore, Spartansburg, South Dakota; James Chilson, Roslyn, Texas; Steven William Forsythe, El Paso; Washington; Richard Lee Cooper, Vancouver, Wisconsin; David R. Laitsch, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin; Susan Elizabeth Warren Forte, Gulf Breeze, Florida

Charles E. Hoan, Choudant, Louisiana
 Robert E. Mareth, El Dorado Springs, Missouri
 Douglas Allen Wright, Buffalo, New York
 Brad Moffitt, Morral, Ohio
 Frederick H. Stillwagon, Schnecksville, Pennsylvania
 Charles Gerald Moore, Spartansburg, South Carolina
 James Chilson, Roslyn, South Dakota
 Steven William Forsythe, El Paso, Texas
 Richard Lee Cooper, Vancouver, Washington
 David R. Laitsch, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin

Honorary American Farmer Degree



This degree was conferred in recognition of adults who have rendered exceptional service to youth, agricultural education and the FFA organization. Local advisors/teachers are a strong motivating force behind many members, and for their time, understanding and guidance, the FFA recognizes a special group of less than one per cent of them each year. Also receiving the degree are parents of national officers and other individuals from industry and government who have helped advance the FFA and agriculture through unlimited service on the national level.

Teachers

Alabama: William Armstrong, Gardendale; Michael Casey, Midland City; William Hines, Wetumpka; Terry Sisco, Geraldine; **Arizona:** Nathan Moore, Mesa; **California:** Joe Casemiro, Sanjour; Larry Caprice, Sutter; Leonard De Rutter, Hanford; T.W. "Jeff" Jeffrey, Santa Maria; Ray Munir, Abwater; Anthony Silva, Turlock; **Georgia:** Jimmy Mock, Blackshear; George Washberry, Clarkesville; Stanley Whitsitt, Camesville; **Idaho:** Kenneth Lent, Reburg; **Illinois:** Robert Brown, LaPorte; Mark Street, Amador; **Indiana:** Phillip Carter, Michigantown; Paul Edmiston, Sullivan; Michael Gross, Fort Wayne; **Iowa:** Franklin Albertson, St. Anns; Donald Kent Edgely, Dennis Kinley, Gowrie; **Kentucky:** Arthur Green, Elkin; Leon Smiley, Harard; **Louisiana:** Ted Ardon, Lafayette; James Weber, Harrisonburg; **Maryland:** Ralph Bolyard, Smithsburg; Michigan: Alan Steeby, Caldeona; Don Wheeler, Pigeon; **Minnesota:** Ben Broberg, Redwood Falls; Lowell Gunderson, Ada; Lee Mendehall, New Richland; Dennis Ross, Wadort; **Mississippi:** Lohen Walton, Nertleton; **Missouri:** Harold Bossaller, Columbia; Benjamin Fugate, Rogersville; Herman Pepper, Shelby; Jim Schulte, Troy; **Nebraska:** Marvin Monsan, Holdrege; **New Mexico:** Max Geary, Clayton; **North Carolina:** John Baldwin, Bladenburg; Raymond Cawness, Ransauer; Jerry Davis, Marshville; **North Dakota:** Dale Carpenter, Bowman; **Ohio:** John Carl, Marysville; Dwan Frels, Oxford; Dennis Parrish, Clayton; Ray Stemen, Lancaster; James Wahl, Xenia; **Oklahoma:** Ferlan Dean, Yale; Glen Elliott, Ava; Kenneth Pitchford, Fort Gibson; James Yesley, Shawnee; **Rhode Island:** David Boyer, Grove City; **Rhode Island:** Thomas Sandham, North Kingstown; **Tennessee:** Marvin Falt, Martin; **Texas:** Donald Bumpane, Hearne; John Floyd, Gonzales; Richard Ingram, West; Ronel Roberts, Altair; Bill Wood, Abilene; Gerald Lewis, Goro; Tommy Webb, Cleburne; Gerald Young, Kirk; **Virginia:** J. Vince Garland, IV, Tappanhook; George Polts, Victoria; **Washington:** Mike Hickman, Elm; Harvey Wallace, Cheney; **West Virginia:** Leonard Spiker, Keyser; **Wisconsin:** Stanley Bergam, Rice Lake; James Marks, Luzerne; Melven Nelson, Arcadia; **Wyoming:** Glenn Johnson, Meeteetse

Others

Alabama: Wayne Teague, Alabama Dept. of Education, Montgomery; Don E. Thompson, Midland City; Virginia P. Thompson, Midland City; Elton Weaver, Hartselle; Joyce Weaver, Hartselle; **Alaska:** Carli Kurts, Son of Ag/Land Resources Mgt.; **Arkansas:** Richard Condit, Arizona Dept. of Education, Phoenix; Curt Dana, Mesa; Andy Kurtz, Arizona Farm Bureau, Phoenix; Philip Zurbrick, University of Arizona, Tucson; **California:** John Kyuloko, Salinas; Jennie Nyatou, Salinas; Buck McMillan, House of Travel, Sacramento; **District of Columbia:** Ronald Baskin, U.S. Department of Ag., Washington; **Florida:** Estelle, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington; James Cental, Architect of the Capitol, Washington; George Dunlop, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington; Marshall Livingston, House of Agriculture, Washington; Donald Nelson, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington; Pat Roberts, Washington, Shirley Trazier, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington; **Florida:** Glenn Wade, Jr., Bushnell; **Georgia:** James Harris, Forsyth Co. Comp High School, Cumming; Charles Inman, Georgia State Fair, Macon; Don Regskist, Voc. Agriculture Education, Titon; Mason Thurman, Union Camp Corp.; Savannah; Dewey Turner, Jr., Georgia Association FFA, Atlanta; **Iaho:** Larry Brian, University of Idaho, Moscow; Dale Chambers, Idaho Farmer-Stockman, Boise; Douglas Pais, University of Idaho, Moscow; **Illinois:** William Borghoff, Case IH, A Tenneco Company, Burr Ridge; Philip Buriak, Illinois State University, Normal; Warren Clark, Chicago; John Coy, John Deere Foundation, Moline; Thomas Dossler, Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Springfield; Robert Hanson, Deere & Company, Moline; James Merzbarger, American Farm Bureau, Park Ridge; Ted Motz, Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg; **Indiana:** James Huxson, Jr., Central Nine Area Vo-Tech H.S., Greenwood; Robert Juncker, Indiana FFA Association, Indianapolis; Mack Phillips, Grace Fox Inc., New Albany; **Michigan:** Ingrid Ind FFA Found., Livonia; Dr. Tralagar, Gary Swain, Indiana Dept. of Commerce, Indianapolis; Iowa: Dean Ripley, N.E. Iowa Tech Institute; **Massachusetts:** Delmar Farmer, Easton; Henry Miya, University of Maryland, College Park; John Whisman, Calvert Country, Inc., Pinnacott; **Massachusetts:** Peter Johnson, Nickerson State, Wenham; **Minnesota:** Burge Amundt, Farm Credit Services, St. Paul; Joe Clifford, Land O' Lakes, Inc., Columbia Heights; Willis Eken, Minnesota Farmers Union, St. Paul; Dennis Furdak, Jackson Technical Institute; **Massachusetts:** David Hester, Belgrade; Carol Heinze, Belgrade; Dennis Jackson, Manakota Technical Institute, North Manakota; David Kingma, GENEX, St. Paul; Jack Lynn KVLML, Willmar; Ralph Norland, Montevideo; Raymond Wolf, St. Paul; **Missouri:** William Coffman, Holliday; Rebecca Coffan, Holliday; Jimmy

Gleason, American Royal Association, Kansas City; Terry Herman, MO Dept. of Elem/Sec Educ., Jefferson City; W. M. Jones, Ralston Parma Co., St. Louis; Norman Justus, University of Missouri, Mt. Vernon; Henry Kupler, Kansas City; **Montana:** Douglas Bishop, Montana State University, Bozeman; **Nebraska:** Lloyd Bell, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Don Hutchens, Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture, Lincoln; Jack Schinckel, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Tom Sillato, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; **New Jersey:** Richard Chumey, NJ Dept. of Agriculture, Trenton; **New Mexico:** Dwight Houston, Hurley; **New York:** Ronald Goddard, Eagle, Inc., Syracuse; Frank Wolf, Nassau Technological Ctr., Westbury; North Carolina: Clifton Belcher, NC Dept. of Public Instruction, Raleigh; Walinda Goodwin, Whiteville; Larry Yewell, N.C. State University, Raleigh; Carl Kensil, CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, Greensboro; Carlye Teague, Cooperative Council of N.C., Raleigh; **North Dakota:** Clarence Sande, Grand Forks; **Ohio:** Wayne Asche, Kent State University; Kent, William Essas, Anna Bonnie Essas, Anna, Russ McKenzie, Maplewood JVS, Ravenna; Roger Roedger, Ohio State University, Columbus; Dan Welby, Luckey Farmers, Inc., Woodville; **Oklahoma:** Jack Blair, Noble; Linda Blair, Noble; Donald Ramsey, Blue & Gold Sausage, Jones; **Oregon:** Billy Belanger, Oregon State Capitol Sall, Clatsop; **Rhode Island:** Portland, Pennsylvania: Dale Davis, PA Department of Education; **Alabama:** Ernest D. Malar, Hamburg; Joyce F. Miller, Hamburg; William Robinson, Chambersburg; Kenneth Slaver, Palmyra; **South Carolina:** Carl Carpenter, Simpsonville; J. Earl Fick, Florence; J. Alex Hish, Clemson University, Clemson; John Parris, S.C. Land Resources Commission, Columbia; **South Dakota:** Leifund Swenson, South Dakota Farmers Union, Huron; **Tennessee:** Stan Kingma, Kingma Productions, Inc., Winchester; **Indiana:** Marilyn Kingma; Kingma Productions, Inc., Winchester; **Virginia:** Douglas Wilson, White House; Nancy A. Wilkinson, White House; **Texas:** Perry Adickson, Texas A&M University, College Station; Raymond Gann, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville; William Bishop, Sr., Hearne; Benny Clark, Texas FFA Association, Austin; William Kulow, Neudville; Clyde Shenter, Jr., Eagle Lake; Claudie Shenter, Jr., Eagle Lake; Billy Steinhamer, Texas Education Agency, Austin; **Texas:** Everett Harris, University of Vermont, Burlington; Wright Robert Carroll, Alexandria; Carol Caycedo, Vermont, Ft. Amand, Alexandria; Joan Cleveland, National FFA Foundation, Alexandria; **West Virginia:** John Todd, Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, Cosmopolis; **West Virginia:** Richard Zimmerman, West Virginia University, Morgantown; **Wisconsin:** Richard Jensen, Univ. of Wisconsin-River Falls; **River Falls:** D. Mortimer Columbus; **Minnesota:** John Shirley, Snyg, Mera Point; Richard Weinger, Agri-Data Resources, Inc., Milwaukee; **Wyoming:** Ronald J. Perich, Meiden

1985-86 National FFA Officer Retiring Addresses



"... And That Has Made All The Difference"

Rick Malir
1985-86 National FFA President

**I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood,
and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the
difference.**

Oh, how I can remember memorizing those famous words by Robert Frost in my high school English class. Little did I know what an influence they would eventually have on me as I stand here before you. I see the many opportunities there have as youth to choose our road, to mold our future, to make the difference.

We enjoy many opportunities today because of those before us who dared to chart new courses. As many as 16 million immigrants dared to make a difference as they passed through the inspection halls of Ellis Island in New York Harbor.

These people made their way to this land cranked in ships to provide transportation. What type of individual would undertake a venture so arduous and uncertain as this? What type would take this road less traveled? These were brave people who left behind a lifestyle, family, and friends. Because of the required inspections and examinations, there was no absolute guarantee that they would ever set foot on American soil. This was a gamble that only one in ten Europeans dared to take in the first place. The majority stayed behind.

Like my grandparents, many of your ancestors dared to come to this country with no assurance of acceptance. Maybe it's because of that spirit that the typical American has been described by many as being more independent minded, less bound by constraints, innovative, and quick to adopt new ideas.

This great innovative drive evident on our forefathers is much in evidence today. I have witnessed this throughout the past year as the roads have taken me from the rain-drenched state convention in Maine to the sun-drenched one in New Mexico. Witnessing the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, the rolling hills of Washington, or the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee.

These places aren't as important as the people I've come to know. Through my experiences with you, your resilient spirit has kept my spirits high.

The potential that we have is tremendous and great. That is why we as an organization is phenomenal because we have the opportunity to choose our road whether it be worn or new.

I've always firmly believed that the success of this organization lies in you the member—in the local chapter. That is why one year ago when my fellow officers and I asked if you would like to address the challenges to grow older properly for this organization, your overwhelming response left us with more enthusiasm to begin our new year.

This past year the agricultural industry has left us tried and challenged. The challenges of our industry have resulted in a need stronger than ever to examine our organization and to chart our road to the future. If we don't hold a vision of the future, if we only stand still, we will fall behind.

cultural industry, it becomes paramount to address these challenges and to seek exciting and new opportunities.

It is not time for me to pass the baton on to you to continue this race and to enhance the success of this organization. I've climbed my final FFA mountain. I look back on the years in this organization, I realize that it is a means and not an end. In order for this organization's training to fulfill its purpose, we must plan and prepare to meet challenges and opportunities before us. By using our training, we will make the difference.

My mother, Fran Malir, is a person of remarkable strength and courage. For while today she is healthy, vibrant, and successful, two decades ago Mom faced a most difficult battle. About 20 years ago, when Mom was a young mother of two small children, she became physically ill. She often didn't know whether the doctor could not diagnose her condition, and Mom felt even more alone when her friends and friends could not understand her agony.

But worse than the five years she spent in treatment, hospitals, and undergoing therapy were the months she had to spend away from us—her children. Mom's tremendous dedication and service to my sister and me was evident when she wrote someone again in an autobiographical sketch of this time that, "only the stubborn determination that my children would not go through without a mother drove me to stumbling, searching for an answer."

Mom was finally cured of her physical ailment, ironically, by a hometown doctor. But the point to this is her dedication to God, Nancy, and me, and her unwillingness to give up was more of an inspiration than anything that I have ever read or experienced. Because of her, you, too, it has made all the difference.

Mom's relentless drive and continued service to others can be an example for you as you enjoy your high school years. Remember, though, that just as you have many positive experiences, there will be some which will challenge you to be challenged and to question the road that you've taken.

Just as Mom, since her recovery, has rarely held herself back, it is so important for all of us to enjoy whatever you are doing has been a theme in many of my presentations and conversations this year. If it is my belief in this that has caused me to reiterate it one more time today.

Members, it is a fact, we will only fly as high as our highest dream. If you have an aspiration, don't hold yourself back by setting limits.

Reach out and set goals for yourself. It may be that you are not a person of strong feeling, there is no way that you can't go. For even if you can't achieve your goals, you will have learned and gained in the process. Henry Ford once said, "Failure is nothing more than the opportunity to begin again, more intelligently."

Nobody is certain, and you won't achieve every goal that you've set. You will be a winner, though, if you can face a failure and learn as a result. The tremendous achievement of our organization is the chance—the chance to pursue an avenue of participation in which your interests, passions, and aspirations are met.

As you strive for success, remember that you are an individual with a unique combination of qualities that are yours and no one else's. Whatever road you take, realize that it has to be what only you are willing and able to do.

Looking back on my years in this organization, I am reminded of many experiences which I have had. Just as you do as you continue down your chosen road.

The time that I over-hauled a lawnmower engine in small engines' class won't only have a blow up within the next year of operation. Because of a mistake this happened, but I learned in the process. Another experience that I look back on with pride is when my home club in Wisconsin named me the "Greenhand"—the same chapter which I am yet an active member. The memories are fresh, and they have made all the difference.

As I look back on my road, the one thing that stands so prominently before me is the way the road has been traveled to us by someone who was not a kid who whenever he was confronted by strangers was intimidated and unsure and turned him up to a per-

son who has developed the confidence and enthusiasm of meeting new people. To speak to you on this stage, seven years ago, I would have thought impossible. My abilities would've flown me—so I thought.

Today, I stand realizing how this program's success lies not only in its instruction of agriculture and leadership, but also in the confidence and self reliance it instills.

It scares me to think of where I would be had I quit the program or this organization, if I had taken the easy road, the one which many others were taking. This past year has undoubtedly been the greatest one of my life. I will forever thank you for that. Just as I cared about you, your letters, conversations, and letters, I would have thought impossible that you cared about me. Because of your caring—your sharing, you have made all the difference.

As we continue on our roads after today, be the never hold ourselves back but be the unique persons that God has made us. And, finally, as we climb future mountains, never hesitate to help others along the way.

**For two roads diverged in a wood,
and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the
difference.**

Thank you and God bless.
Rick Malir, Room 1, Box 103, Wilson, Kansas 67450, (913) 658-3665

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forty states? Why have I given at least three speeches a day? Why have my travels caused me to be away from home and my closest friends? Why have I lived out of a suitcase for a whole year? Why has it been for me—power?—Prestige?—Fun?—As if I were to fulfill a purpose in life?

If it was done simply for fame, power, prestige, or fun, it was done for the wrong reasons. Yes, these will bring benefits of being a national officer, but the purpose is much harder to convey. It is much harder to convey because of the countless hours of preparing speeches, getting an average of five hours of sleep a night—and having what seemed to be a case of eternal jet lag—and sometimes being in a new place while sitting in this very auditorium. I find that it is no longer enough. I still feel lonely wondering what will happen to me twenty years from now. For the first time, I realized what many national officers had gone through before. The difficulty with retiring is not merely saying goodbye to the FFA but in wondering if you really accomplished what you set out to do when you were elected.

Now I see that I have reached a pinnacle in my life, becoming a national officer, and reaching that point while still sitting in this very auditorium. I find that it is no longer enough. I still feel lonely wondering what will happen to me twenty years from now. For the first time, I realized what many national officers had gone through before. The difficulty with retiring is not merely saying goodbye to the FFA but in wondering if you really accomplished what you set out to do when you were elected.

What I realize is that my purpose in being in vocational agriculture and the FFA was not the pursuit of a national office, it was to be part of agriculture's new generation. My involvement to increase my knowledge of agriculture gave me the opportunity to serve in the capacity Harold Kuesner held when this point in his book entitled "When All You Ever Wanted Isn't Enough." He says you do not become happy by pursuing happiness, you become happy by doing something that you enjoy.

He further states that happiness is like a butterfly—the more you chase it, the more it flies away. But stop chasing it, put it away from you, and busy yourself with more productive things, and it will sneak upon you from behind and perch on your shoulder. For six years I have enjoyed being a part of vocational agriculture and the FFA. My agricultural education taught me to be helpful, reliable, and to put others before self and in the midst of my education, the happiness of being a leader evolved into my life.

If there is one point that I have tried to make in my travels as a national officer, it is this—preparation creates new opportunities. In other words, I will continue to improve myself, you will automatically find new dreams to call your own. There is no ideal system for the individual to participate in.

The best way to advance is to find that avenue, explore it to its potential, and don't be afraid to try something new. Some people predict that 75% of the first graders in our school systems today will be employed in jobs that don't exist today. With the world that we live in, it is not afraid to take the non-traditional approach—remember you are a part of agriculture's new generation—you're certainly not different. There is nothing wrong with you when you get the feeling that all you ever wanted is not enough.

Serving as an officer this year has allowed me the opportunity to see American agriculture from a different perspective. Since we were formerly a part of the world we worked agriculture as the backbone of our nation. We have now become urbanized and agriculture is viewed as out of synch with the time zone. It seems that agriculture has lost its meaning. We reflect on the time when every young person that grew up in the United States wanted to go to the farm or at least be a part of agriculture.

Now, because of bleak times in agriculture, we find those times as dismal hardships, no part of that way of life. Why? It's simple. Instead of pursuing the happiness of being involved in agriculture, we have begun to seek the mere pursuit of happiness. The pursuit of happiness has caused us to forget our own life's goals and dreams, and in so making all these observations, it may seem that I have avoided answering the questions that I previously asked—my purpose. The traditions that have become a part of agriculture, and why I have done all this. When I entered agriculture and the FFA, I had little knowledge and understanding of agriculture. As I grew so did my will to be a part of it. I found myself not only

defending the industry but the men and women that have made it what it is today. And, in many cases, this defense led me to those that strongly contributed to the forgotten meaning. Maybe they didn't want to hear what was said, but I found it essential to begin speaking up for the industry that made this country great. In the process of speaking out for agriculture, I was fortunate to be able to serve as your National Secretary. What a fantastic opportunity I had! Here was the ideal situation to take my message to the people. After this year, I hope that my partour message has become a part of your concerns and that you will continue speaking out for agriculture even as I leave.

During my travels this year my term came in contact with the leaders of our country that have renewed my beliefs in the American dream. I have come into contact with successful business and industry leaders that have given me new hope for reawakening our stagnating economy, and I have come in contact with some of the most dynamic and motivating people that I have ever known—YOU, the members and advisors of the FFA. YOU are the ones that have kept me in touch with reality. YOU are the ones that have made this year come alive.

In my search for a meaning, I was always led back to YOU. The meaning I found in you that I could not really do it alone. Without you, there was no reason to speak, no reason to leave out of a suitcase. I realize that the true meaning of life involves how you make others a part of yourself every speech, every mile, and every person that I have met is a part of me. As I depart this stage and this point in time of each of your lives with me. It is my desire, and yes my purpose, that a little part of me will go with each of you.

The search of a meaning begins and ends with YOU!!!

Cody Shorter III, 12024 Seaham Street, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434, (409) 234-2778.

"... To Keep The Dream Alive"

Kevin Cottman
1985-86 Central Region National Vice President

America, the dream goes on! It was November 16th, 1985, a date that I will never forget. I was sitting in the convention auditorium in section B, row 2, row 16 (I never clearly remember), and twenty-nine other very nervous national officer candidates. As I sat there that Saturday afternoon, I vividly recalled the late's activities of student interviews, meeting old friends who had come by to wish me luck, and the hours sitting in the hall and the sharing with the officer candidates as we related stories from our hometown to experiences in high school and college to our most embarrassing moments.

Finally the long awaited moment came. First they called Cindy, then Robert, then Rip, and then "for the office of National Vice President from the Central Region, Kevin Cottman." I leaped to my seat in a release of energy from a very long wait. I jumped to a height that I had never before and I was so excited to the stage with the quickness of Bruce Jenner, and tackled Cindy, Robert, and Rip. I was the only one of the Retirer. I was excited!

They installed us into office, Rick pulled the convention to an end with closing ceremonies and a tap of the gavel. People left by the way and I was asked to hear their congratulations. Then the auditorium was empty.

I walked slowly back to my hotel room, sat at the desk and stared at myself in the mirror. My dream had come true. I had run for office, been elected, and the dream of my youth had come true. I thought how simplistic that in a matter of seconds the greatest moment in my life had passed. But was the dream gone too?

In the song, "America, The Dream Goes On," it tells of...

"the dust of a country road and a song we must recall, and it sings on the farms and in the factory towns where you will find them there no song at all. And the words are the words our fathers heard as they whispered down the years. And the name of the song is the name of the dream that's music to our ears. America, the dream goes on!"

You've ever stopped and asked yourself, "How long will the dream go on?" Well, you will. America's dream goes on our organization, the Future Farmers of America, last? "How long will they go on before they are no more?"

In September of this year, I had the opportunity to address a very distinguished group of people who had gathered for the National Hall of Fame Dedication in Bonner Springs, Kansas. After my remarks, an older gentleman in his seventies stood up to the front of the audience and said a rugged, weathered face and rough, hard worn hands, and I knew in an instant he was a farmer. He pines me aside and gazed at me. His eyes would have been even my deepest thoughts. His gaze lasted for a few seconds more and then he asked, "Son, tell me, what is your dream?" His question seemed to burn the words into my heart and mind. I slammed something out of my mouth about these future farmers in farming, how young people have a chance to make a difference, and that I would be the best that I could be. I looked back into my parents' eyes and he said, "No matter what you dream, don't ever let it die." In that moment, I understood more about what I had ever done. I wanted to understand that to dreaming meant to stop hoping and that to stop hoping meant to stop living.

In this past year, I have been blessed to be a part of the lives of some of the most fantastic people who are filled with the spirit of life itself. From a California midwesterner, where we put on our own speech show, to the state of Washington and a speech that was dedicated to a dog named Rowdy, from a convention in Colorado that was visited by two aliens named Mork and Myrto, to a conference in Connecticut that was attacked by the ghost of Francis. I have been fortunate to have been able to look into the eyes of FFA members, advisors, and parents and see that twinkle of life in their eyes and be so loved and the twinkle wasn't there.

It would seem that in the world we live in we have a never been faced with such choices, problems and stress. So we could pick up a newspaper that summarized all the world events since our last national convention, we would read last night's front page of the Soviet Union at a place called Chernobyl, of a military strike against Lybia, of an earthquake in Mexico or El Salvador, and of the Space Shuttle Challenger. We could read stories of rising peer pressure and social pressures facing our society today. We would even read stories about our own industry, agriculture, and the conflicts, pain, and suffering of our very own people.

But did you notice something? Amid the innumerable problems that faced America and her people, at home and abroad, we survived. Not only did we survive, but we grew in strength, knowledge, and understanding. America and the dream continued on!

Many times this year, my thoughts have been with my family and the twinkle back in Missouri. As a child growing up, fairy tales or story telling sessions were few and far between so when we were one, my parents had my undivided attention!

One of the stories that intrigued me the most was the story of Rip Van Winkle. The story relates that a man who was not much of a hard worker when it came to his own tasks but always seemed to be around when others needed a hand. Despite this, he was one of the most "heckpoked" and "tongue-lashed" souls in the village. As he sat by his ax, the wind often blew into the courthouse square and the idlers in the discussions of some of the men in the village about the many problems facing the countryside, the American colonies, or their dear king, King George III. Much talk took place, but little action was matched to the words.

One day, Rip Van Winkle had enough of the village life, so he picked up his well-oiled and powdered rifle, whittled for his dog, Wolf, and set out for the hill sides of the Catskill mountains that surrounded the village. He sat for an afternoon of hunting. Rip hunted all afternoon without much luck so he decided to lie down for a

quick nap before starting his long journey back to the village. So he picked a nice spot in the green meadow and fell asleep.

When he awoke, he was shocked to find the morning sun shining on his face. Rip knew his wife would not be pleased. He reached over to pick up his gun, but instead he found it in the pine a nearby old, worn out flint lock rifle. In disgust, he shouldered the old gun and began heading back to the village. He was surprised at the stiffness of his joints.

When he arrived, it seemed changed. Many of the buildings he had known were gone and in their place were new buildings of a different design. He didn't recognize any of the names on the mailboxes either. Rip hurried to his own home and found instead a run-down old shack. He went back into the village to the courthouse square and where once had hung a picture of King George III, now was a picture of a man called George Washington. Rip Van Winkle had literally slept through a revolution.

As I have traveled this year, I have wondered how many of us are living in a Rip Van Winkle world? We live in a rapidly changing society. Almost daily, new technologies and discoveries are being made that affect our way of life. In our own industry of agriculture, bio-technical advancements and marketing developments, you've encountered a point that the last two years has been dubbed "an agricultural revolution." But just as in Rip Van Winkle's case, ladies and gentlemen, this is no time for sleeping! How long will the dream last? How long will America's dream go on? America has laid down at our feet the very question. Our parents are sending us loving messages to a time they cannot see, so that we may answer the question, "What will be our answer?"

I have been privileged to serve you and witness your answers to the question over and over again, because in you, America has a vision for the future. You have shared with me, not a children's story of a lary tale, but one of the greatest gifts anyone could give. A vision of hope, a vision of life, and a vision to keep the dream alive. And I know that...

**I am only one,
But still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something.
And because I cannot do everything,
I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.**

Well, the voices are changing, but the song is the same as it sings from state to shining sea. And as long as the music is strong and clear, we know that tomorrow will always be free.

My friends, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you, and as I leave this stage as a national officer, I ask this of you, that through your beliefs, your convictions, and your vision for the future, that you can do to keep the dream alive!

Kevin Colman, Route 1, Holiday, Missouri 65258, (816) 291-8722

the over 430,000 members of the FFA. I can, therefore, think of no place I'd rather than be there with you this morning. I have given my final speech as an active member of this organization.

Never before have I been associated with a group of people who have such high regard for my final speech as a future. Young men and women who are not ashamed to stand up and say, "I believe in the future of farming." Leaders who appreciate the dignity of a member, "without labor neither knowledge nor wisdom can accomplish much."

You have taught me many things this year. How to laugh and how to cry, how to stand up and be counted, or how to walk patiently by. You were there for me when I was there for you. In the good times and the bad, the happy times and the sad, we stood together—knowing that together we could do even the greatest challenges. You were there in unity and strength as we learned of the Space Shuttle Columbia's disaster last January. And even in that darkest hour, sorrow we realized that those seven heroes had given the ultimate sacrifice in search of a dream. You were there in your efforts to combat me and my family as cards, letters, and flowers arrived from around the country in remembrance of the biggest fan I have ever had—my father. I know now as he watches this convention from the portals of Heaven that he, too, is grateful for my association with such a fine organization of young people.

You were the ones who made me smile, who made me proud just to be me and to be a member of the Future Farmers of America. From the state convention in California to the chapter banquets in Iowa, from visiting with Greenlands in Missouri to working with Greenlands in state officers in Ohio. From chapter visits in New England to the leadership camps in Pennsylvania and South Dakota, you have been my family. It was probably just another ordinary day for Robert and John. The hour of prayer had arrived and they made their way to the steps of the cathedral. They had so many times before. But this day as they started into the gate an old, lame beggar, his clothes torn and dirty, gazed their attention. The beggar had laid at the temple every day with his hands outstretched for some offering of money from those who passed his way. But Peter, even though he didn't have any money, had a greater gift to give. He looked at the crippled man and said, "I have something to give you. I have something I will give to thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" Peter took the old man by the hand. As he stood up, his clothes shook and he went about lauding and shouting in appreciation of the gift he had received.

FFA members, you, too, have given so unselfishly of yourselves to insure the future of American agriculture as our nation's number one industry. There are no challenges that lie ahead that are more obstacles along the way. I only hope that we will remember the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Behold the labors of Nazib: bombers attack London during World War II. He said, "Tomorrow will be better. The day will come when we will win. The final victory will be ours!"

Not only have each of you been my inspiration, but I am forever indebted to the many friends and relatives back home from North Carolina who have helped to make this year so spectacular. My mother, who is here in Kansas City attending her first National FFA Convention, and the other members of my family, my v-o-g teachers and fellow FFA members at Williams Township High School, my friends and old classmates from North Carolina State University, our state officers and state staff, and the countless others who have supported me this year, knowing that their good comments are their achievements and that it all good things come from God.

And, of course, who could forget the five individuals who have shared in this Once in a Lifetime experience with me—my fellow national FFA officers, Kevin, of all the people in this auditorium, I am the almost confident that you all belong to Keep the Dream Alive. Robert, I appreciate the fact that we can end our year of service together as better friends than ever. Cody, your Search of a Meaning hasn't always been easy, but I am glad that we have tried to tackle that task together. Crdy, you have been The Greatest Inspiration that I have ever known, much because of you. I hope you never stop celebrating, and that your dedication and commitment as the leader of our organization and our team really has Made All the Difference.

As I approach the final hours of my seven-year tenure as an FFA member, I can only hope to conclude in much the same way as the Apostle Paul did when he wrote, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." FFA members, you have given me a once in a lifetime opportunity to serve the greatest youth organization on the face of the earth. For that, I thank you and may God bless you all! Kipling Godwin, Route 3, Box 208-A, Whiteville, North Carolina 28472, (919) 653-4349

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"Once in a Lifetime"

Kipling Godwin
1985-86 Eastern Region National Vice President

"Once in a Lifetime and it may be the last time FFA members, as I stand among you this morning, I find it almost impossible to say the words that will adequately express the feelings of pride and thankfulness that I have for the Future Farmers of America. This year, you have given me a once in a lifetime privilege of serving as your National FFA Vice President

As I prepared to present this address, I found myself reminiscing over the times that you have so often cherished most this year. These special moments have almost always seemed to be with you,

"... Friends"

Robert Weaver
1985-86 Southern Region National Vice President Weaver

1985-86 Southern Region National Vice President Weaver

1985-86 Southern Region National Vice President Weaver

1985-86 Southern Region National Vice President Weaver

1985-86 Southern Region National Vice President Weaver

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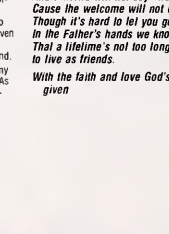
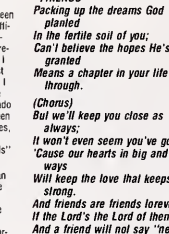
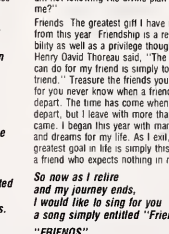
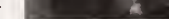
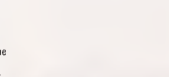
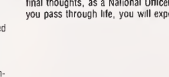
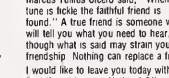
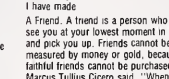
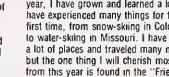
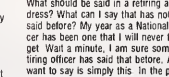
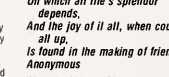
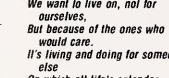
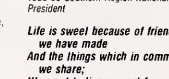
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Springing from the hope we know, We will pray the joy you'll live in is the strength that now you show

(Chorus)
No, a lifetime's not too long for us, friends!

As Bethlehem said, "Never shall I forget the days which I spent with you. Continue to be my friend as you will as ways I find you."

Robert Weaver, Route 1, Box 2214,

Hosieville, Alabama 35640, (205) 764-5959



"... Life is a Celebration!"

Cindy Blair
Western Region Vice President

Life is a Celebration

by Kids From Fame

"I was lost on a winding road,

I thought that life had nothing left to give.

But then you came and showed me that just to live was the greatest gift of all . . . and you showed me that life is a celebration!"

As I listen to these words, I can't help but think how someone could have written that song about my own life. During my junior year in high school, I participated in an extemporaneous speech contest and chose the topic "FFA Leadership Activities. A Positive Experience." I remember how I told the judges about one of my closest friends in the FFA. "She was a shy girl, very backward, and afraid of life. She seemed to be searching for a sense of security, an identity, a place to belong." Before listening to my speech, I realize that by getting involved in FFA, this young lady had begun to set goals and develop self-worth. She learned to accept challenges and believe in her ability to achieve. The friend I was talking about in that speech was actually me. Up until my freshman year in high school, my life had lacked direction. I had definitely felt like I was lost on a winding road. I wasn't sure what life had to give, but I felt that I personally had not to nothing to offer.

Fortunately, my involvement in vocational agriculture and FFA helped me change those negative feelings of self-doubt into a feeling of self-determination and an enthusiasm for life by participating in FFA contests and activities. I began to realize that even Cindy Blair had talents and that her life had a purpose. I learned to value opportunities, and with the encouragement of my advisors, parents, and friends, I began to draw a new road map for my life.

And yet, despite all I had learned, I still did not understand how to celebrate life. I had grown up celebrating holidays such as Easter, Christmas and the 4th of July. I had celebrated on special occasions like marriages, anniversaries or the birth of a child. I especially celebrated achievements like winning a contest or reaching a major goal. . . . As I began my year in office, I realized that nothing in this world could surpass the incredible sense of celebration that I felt, when I was called to this stage November 16, 1986 as Western Region Vice President. It was at that moment that I reached my highest goal and I knew it was mine. I had achieved what I had dreamed of by being a National Officer since my sophomore year in high school, and it was right here in this auditorium that I told my advisor about my dream of someday wearing an FFA jacket with no lettering on the back. When that dream came true, I felt certain that being elected to be the 430,000 FFA members had to be the greatest celebration of my lifetime. It wasn't!

I wasn't until recently, however, that I discovered the real truth about my life's greatest celebrations. You see, throughout my year of service, you members have taught me that life itself is truly the greatest celebration of my lifetime. This is certainly not a profound thought

in fact, it's pretty simple. It isn't even a new concept because we've probably all heard it. Someday, I thought that just surviving your harassment would be cause for celebrating; but you've taught me a great deal, and I have never regretted being the only girl on the team. I can honestly say that I love and respect each of you, and you'll always hold a special place in my heart.

Mr. Horton, as my FFA advisor, you stood by me through thick and thin. You believed in me at times when I didn't even believe in myself. I hope that someday I can repay your efforts by encouraging a shy, backward freshman to believe in himself the way you helped me believe in myself.

I am certainly thankful that the Lord has given me the opportunity to be a part of such a dynamic organization, and I stand before you, my fellow members, with humble gratitude and appreciation for allowing me to serve you this year. As I searched my heart for the final words to share with you, I found this quote in my diary dated 1984: "The day will come when we must have enough confidence in ourselves that we can forget about the material things that we think make us happy, and just be happy for who we are and what we are. . . . We have to learn that life itself is truly the greatest celebration."

"The secret of life is in the living not just standing there and watching life go by. And the secret of love is in the giving, you've got to open up your heart and dredge inside. You know it's worth a try."

"Celebrate life in every way you can, you just purg it right in and live it every single moment of every day. There's one thing to be sure of . . . you'll end up having more love when, you've given love away."

Cindy Blair, Route 1, Box 306, Noble, Oklahoma 73068, (405) 872-5303.

It would take a book to list all of the moments from the past, because regardless of where I was or what I was doing, it was each of you who made the difference. As times throughout my life, including this year in office, I have been faced with challenges, frustrations, and doubts, and I certainly did not feel like celebrating. During those times I focused myself referring to God's promise in Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

Perhaps, FFA members, you understand this verse for better than I do, because it was each of you who helped remind me that even when times are tough, life is worth celebrating! But I feel that I would like to celebrate life even though my family had recently lost their farm. Doug celebrated with laughter and smiles, even though being dead men's hearts for him to verbally express his excitement and determination. Dan and Troy celebrated continuously, determined never to allow their whistles to prevent them from fulfilling their duties as state officers. My fellow national officers have celebrated this year, as births, marriages, and deaths touched each of their families, and reminded all of us of life's precious value.

Some of you may be thinking that your life is different from mine, that things are a little tougher for you; that you couldn't possibly achieve your highest goals; and that you just don't have much to celebrate. This is the case, hard to say perhaps this poem written by Jerry Paxon, a Wyoming FFA Advisor and dear friend, might encourage you to look for the ways of celebrating in your own life.

Can You
can you meet the challenges
you'll encounter on the way?
Can you face the changes that come with each new day?

Can you take some chances with faith in that great force?
Can you make the choices that will keep you on your course?

Can you conquer all your fears and help others do the same?
Can you count yourself with honor and dignity your name?

Can you make commitments and stand steadfast and strong?
Can you make concessions when it's hard that you are wrong?

Can you keep your confidence even when you fail?
Can you find compassion?
Can you give more than you get?

Can you show contentment for those who need a friend?
Can you confirm your faith in God until the very end?

Can you celebrate life? As I conclude my year in office, there are a few folks I want to thank. To my family and friends, I have gained an even greater appreciation for each of you in the past 12 months. Whenever I look back on the road by myself, I always knew that I was never really alone. I felt your love stretch across the ocean to me and Thailand from Washington State down to Florida and back in place in between.

To my fellow officers, I had never a brother until this year, and suddenly I had one! Someday, I thought that just surviving your harassment would be cause for celebrating; but you've taught me a great deal, and I have never regretted being the only girl on the team. I can honestly say that I love and respect each of you, and you'll always hold a special place in my heart.

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Cindy Blair, Route 1, Box 306, Noble, Oklahoma 73068, (405) 872-5303.



The International FFA program had not only a very active year, but also a very active convention. Colin Bell, a member of the Young Farmers Clubs of England addressed the convention on behalf of the WEA Inbound participants, while Chuck Gates, WEA 1986, from Ohio, spoke on behalf of the WEA Outbound participants and presented a "Past participants Scholarship" to the National FFA. The scholarship is to help WEA members pay for their outbound program in 1987.

Work Experiences Abroad (WEA) allows for hundreds of members to travel and learn different agricultural practices by living in other countries with host families in a variety of different ways as many members learned after stopping by the International WEA room in H. Roe Bartle.

WEA Outbound Students

Alabama: Jeff Boutwell, Robert W. Wepner, Alabama; Justin Avary, Arizona; Dionne Montoya, Kristen Sinceli, Jose Prieta, Arizona; Thomas Warren, California; Rick Adams, Kate Edzie, Lon Nettis, Lynn Rozario, Boone Thornton, Colorado; Chris Frasier, Ginger Lovoy, Michelle Prochaska, Shawn Rodwell, Brett Ruffalo, Connecticut; Peter Ramsay, Hawaii; Chan Kawachi, Idaho; Tracy Edruff, Rick Erickson, Annette Ferarstaf, Brad Herrmann, Jennifer King, Julie Kuban, Robert Taylor, Janice Slavy, Deneal Stoehr, Marib Wink, Michelle West, Indiana; Jack Heller, Iowa; John Armstrong, Danielle Bennett, Kalya Brix, Andrew Bluff, Ruth Meberly, Bruce Scherbaum, Kentucky; Carl Davis, Michigan; Steven C. Boyer, Karen Cant, Shane Cow, Michael Duen, Diane Glassick, Claire Koldick, Christopher Lukert, Karen E. Redding, Mike Shane, Robert Taylor, Dennis J. Weyburne, Minnesota;

Luxembourg Specials

Rory Lather and his wife were brought over from Luxembourg where he has driven the tractor bus for two WEA and six Agricultural Proficiency Travel Seminars. Lather has done more than just drive a bus, he has played a major role, interpreter and latherly uncle to many FFA members. Past participants of the Lather tours sponsored by me and his wife to the National FFA Convention so they could see what the FFA is really all about here at home. Lather also received the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

100% Plus States

This year seven states were recognized during the national convention for having 100% or more of their vocational agriculture enrollment in FFA. The states honored were: Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

National FFA Week

Sponsored by Kaiser/Estech Divisions of Vigoro Industries, Inc.

FFA Week will be the week of February 21-26, 1987. Many new items will be available. Members are urged to show their communities that vocational agriculture and FFA do indeed prepare "Leaders for the New Fields of Agriculture."

EXCELLENCE

FFA offers opportunities to young men and women studying high school agriculture to help them develop the next generation of excellent excellence.

MADE IN THE FFA.



"Think About It" Audio-Visual

Sponsored by The Wrangler Brand

This year's theme show was designed to communicate the diversity of agricultural career fields open to students through vocational agriculture. The eight-minute film is ideal for potential students of vocation and complements the recruitment film, "Be All You Can Dream." It is available for purchase from the National FFA Supply Service.

International FFA Program



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WEA Outbound Students

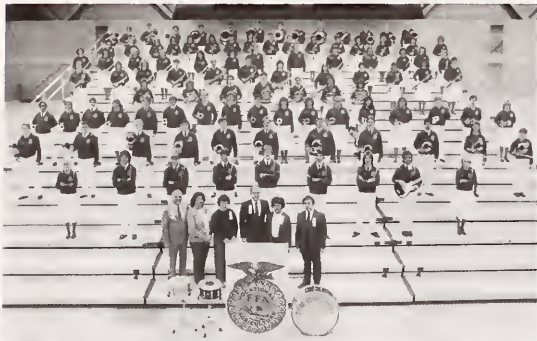
Alabama: Jeff Boutwell, Robert W. Wepner, Alabama; Justin Avary, Arizona; Dionne Montoya, Kristen Sinceli, Jose Prieta, Arizona; Thomas Warren, California; Rick Adams, Kate Edzie, Lon Nettis, Lynn Rozario, Boone Thornton, Colorado; Chris Frasier, Ginger Lovoy, Michelle Prochaska, Shawn Rodwell, Brett Ruffalo, Connecticut; Peter Ramsay, Hawaii; Chan Kawachi, Idaho; Tracy Edruff, Rick Erickson, Annette Ferarstaf, Brad Herrmann, Jennifer King, Julie Kuban, Robert Taylor, Janice Slavy, Deneal Stoehr, Marib Wink, Michelle West, Indiana; Jack Heller, Iowa; John Armstrong, Danielle Bennett, Kalya Brix, Andrew Bluff, Ruth Meberly, Bruce Scherbaum, Kentucky; Carl Davis, Michigan; Steven C. Boyer, Karen Cant, Shane Cow, Michael Duen, Diane Glassick, Claire Koldick, Christopher Lukert, Karen E. Redding, Mike Shane, Robert Taylor, Dennis J. Weyburne, Minnesota;

WEA Inbound Students

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, People's Republic of China, Finland, France, West Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Thailand

National FFA Band

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



FFA musicians directed by Roger Heath, Boulder, Colorado, presented a great variety of musical selections after having been together less than a week. Members were selected from audition tapes and brought together for the first time on Sunday before the convention to practice the music performed throughout the convention. Heath was aided by Assistant Director Gene Engler, Chaperones and Assistants to the Director, Mrs. Gene Engler and Mary Heath.

Alabama: Brett Bridges, Scottsboro, Bassoon; Arkansas: Marcus Dorman, Farmington, Tuba; Teri Ward, Salem, Trumpet; California: Karenita Legg, Ramona, Trumpet; Connecticut: Laurel Wood, Killingworth, Clarinet; Hawaii: Sam K. Eichelberger, Kakaia, Trumpet; Idaho: Aida Callison, Kendrick, Flute; Illinois: Randy Baysinger, Stockton, BAR C; Randy Gendler, Collinsville, Trumpet; Trish McLaugh, Bushnell, Alto Saxophone; David Moelling, Fox-

ler, Trombone; Deleen Schmidt, Altamont, Bassoon; Indiana: Kenneth Eck, DWELL, BAR B; Eric Enrnsberger, Alto Saxophone; BAR BC; Connie Furnish, Veavy, Danner; Robert McKinney, Montpelier, Percussion; Carl Wayne Ransell, Hobbiesville, Trombone; Melvin Slowers, Bensenville, Tuba; Iowa: Julia Addison, Dexter, Drice; Rance Anderson, Brighton, Clarinet; Steve Bay, Albia, Trombone; Letha Davis, Hazleton, Bass Clarinet; Richard Goodhue, Carleton, Clarinet; Karen Osterkamp, Guttenberg, Bass Saxophone; Kansas: Angela Baldwin, Elkhart, Trombone; Brian Davidson, Delphos, Trombone; Dennis Fry, Fort Scott, Clarinet; Matt Mills, Houghton, Trumpet; Robert Tersinar, Farlington, Percussion; Kentucky: Terri L. Hale, Frankton, Horn; Bobby Phelps, Fredonia, Trumpet; Eric J. Tarzan, Brooksville, Tuba; Louisiana: Kai Griffin, Cut Off, Bass Guitar; Maryland: Jennifer Biddinger, Union Bridge, Trumpet; Sheila Leatherman, Frederick, Flute; Michigan: Dolores Austin, Thompsonville, Clarinet; Sheryl Irene Cochran, Fenwick, Trumpet; Beth Ann Henry, Cassville, Flute; Mark Wagner, Britton, Trombone; Minnesota: Kristin Borstad, St. James, Percussion; Cary Durning, Butterfield, Trumpet; Becky Ripplinger, Denver, Flute; Brett Stanghele, Lake Lillian, Tuba; Mississippi: Vince Galin, Soso, Trombone; Missouri: Holly Bauer, Hartsburg, Bass Clarinet; Linda Froeschle, Sedalia, Alto Saxophone; Garrick Hein, Booneville, Trumpet; Brian Hill, Maysville, Trombone; G. Lee Morland, Union, Trumpet; Tracy Neumeier, Jackson, Horn; Montana: Ula Rae Hill, Power, Clarinet; Sara Hovgen, Melstone, Horn; Greg Vandenberg, Conrad, Trumpet; James Watts, Fairview, Trombone; Nebraska: David Huinsky, Burwell, Percussion; Jeff McNeil, Red Cloud, Trumpet; Brian Midge, Verdugo, Clarinet; Sonya Schreier, Norfolk, Bass

National FFA Chorus

Sponsored by the National FFA General Fund

FFA members from all over, auditioned by tape to become members of the National FFA Chorus directed by Stan Kingma, Vineland, New Jersey. Others involved with the National FFA Chorus were: Owen Robbins, Accompanist and Assistant Director; Butch Taylor, Assistant Director; Marilyn Kingma, Chaperone and Assistant to the Director and Mrs. Butch Taylor, Chaperone and Assistant to the Director. Chorus members arrived early for the intense practice necessary to provide the quality entertainment experienced by those in attendance at this national convention.

Alabama: Michael Bankston, Opelika; Arizona: Melody Langford, Wellton; Arkansas: Karen Christensen, Hatfield; Rene Roberts, Woods; Georgia: Keshia Brimlow, Donaldsonville; Idaho: Mike Sutton, Midsval; Michelle Turman, Inverness; Teresa Benson, Garland; Jeff Claess, Ossana Park, Carrie Griffin, Payson; Giey Harmon, Stockton; Brian Klinge, Fort Byron; Chris Thomson, Pittsfield; Indiana: Gary Allen, Kokomo; Matthew Curtis, Union City; Melinda Schultz, Argos; Brent Vance, Wayne-town; Iowa: Justin Benno, Sioux Center; Brian Lehman, Eagle Grove; Beulah Dison, Stormy City; Kurt Omsundson, Nashua; Jenny Riggan, West Liberty; Barth Walter, Gutterberg; Jason Wells, Wilson; Rick Wieragender, Pocolantons; Kansas: Julie Rutlan, Leavenworth; Kentucky: Kelly Parker, Hickman; Michigan: Felipe Lorigna, Dowet; Minnesota: Brian Beidahn, Hewitt; Michael Henning, Brewster; Darwin Johnson, Vergas; Jill Koehl, Hancock; Tina Larson, Duwatomia; Danny Ray, Ada; Timothy Vogt, Avon; Kimberley Wetz, Waterloo; Mary Pritchett, Aurora; Texas: Julie Hooks,

Thayer, Garrick Hein, Booneville; David Jeffries, Green Ridge; Daniel Keene, Salem; Scott Lane, Liberal; Walter Miller, Arbia, Thad Reynolds, Harrisonville; Amy Seger, Warrenton; Randy Sprout, Warrensburg; Shaun Swenson, Weathery; Kimberly Terry, Gladstone; Montana: Joa Buer, Scoblen; Colleen Robertson, Judith Gap; Randy Rosman, Standard; Nebraska: Ryan Piazek, Wilber; Dustin Premier, Blue Hill; Brian Sandall, Bassett; New Mexico: Trace Jeffs, Roswell; Jeff Wallace, Melrose; New York: Sara Jane Bellingr, Howes Cave; John Hajdusz, Evans Mills; Lance Rones, Philadelphia; North Dakota: Kirk Dixon, Valley City; Dine: Alan Archholz, Alaska; Dan Coy, Eaton; Lynn Hughes, Gambier; Mark O'Neil, Delta; David Rodgers, London; Wendy Wilkerson, Arlington; Joy Young, Warsaw; Oklahoma: Tawana Scott, Pawnee; Tava Seifer, Enid; Terri Watts, Blackwell; Oregon: Troy Hymer, Tiller; South Carolina: Lavonia Press, Holly Hill; George Ulmer, Coe; South Dakota: Timothy Horler, Carpenter; Mark Miller, Hurley; Charles Wheeler, Aurora; Texas: Julie Hooks,



Washington: Juli Davis, Orondo; Kerri Gale, Yelm; Angela Phinney, McMillin; Karen Pritchett, Albion; Tami Swarnack, Lamont; Lisa Thom, Snohomish; West

Virginia: Pamela Ash, Alma; Wisconsin: Daniel Grady, Cottage Grove; Tammy Lukse, Bordertel; Ann Newhouse, Lake Mills; Dan Osen, Verdugo; Richard Dixon, Sturgeon Bay; Rose Schwend-

man, Hartford, Knoxville Tennessee, Hartford

National FFA Talent

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation General Fund



Talent groups and individuals auditioned for directors, Don and Martha Erickson, Makoti, North Dakota, just prior to the convention. Members showed a wide range of talent and skills throughout the convention.

Arizona: Oser Valley FFA Chapter, Rochelle Satterfield; Arkansas: Delight FFA Chapter, Ginger Allgood; California: Mi Whitney FFA Chapter, Michelle Ford, Oakhurst; Yosemite FFA Chapter, Pam Wheeler; Colorado: Dolores FFA Chapter, Michelle Kuhlman; Holyoke FFA Chapter, Michelle Kuhlman; Holyoke FFA Chapter, Dianne A. Schmidt; Rocky Ford FFA Chapter, Annette M. Fry; Connecticut: Woodbury FFA Chapter, Alicia Wilde; Nancy Stockman, Florida: Plant City FFA Chapter, Penny Dubois; Connie Laney; Georgia: Monroe Area FFA Chapter, Brandi Brewer, Tania Nottingham; Murray FFA Chapter, Don Talum; Randy Talant, Hawaii: Kona waena FFA Chapter, Raynette Halemana; Illinois: Chicago Ag Science FFA Chapter, Eric Beglund; Tiffany Charrel Ekins, Kenneth Hill, North Green FFA Chapter, Kendra Lorton; Olympic FFA Chapter, Becky Hunt, Cindy Springer; Iowa: Central City FFA Chapter, Lucinda

Hines; Davis-Rodgers FFA Chapter, Kelly Miller; Michigan: Benze Central FFA Chapter, Tim Lynn Casey; Central FFA Chapter, Missy Lee Wagner; Ockeville FFA Chapter, Ronald Zdrojewski; Quincy FFA Chapter, David Marshall; Tom Marshall, Minnesota: Foley FFA Chapter, Andy Rowlett; Jeff Massey, Greg Massey, Mike Masie, Tim Winkelman, Todd Winkelman; Heron Lake-Oakbana FFA Chapter, Christine Henning; New Richmond FFA Chapter, Paul Krohn, Dennis Neason; Matt Brey, Missouri: Hermann FFA Chapter, Pam Allison; Christina Lynn Gibbs, North Harrison FFA Chapter, Kelli Bennett, Melissa LaBel, Amy Thomas; Pleasant Hope FFA Chapter, Kathy Musmann; Couch FFA Chapter, Renee Olmick; Montana: Judith Gray FFA Chapter, Colleen Robertson; Nebraska: Hampton FFA Chapter, Allen Beck; Ord FFA Chapter, Andy Bredthauer, Jay Knapp, Scott Vanceau, Jeanine Staab, Lynette Staab; North Carolina: State FFA

Officers, Mickey McCall, C.J. Ekins, Hugh Solomon, William B. Lippchuck, Ricky Warren, Ekan, West; New Mexico: Corona FFA Chapter, Marvin Pounds; New York: Sharon Springs FFA Chapter, Kerry Anne Kennedy; North Dakota: Bottineau FFA Chapter, Natascha Anna Oser; Lake-Burlington FFA Chapter, Kevin Stevens; Ohio: Federal Hocking FFA Chapter, Deana Bennett, Laura Sheridan; Licking County JVS FFA Chapter, Mark Pries; Oklahoma: Natchita FFA Chapter, Scott Hottel, Traci Stover; Chisholm FFA Chapter, Shannon Fore, Cushing FFA Chapter, Norman Ladz; Oavertown FFA Chapter, Oledrick Miller; Tecumseh FFA Chapter, Melissa Hembro; Tennessee: County FFA Chapter, Kimberly Jean Carey; Texas: Van Alstyne FFA Chapter, Stacy Burk; Vesta FFA Chapter, Carlos Garbay Jr.; Washington: Ellensburg FFA Chapter, Janice L. Beckel, Kaye S. Beckel, Toledo FFA Chapter, Rob Embody

American Farmer Degree

Sponsored by Case IH, Farm Credit System; NA-CHUSA Plant Food Company; Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Incorporated and Cynamid Agricultural Division, American Cynamid Company



Considered the FFA's "cream of the crop," recipients of the American Farmer Degree are recognized nationally for their achievements in agriculture and leadership abilities. Recommended to the delegate body at the 59th Annual National FFA Convention are 735 deserving young people who through hard work and dedication, have become knowledgeable of farming and agricultural agribusiness practices. Recipients of the degree are well versed in the methods of today's agricultural market. Through their participation in FFA activities and community service organizations, all recipients have in some way proven themselves to be leaders. The gold key is now theirs—something that less than two out of every 1000 members ever earns.

Alabama: Brian Bass, Henagar; Phillips Charles, Midland City; Chris Chelers, Skipperville; Michele Darrow, Birmingham; Michael Gasset, Sapevalville; Bruce Harris, Joppa; Terry Holtz, West Blocton; Jon Hoks, Opelika; David Jackson, Lester; Steven Love, Dora; Scott Mackey, Center; Norman Mason, Hogersville; Robert McCluskey, Athens; Peter Moore, Dopeika; William Morgan III, Phenix City; Thomas Ridinger, Elkhart; Tommy Spurr, Cauleyville; Scotty Shirley, Daleville; Charles Short, Opp; David Swadlow, Dopeika; Jimmy Thompson, Midland City; Christopher Drea, Spragueville; Paul Ramez, Luis Ibarra; Douglas, Tamm; Buckey, Landrum; Tolson; Laura Moran, Tazewell; George Drea, Spragueville; Paul Ramez, Tazewell; Ronald Meyer, Litchfield Park; Steven Sims, San Simon; Gregory Stewart, Timpes; **Arkansas:** Marshall Hendrix, Little Rock; George Drea, Spragueville; Paul Ramez, Tazewell; Debbie Hays, Fayetteville; Teresa Hendrix, Marshall; Tony Holden, Lake City; Scott Lightfoot, Morrilton; Praine Grove, Jeffrey Ray, Lavaca; Jeanne Toiley, Candan; Johnne VanDusen, Little Rock; **California:** Terry Albertson, Visalia; Timothy Adams, Elk Grove; Stacy Bark, Lodi; Jess Barajas, North Hollywood; Serena Benadum, Hawthorn; Rick Carey, Kingsburg; Christopher Adams, Fresno; Gary Loewen, Oroville; Chouchella, Steven Davis, Santa Paula; Brock Edwards, Royal & Reddy; Jeff Engquist, Lake City; Jami Keston, John; Joseph Fara, Visalia; Marianne Feigel, Santa Ysabel; Gary Fernandes, Tulare; Domenic Fio, Orinda; Robert Francis, Visalia; Ray Garrett, Edward Hartzell; Cayucos; Thomas Henslee, Kingsburg; Brian Heags, Lancaster; George Drea, Farnsworth City; Lee Loewen, Hanford; Richard Kygator, Salinas; Randall Jahn, Sanger; Brendo Lewis, Orinda; Robert Hedges, Mendocino; David Mendonza, Visalia; John Nook, Chico; Vincent Nunes, Merced; Manuel Diversa III, Bakersfield; Brett Ferry, Fresno; Darlene Pahlke, Tipton; Virginia Pitter, El Cajon; Geraldine Prevodelli, Watsonville; Richard Rezendes, Jr., Chowchilla; David Roberts, Mendocino; Leroy Rooks, Ceres; Jason Rodriguez, Paso Robles; Jeffrey Rogers, Oroville; Deborah Schmitt, Fresno; Fred Schultz, Fresno; Darin Stevens, Kingsburg; Slaughter, James, Truett; Slesiter, Prather; Todd Snyder/Mays, Firebaugh; Tom Sousa, Tipton; Jon Tollman, Elk Grove; Jeff Ferrara, Delano; Jason Kendall, Jeffrey Wilbur, Upland; Colorado: Steven Hae, Montrose; Farley Jacques, Craig; Stacy Kelly, Greeley; Kent Kelsbach, Sterling; Kevin May, Lamar; Michael McKee, Arriba; Troy Merrill, Brush; Roger Sedout, Yuma; Brett Veachery, Arriba; Donald Sandy, Woodrow, Connecticut: W. Todd Clark, Lebanon; Lisa Kachele, Trumbull; Wilton Clark, Cornwall Bridge; James Smith, Lebanon; Sarah Vennema, York North Franklin; **Delaware:** James Maston, Smyrna; Dean Stotler, Clayton; Freddie Ra Barrow, Diano; Shane Brooks, Christina; Kelly Busch, Gatesville; Lynette Dalwood, Myaska City; Lee DuPont, Dutton; Sherry Galt, Westville; Michele Hardin, Rock

Andy McKee, Avon Park; Lane Jameson, Balm; Steve Kaufman, Sarasota; Lisa Kelley, Candler; James Meares, Blountstown; Kenneth Drott, Groveside; Linda Padgett, Sarasota; Linda Randall, Orange City; Wesley Wainwright, McAlpin; James Wesley, Flagler Beach; **Georgia:** William Akron, Jr., Elvay; Marshall Brezetti, Jr., Adel; William Bert, Metter; Brian Brown, Donalsonville; Tony Bezemam, Sylvester; Billy Bramlett, Elvay; Van Brown, Baldwin; Ben Brown, Baldwin; Terry England, Auburn; Keith Griner, Moultrie; Joey Herling, Lake Park; Case Hunter, Dalton; Michael Bradly Bowers, Dalton; Dennis Low, Dalton; Melvin Johnson, Jr., Covington; Daryl Jones, Whigham; Robby Knight, Wigham; Hugh Dallas, Cartersville; Aubrey Lee, Alma; Collin Lyle, Reckman; Timothy Magill, Dallas; Bryan Moore, Adel; Jonathan Padgett, Baxley; Ray Adams, Elvay; Lonnie Robinson, Jr., Thomaston; Grayly Thompson III, Titon; Angela White, Hahira; George Wright, Talking Rock; **Hawaii:** Kai Chanaka, Honolulu; **Idaho:** Robert Sterling, Mark Frisbie, Kunz; James Hill, Nampa; Allan Holmes, Burley; Eric Jensen, Fruitland; Brent Reynolds, Kuna; Jay Schindler, Idaho Falls; **Illinois:** David Anderson, Sycamore; Darren Bailey, Xenia; Todd Barkley, Mound; Deborah Beckle, DeKalb; Brent Dora, Sycamore; Lora Carlberg, Canton; Timothy Carlson, Galesburg; Edward Chausse, Nokomis; Michael Chausse, Nokomis; Michael Chausse, Nokomis; Paw Paw, Thomas Fitchens, Shawburn; Lynn Granby, Vena; Dale Holtman, Sycamore; Michael Jones, Sublette; Wnaq Kammer, Sycamore; Lindsey Kinnison, New Athens; Randy Lobley, Brighton; Jeffrey Maerhofer, Charleston; Charles Schere, Pulliam; Vermina Searles, Pulliam; George Sogoruck, Pulliam; Benjamin Stratemeyer, Metropolis; Patrick Toamhi, Leyla; Torres Trumbull; Gregory, Kent Hill; **Indiana:** Paul Mark Wising, DeKalb; Indiana: Karen Abel, Spangville; Dennis Addison, Kearsale; Darinm Abell, Vevoy; Anthony Kasper, Gary; Brad Barclay, Kearsale; John Erbel, Batesville; William Ferrel, Frankfort; Ronald Funk, Woodburn; Michael Goshen, Gary; Brad Barclay, Frankfort; Roy Howe, Hudson; Thomas Knollman, Liberty; Christopher McKee, Adams; Jason Miller, Woodburn; David Snyder, Syracuse; Dennis Sips, Spencer; Brian Snyder, Winchester; Scott Strong, Lebanon; Timothy Wyvok, Dennis; Clayton Moore, Grand Union; Dana Decker, Walker; Kevin Anderson, Creston; Shane Fussley, Walker; Adam Ganser, West Liberty; Ryan Han, Parkersburg; Mark Henry, Whittemore; Kelly James, Mount Airy; Bryan Kotler, Medaps; Richard Meyer, Howe Falls; Michelle Pappas, Mount Airy; Brad Union; Springs; Mike Stark, Iowa Falls; Mike Sparg, Atlantic; Greg Rankin, Beckville; George Staley, Anna; Christopher Stolt, Parkersburg; Eric Ulteris; Annam Jo Eric Van Lamen, Keokuk; Kevin Wubena, Geneva; Kansas: Daniel Bels, Degahe; Steve Bradyberry, Hill City; Wabaco Brockhoff, Hannah; Kimberly Bethel, Lincolnville; Stacy Campbell, Galesburg; Farny Constable, Ido Rapp; Dan Robinson, Wyo.

son City; Erin Griffie, Marysville; Thomas Hult, Columbus; Philip Kirk, Clayton; Melaine Milquist, Courtland; Walter Schlatter, Lebanon; Steve Spengel, Fortnopa; Kevin Stauffer, Mayetta; Daryl Yarrow, City Center; **Kentucky:** Bob Allen, Russellville; Timothy Chester, Trenton; Todd Dickson, Woodbury; James Gardner, Cave County; Barry Gash, Wadley; Robert Hens, Philpot; Paul Langley, Bagdad; Richard Reynolds, Bowling Green; Andrew Roe, North Middletown; Kelly Smith, Bowling Green; Tim White, Lexington; **Louisiana:** Stacy Blount, Carencro; Todd Crochet, Pierre Pate, Scotty Herbert, Rayne; R. Wayne Mott, Lafayette; Robert N. Nichols, Provençal; James Warren, Saline; **Maine:** Brent Buck, Magalloway; Ken Grass, Mt. Hope; **Maryland:** Laura Albaugh, Walkersville; William Allen III, Jefferson; Richard Eaves, Woodsboro; Brian Glass, Emmitsburg; Mark Dobson, Salisburyville; Bradly Bowers, Dennis; Louis Thumrott; Sarah Daborn; **Massachusetts:** Melissa Lopez, Dennis; Dennis Besch, Holland; Dale Darling, Wells; Kevin Dutcher, Duxso; Robert Fortine, North Jeffrey Gasper; Boding Francis, Webster; Constance David Page, Mayville; Dale Mitchell, Saco; **Minnesota:** Patrick Anderson, LeRoy; Mark Berens, Elk River; Keith Berens, Frida; Bill Hering, Marquette; Dean Harder, Mountain Lake; Joe Henze, Belgrade; Wesley Houghton, Dilig; Scott Javen, Fergus Falls; Frank Kottke, Buffalo Lake; Randy Lupinski, Eden Valley; David Lison, Moorhead; Daniel Farner, Fairfax; Dana Schmiede, Farmort; John Seeger, Mahanogay; Gary Sloan, Plainview; Kim Strop, N. Crockett; Donald Thore, Kandiyohi; Kevin Wetzel, Waterville; **Mississippi:** William Feltner, Natchez; Raymond Carson, Robert Patterson, Nettleton; Mary Lou Nettleton; Duane Weems, Laurel; Anthony Adams, Lumberton; Max Allegor, Stratford; Brian Allison, Fildemington; Jerry Barnes, Columbia; Bradley Spurg, Princeton; Michelle Collins, Farmort; Nancy Ernie, Stockton; Marc Craven, Norborne; Billy Dugan, Buffalo; David Ehaert, Maury; Robert Frye, Leopold; Richard Fordyce, Belzoni; Phillip Frigley, Rosedale; Shondell Haer, Taylor; Kevin Hartshorn, Eagleview; Brad Hassengaer, New Haven; Thomas Hays, Edinburg; Keith Longan III, California; Todd Lynde, Windsor; Ralph Nelson, Farber; Richard Norris, Powerville; Cynthia Powell, Reeds; Raymond Fugate, Farber; Jeffrey Watts, Jeffrey Watts, Milan; Stanley Sievers, Jackson; Chns Weeber, Norborne; Michael Kirk, Flynn; Farnee Keith Glass, Denton; James Gemme, Judit Gap; Vaughn Holt, Fairfield; Bruce Larson, Pennington; Paul Magnus, Fairfield; Steven Thussen, Revere; **Nebraska:** Dennis Ashton, Waverly; Brian Bauer, Fairbury; Sam Beeson, Bee; Holly, Robert Jensen, Red Cloud; Steve Johnson; Arlet; Brian Johnson, Holdrege; Michael Johnson, Lincoln; David Keppke, Blue River; Neal Lewis, Rusk; Greg Lewis, Klappan; Patricia Mady, Verdugo; James Eric, Marc; Marc Peters, Hampton; Doug Storkel, Edgar; Bradley Wilkins, Arden; David Nevada, McCarty; Ruby Valley; Terry Seal; Eiko, Craig

Travis, New Hampsire; Neil Morrins; Theresa Morrins; **North Carolina:** New Jersey: Wayne Beal, Jr.; Bridgeton; Kenneth Inpitt, Cream Ridge; Ross Mills; Princeton, Princeton Woodlot; **North Dakota:** New Mexico: Anthony Hondo, Mike Cans, Portales; John Humphrey; Carizozo; Kendra Zachek, Columbus; Mike Kelly, Calvin; **Ohio:** William Eastman, Eillsburg; Mare Ely-Way-Ashley, Genessee; PA: David Kirwan, Walton; Lee Morrison, Wagners; Edward D'Bray, Lehigh; **Oklahoma:** Senn, Randolph, Wayne Ogden, Madison; **North Carolina:** Kenneth Barbold; Mount Blue; Clinton Bayless; Beaulieu; Don Brown, Washington; **South Carolina:** Milton, Ken Brackshouse; Elizabeth City; Lisa Bryan, Bladenboro; Johnny Cope, Princeton; Douglas Cox, Princeton; Phyllis Crane, Whitefile; Dale Davis, Statesburg; Alan Erwin, Cary; Lou Good, Staley; Beth Fowlkes, Yarbrough; Kelly Freeman, Cotteridge; John Foxoodman, China Grove; Scotty Jacobs, Tabor City; Duane Leonard, Thomasville; Stray Laffin, Jr.; Denton; Gray McPherson, Chadbourn; John Pless, Rockwell; Paul Scotton, Staley; Hugh Wade Soomson, Jr.; Wilkinston; Kent Tucker, Greenville; Paula Water, Mooresville; Paula Water, Seven Springs; Jonathan Worthington; South Mills; **North Dakota:** Robert Buckner, Minnewauka; Barry Dorn, Grand Forks; Derrell Fick, Menard; Tom Freund, Grand John Henke, Jr.; Gackle; Lyndon Hoy; **McGregor;** Jack Johnson, Grand Forks; **South Dakota:** City; Leslie Knudsen, Crosby; Daran Sagvold; McLeod; Lyle Timms; Candio; Ricky Tweten; Wagram; Calvin Wall; Robert O'Bye; Robert T. Gumbury; Daran Brown, Washington Court House; Bernadette Bruning, York; John Dawson, Willard; Center; Christopher Doherty, Rapid City; **Tennessee:** Anna, Timothy Eppley; Zanesville; William Foss, Marysville; Rick Gifford, Malta; Doug Griffith; Ada, Brian Grinn; Sherie Huestad; Harland; Cindy Inne; Blomington; Thomas Klein; Leatona; **Texas:** Charles Hinkle, Leake; Paul Praine; Dennis Marland; Jefferson; Charles Moellendorf; Pleasantville; Robert Niederman; Hamilton; Douglas Phillips, Dallas; Scott Rouse, Douglas; Douglas Schooner; Ashland; Kathleen Shingler; Dennis; Teri Shenn, Junction City; Mark Spangler; Dawood; Jerry Spangler; Brad Taylor; **Virginia:** Lewisburg; Arthur Taylor, New Holland; Ronald Tildard, Jr.; Hamilton; Bert Unger; **Washington:** Cherie Braxley; Butler; Mike Butler, Kent; Tony Carpenter; Arapahoe; Tim Courtney; Puyup; Cleatus Davis; Mangum; Ken Donna; Harlow; **West Virginia:** Robert Balings; Kenneth Karrenbrock; Kingstree; James Kirk; Stillwater; Mark Manning, Custer City; G. Dustin Akins, Charleston; Charles McNeil, Prague; Douglas McMurtry, Cherokee; Jay Milton; Fay Darren Nelson; Beaver; Steven Peterson; Marlon; **Wisconsin:** Adair; Scher; Presc; David Shaffer, Ponds Creek; Todd Siegmann, Hennessey; Bryan Smith; Linton; Robert Spangler; Tom Sim; **Wyoming:** Mike Vandever; Toshomago; Victor Walk; Perkins; Jerry Ward; Tatala; Steve Werber; Deer Creek; Rodney Wherry; **Yukon:** Mike Wicks; **Canada:** Eric Lance Bicket; Beaver Creek; Adeane Carter; Montreal; Doug Drege; **USA:** Cheryll Adams, Lake City; Ronald Diermer; Alibama; David Etrel; Turner; Tim Fletcher; Tildard; Mike Fletcher; Lamouth; John Manning; Kathleen; Lisa; **USA:** Sean; Dean A. McKay; St. Paul; Tony Schwartz; Powell Bate; William Shindler; Estacada; **Pennsylvania:** Jay Andros; Gary Anderson; Donald; **USA:** Donald; Larry Duran; Bulger; David Fiehl; Elizabeth; James Fortsch; David Simpson; Haager; John Halderman; Adam; C. Andrew Hess; Robeson; Edwin Hostetter; Anville; Mervin Jacque; Washington; Bob Lancaster; **USA:** James; **USA:** (below); H. Stephen Man; Jr.; Jay Costner; Todd Miller; Hamburg; Deborah Palmer; Little Marsh; Michael Pflieger; Hopedale; David Rice, Jr.; Hopedale; Esther Shetrone-Borchert; Parker; Lyle Sherman; Mansfield; Scott Troutman; **USA:** Leona; **USA:** (below); Timothy Wetzel; Middleburg; **Ireland:** Idaho Linda Tretreall; **Lincoln:** South Carolina D. Frank John Wort, Edgmont; **USA:** (below); **USA:** (below); Poston; Gresham; John Dann; **Idaho:** South Dakota: Chad Biallaga; Wilmet; Penn State: Richard Anderson; Timothy Hays; **USA:** (below); Darin Innon; Hurley; Todd Korrner; Brian; Michelle Rook; **Clear Lake:** Bradley Smith; **Tennessee:** Robert Anderson; Lisa; **USA:** (below); Halls; William Butler; Smithville; Freddy Hays; Timothy Hoving; White House; Annan Egger; Jr.; **USA:** (below); William Farmer; Springville; Bart Griffin; Watertown; Rector Miller; Lafayette; **Idaho:** William; Adeanna; Douglas Morris; Leam Nash; Grembrier; Randy Petty; Gordonsville; Thomas Remmer; Cedar Grove; John Schaffel; New Mary; Leona Sempton; Yvon; Stacy Turner;

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Stars Over America

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These are the highest honors any FFA member in production agriculture and agribusiness can obtain. These eight regional winners, four from each area, were chosen from the 735 American Farmer Degree winners for possessing outstanding abilities in leadership, exceptional knowledge and progressive methods in today's agriculture.

Each Star received \$2,000 while each regional received \$1,000 upon the winners announcement after the Stars Over America Pageant which included a multi-image audio-visual presentation on each regional star's program.



Star Farmer of America—
Christopher Hugh Thompson, Midland City, Alabama

Star Agribusinessman of America—
Todd Wilkinson, White House, Tennessee

Star Farmers



Jeffrey A. Sigg, 22, son of Joe and Shirley Sigg of Mineral Point, Wisconsin, is the FFA's Central Region Star Farmer. Jeffrey, dairy farm owner and operator, bought his first two calves in 1979 and began farming full-time in 1983 by renting 121 acres and milking 16 Holstein cows. He now has 31 milking cows, and about 30 heifers, yearlings and cows ready to calve. The Blanchardville-Pecatonica FFA member also raises 100 acres of alfalfa, corn and oats. Jeff has returned 90 percent of his income into improvements for the farm. Improvements include: remodeled milking barn, which included installing 31 new milking stanchions; a five-year crop rotation schedule, a 54' by 99' machine shed, and a concrete silo for haylage and corn silage.



David Brian Petsch, 21, son of Muriel Petsch of Mendon, Wyoming, is the FFA's Western Region Star Farmer. David is a rancher who owns one-quarter of and shares management responsibilities for Petsch Ranches, Inc., Petsch Land Company, and Petsch Farms LTD. His share includes about 9,000 acres of land and about 500 head of cattle. The Petsch family runs a cow-calf operation with nearly 1,200 mother cows. Since his father died last year, the management of the operation has been shared between David, his brother and uncle. David balances lead rations, provides health care for stock, keeps extensive records and may oversee up to 30 workers during spring branding. The Albion FFA member is now a ranch management student at Sheridan College.



Christopher Hugh Thompson, 21, son Don and Virginia Thompson of Midland City, Alabama, is the FFA Southern Region Star Farmer. In high school, after his father's heart attack, Chris decided to take over the third generation farm. Chris usually works 500 to 600 acres in vegetables, and 200 to 300 acres in row crops. The Dale County FFA member plans to expand to 1,000 acres of vegetables and sell his produce even farther north than Georgia. When Chris took over the operation, he added 480 acres of vegetables to the 700 acres of soybeans double-cropped behind wheat. He bought nearly 300 acres and all the farm's equipment from his father, including four tractors and the field machinery that will help him operate Thompson Farms for one more generation.



Todd Owen Miller, 21, son of Ernest and Joyce Miller of Hamburg, Pennsylvania, is the Eastern Region Star Farmer of the FFA. As one-third partner in his family's dairy, Todd increased their cattle's feed efficiency by developing better rations and thus increased milk and fat production while decreasing feed costs. Todd is in charge of the 703 acres of alfalfa and corn the Millers raise to feed the cattle. During the winter, he oversees maintenance and repair of all equipment and machinery, and helps his partners with the milking. Todd started his own dairy herd with 20 cows and has increased it to 109 while also renting 50 acres within the partnership for corn and alfalfa.

Star Agribusinessmen



Richard Y. Kyziole, 19, son of John and Jerrie Kyziole of Salinas, California, is the FFA Western Region Star Agribusinessman. Richard now owns 10 percent of the family's cut flower business. He receives 2.5 percent of the ownership each year in exchange for labor and management of the nursery and eventually will own 25 percent of the business. His jobs on the 10-acre operation include flower bed preparation, light and temperature control, fertilizing, harvesting, and grading flowers. His specialties are improving the efficiency of the nursery and marketing roses to be sold across the country. The tall Tex Gonzalez FFA member will be a sophomore at Cal Poly State University majoring in agricultural business management.



Todd Wilkinson, 20, son of Jesse and Nancy of White House, Tennessee, is the FFA's Southern Region Star Agribusinessman. At his Wilkinson Plant Center, Todd sells vegetable and bedding plants, landscape and garden supplies, and a variety of nursery stock. As a freshman in high school, he sold the vegetables he grew in his 50-egg class through a roadside market. After he sold his half of the greenhouse he and another student built, Todd borrowed money and built two large greenhouses for his own business. Todd is a sophomore in agricultural education at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He is specializing in ornamental horticulture and landscape design and plans to teach vocational agriculture.



Mark William Elsass, 21, son of William and Bonnie Elsass of Anna, Ohio is the Eastern Region Star Agribusinessman for the FFA. Mark is a feed and grain salesman, livestock feed specialist and assistant branch manager of Provoco-Kettlersville, a division of Bunkins Grain and Feed Company based in Ohio. He is now in the employee training program and may move into management in the 135-employee company in two years. He began as general salesman, grain tester and grader, chemical and fertilizer formulator, and feed mixer. He was promoted to controller of Provoco's chemical warehouse plant before moving to assistant manager. Mark has initiated some innovative changes, such as the computer-based nutritional program for area dairy farmers.



Joe Heinze, 21, son of David and Carol Heinze of Belgrade, Minnesota, is the FFA Central Region Star Agribusinessman. In high school Joe worked on his neighbor's 2,300-acre farm and eventually moved up to become foreman. He was responsible for repair and maintenance of all farm machinery. He also does custom machine fabrication and repair work. Now Joe is the full-time herdsmen for a 110-cow dairy farm, with responsibility for feed rations, breeding and milk quality. He plans to operate his own dairy within 10 years. Farm management classes at the local vocational technical school, extra custom welding jobs and an option to buy into the dairy herd he manages, are a few of the ways he's working toward owning his farm.

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Building Our American Communities

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Building Our American Communities (BOAC) awards recognize chapters who have committed all their members to making their community a better place to live and work through special community improvement projects.

National Winner (Western Region)— Etna, Washington

The Etna FFA Chapter. The chapter's project, titled "Ag Boots Challenge Toward Regional Economic Enhancement" or "ABC-TREE," was a reforestation program for the depressed timber industry in their town. When unemployment in the community hit 26 percent, Etna FFA members organized a program that would create jobs and provide job training. Using other groups in the community, timber companies and the state Department of Natural Resources as reforestation and information, the members led the drive that reforested 2,000 acres with the equivalent of 190,000 trees. The initial project generated a half year's part and full-time employment for about 30 people.

2nd Place National Winner (Eastern Region)—Lexington, Ohio

The New Lexington FFA Chapter. A survey by the members determined their community was in need of some outdoor recreation facilities for camping, hiking, fishing, boating and trout shooting. Working with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the members obtained lands to purchase and renovate a 47-acre park area. They built shelters, camp sites, showers, picnic tables and boating ramps. They cleaned the whole area, re-stocked the fish pond and then publicized the availability of the park to the public. The new Perry County Gun Club now provides a safe, clean facility for family camping, club meetings and other activities. The project created additional revenue for the community and about seven full-time jobs.

3rd Place National Winner (Central Region)—Mankato, Kansas

The Mankato FFA Chapter. This small town, suffering the effects of a depressed farm economy, needed an industry that would provide jobs and revenue. The chapter surveyed the community's needs and then surveyed the all-terrain vehicle capacity of the area. Working with the National Hay Growers Association, the city council, a regional planning council and their land-grant university, the members provided the information and support that succeeded in bringing an all-terrain vehicle yard to Mankato. Their project, titled "Total Revival of an American Community" or "TRAC," generated \$78,000 in the first five months and will eventually create about 35 jobs.

Food For America

Sponsored by Mobby Chemical Corporation, Agricultural Chemical Division

The new Food For America materials were introduced at last year's convention in special displays to educate America's school children about agriculture.

Five chapters from Kansas and Missouri presented the Food For America program to metropolitan schools during the convention. Liberty Senior High School, Holden High School, Delsea Senior High School, Leansburg High School and Atchison County Community High School.

4th Place National Winner (Southern Region)—Bartlett, Tennessee

The Bartlett FFA Chapter. Their project, titled "FARM" or "Farmers Are Into Tennessee Homecoming" was a local effort in the state wide "Tennessee Homecoming" program of community involvement and improvements. The chapter restored their town's Triangle Park by planting more than 70 trees, 90 shrubs and hundreds of other plants. They built a gazebo, erected signs and installed fencing, lights and flagpoles. Through this project they worked with local government, civic clubs, local businesses and their Chamber of Commerce. The members' efforts saved the town about \$44,000 in labor and other costs that it would have taken to complete their volunteer project.

Gold

Alabama: Dreyka, Arizona: Antelope; Georgia: Pella Hill, Illinois: Sycamore, Warsaw, Somoanok-Leland, Bluffs, DeKalb, NW Suburban Dist. 214-2111, Franklin Center, Indiana: Columbia City; Iowa: Buffalo Center, Bosc, Wilton, Algona, Stormont, Kansas: Jackson Heights, Maryland: Kentucky, Galatin County, Spencer, Oklahoma: Chickasha, Catoosa, Muskogee; Missouri: Union, Westport, Nebraska: Monona; New York: New Rochelle, Nevada: Reno, New Mexico: Roswell, Goodland; North Carolina: Bartlett Valley, Ohio: New Lexington, Oregon: Indian Valley; Oklahoma: Patoka, Pennsylvania: Grassland, Elizabethtown, South Dakota: Elkton, Harrisburg, Clark, Tennessee: Bartlett, Utah: Granite Mountain, Virginia: Shenandoah, Broadway, Warren Junior, Washington: Elma, Montezuma, West Virginia: Marion County, Wisconsin: Janesville Park, Hustadford Vo-Ag, Denmark, Bloomer.

Silver

Alabama: George W. Long, Houston County, Alaska: North Pole, Alaska: Kavara, California: Kingsburg, Coloredale, Olinth, Florida: Winter Park, New Smyrna Beach, James High, Georgia: Newton County, Hawaii: James Dole; Idaho: Desary, Illinois: Herscher; MI: Sylvania, Michigan: West Wayne, Iowa: Creston, Marengo, Andover, Prairie, Webster, Kansas: Winfield, Maroa, Florida: Louisiana; Midland; Maryland: Frederick County Vo-Tech Cr., Michigan: Breckenridge, Minnesota: Sherrard, La-

nesboro; Mississippi: East Marion; Pine Grove; Missouri: Koshkonong, Hannibal, Malin; Nebraska: Lakeview, Nevada: Diamond Mountain-Eureka, Ruby Mountain; New Jersey: Middlesex County, New Mexico: Raton, New York: Champan-Toga Future Conserv.; Madison, North Carolina: West Carteret, North Fredrick; North Dakota: Wilsonton; Ohio: Bowling Green, Buckeye Valley, West Muskingum, Trumbull Co. Joint Vo Tech; Oklahoma: Konawa, Oregon: Forest Grove; Pennsylvania: Twin Valley, Penns Manor; South Carolina: Mullins; PA: Mt. Dorman, Tennessee: Bradley; Texas: Brownsville; California: Lorena, Utah: Snyville, Winchester, Genoa; Missouri: Mosbyrock, Wisconsin: Blanchardville-Pecalona, Monroe; Waupaca; Bloomington

Bronze

Alabama: Daleville; W. A. Berry; J. R. Pittard Area Vocational; Dale County; Alaska: Delta Junction; Arizona: Backley; Arkansas: Valley Springs; Stuttgart; California: Fresno United, Colton; Kim, Connecticut: Northwestern Regional, Rockville Vo-Ag, Delaware: Millford, Smyrna; Middletown; Florida: Sarasota Vo-Ag, North Fort Myers, Hawaii: Waialua, Kahala, Meridian, Illinois: Dixon; Snyville, Winchester, Genoa; Georgia: Indiana; Carroll (Florida); Princeton, Iowa: Linn-Mar; Estherville; Mount Airy; North Pole, Cumberland and Massena; Lincoln; Rocville; Kansas: Plainville, Arkansas City, Peabody, Louisiana: Ward Hill, Da Gravo, Maine: Caribou, Limestone, Massachusetts: Cape Cod Tech; Essex; Pathfinder; Michigan: Marshall, Minnesota: Southland, Madeline; Perry; Pine Island, Missouri: El Dorado Springs; Montana: Cascade, Nebraska: Verdigris, New Hampshire: Much-To-Do, Exeter Area; New Jersey: Camden Tech-East, North Carolina: South Lenoir; Clinton; North Dakota: Rugby, Oklahoma: Enck; Oregon: Lebanon, Rhode Island: Chatham, South Carolina: Bertha's Neck, Texas: Cleburne; Kyri; Sierra Blanca, Clifton Center, Hamlin, Sulphur Springs; Chico; Yelton; Avon, Grand; Missouri: Happy, Dr. O. Dr., Raymondville, Kilo, Vermont: Liberty Junction; Virginia: Nelson Senior; Bennett; Virginia: Northampton High; Washington: Skutumpah, West Virginia: Greenbrier Area, Wisconsin: Manawa; Marion; Dobbins West; Auburndale, Darlington; Turfale Lake; Granton; Bay Port, Madison East; Wyoming: Pine Bluffs; Gillette

The National FFA Public Service Campaign

Sponsored by John Deere Foundation

The 1987 Television Public Service Announcement was premiered at the convention during a special recognition of the 150th anniversary of Deere & Co. The PSA drew home the exciting and challenging career opportunities available to young people and the role that FFA and vocational agriculture play in obtaining them.

Sponsored by CIBA GEIGY Corporation

A special video presentation was prepared and presented during the convention via FFA's closed-circuit television system. The program drew members of the convention proceedings together in a last-paced review of slide activities, contests, Career Show, meetings and other FFA activities sound Kansas City.

BOAC Achievement in Anti-Inteersim Award Winners

Sponsored by RJR Nabisco, Inc.

These awards are to recognize 50 State winners for their individual achievements and leadership in community development through participation in chapter BOAC projects. The following individuals were acknowledged at the 4th National FFA Conference on Community Development September 27—October 1, 1986 in Washington, DC.

National Winner—Jim Enk, Union, Missouri
1st Runner-Up—David Fuhr, Elkton, So. Dakota
2nd Runner-Up—John McGeaghey, New Lexington, Ohio

National Finalists

Alabama: Allen Knight, Opelika, Illinois: Troy Spangler, Franklin Grove, Iowa: Bruce Manders, Buffalo Center, Kansas: Greg Doud, Mankato, Louisiana: Donald C. Stemmans II, Carencro; Maryland: Harry Nelson Burns Jr., Grants Neck, Mississippi: Timothy Beach, Columbia, Montana: Douglas Larry Frank, Park City, Pennsylvania: James Porter Singleton, Arlington, Washington: Dennis Pralle, Elm, West Virginia: Vicki Coon, Farmington

State Finalists

Alaska: Chris Petty, North Pole; Arizona: Frankie Azua, Antelope; Arkansas: Wayne Martin Jr., Lavaca, California: Rene Barefoot, Kingsburg, Colorado: Lang Hines, Doha, Connecticut: Karen Richard, Rockford, Delaware: Yolanda

Grant, Millford, Florida: Laura Austin, Winter Park, Georgia: Jeff Rowland, Perry High, Hawaii: Wayne A. Yamada, James Dale, Idaho: Wlad Garcia, Deary, Indiana: Mary Catherine Fries, Columbia City; Kentucky: Lora Beth Laws, Galatin Co., Maine: Sham Sandstrom, Caribou, Massachusetts: Arthur Smith, Cape Cod, Michigan: Scott Partes, Breckenridge, Minnesota: Stacy A. Rosenberg, Sherburn, Nebraska: Jennifer Taylor, Ravenna, Nevada: Ramsey Butlum, Hammond Mountain, New Jersey: Timothy Colby, Much-to-Do, New Jersey: Robert A. Dickerson, Middlesex-East Brunswick, New Mexico: James Gosdard, New York: Gary Munton, Chamung-Toga Future Conservists, North Carolina: Robert Crabb, Bartlett Valley, North Dakota: Don Sonerson, Oregon: Michael Greg Goyart, Parcill, Oregon: Mike Bateman, Forest Grove, Rhode Island: Chris A. Cahoon, Chatham, South Carolina: Keith Alan Moore, Mullins; Texas: Coy Taylor, Brownsville; Utah: Sandra Kourmandakis, Granite Mountain; Vermont: Janice Mason, Bennington; Virginia: Carol Werwille, Abingdon; Wisconsin: Rodney Seibel, Bloomer; Wyoming: Bill Wolf, Campbell County

National FFA Chapter Safety Awards

Sponsored by Dow Chemical Co. and Farm and Industrial Equipment Institute

Chapters presented with a gold, silver or bronze Chapter Safety Award showed superior efforts in promoting and insuring health/safety in their communities, homes and schools.

Gold

Alabama: West Limestone; Fort Payne, Scottsboro, J. R. Pittard; Arizona: Antelope; Arkansas: Loxley, California: Clark, Morfit County, Connecticut: Housatonic Valley, Florida: Bunnell; Sarasota Vo-Ag; Illinois: Sycamore, Bushnell-Prarie City, Clinton, Bluffs, Winchester, Rochelle; Indiana: Carroll Fort Wayne, Southwestern-Monroe, Iowa: Cascade, Cascade, Buffalo Center Bisc, Marengo; Prairie, Creston; Estherville; Montana: Park City, Nebraska: Leigh, Sagoner; Ohio: Miami Tripp; Bowling Green; River Valley; South Dakota: Roslyn; Tennessee: Bradley; Woodbury; Texas: Yelton, Virginia: Essex, Yelton, Williams, James Wood, Liberty; West Virginia: Marshall Jackson Jr.; Washington: Elma, Yelm, West Virginia: Marion County, Hampshire County, Wisconsin: Denbosc, Monroe, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin: Douglas Springs

Pepstone: Missouri: Perryville; Hawaii: Molokai; North Carolina: Lakeview; Nevada: Carson Valley, New York: Chemung-Toga; North Carolina: Chase, North Israel, North Lenoir, Ohio: Columbiana County; Nev. Alexander; Green Valley, Oklahoma: Patoka; Altus, Oregon: Illinois Valley; South Carolina: Pleasant Hill, South Carolina: Harrisburg; Utah: Lehi, Virginia: Bluestone Middle, Gerina Jones; Washington: Winlock, Wyoming: Gillette

Bronze

California: Mt. Whitney, Sutter; Delaware: Smyrna; Georgia: Towns County; Cook; Maine: Limestone; Presque Isle, Maryland: Walkersville; Frederick County Vo-Tech; Massachusetts: Essex; Minnesota: West Condon; Wilmar; Middle; Westboro; Missouri: Carthage; Nebraska: St. Edward, Red Cloud; Ravenna, New Hampshire: Much-To-Do; New York: Reidsville; Gloucester County, New Mexico: Goodard; Rhode Island: North Lorton; North Carolina: South Johnston; South Rowan, West Carolina: Hartford; Stuttgart; Delaware: Millford; Florida: Lake Butler Junior; Idaho: Meridian; Illinois: DeKalb; Canby; Iowa: Indianola; Prairie Heights; Iowa: Webster City; Eagle Grove; Winton; Kansas: Hill City; Clay Center; Sault Maris; Jackson Heights; Wintfield; South Dakota: Hathaway, South LaFaurche; Dak; Georgia: Michigan; Van Buren Skills Center, Fovretville; Minnesota: Lanesboro; Morris,

Silver

Alabama: Cold Springs High; Daleville High, Crossville; Arizona: Piora; Arkansas: Hartford; Stuttgart; Delaware: Millford; Florida: Lake Butler Junior; Idaho: Meridian; Illinois: DeKalb; Canby; Iowa: Webster City; Eagle Grove; Winton; Kansas: Hill City; Clay Center; Sault Maris; Jackson Heights; Wintfield; South Dakota: Hathaway, South LaFaurche; Dak; Georgia: Michigan; Van Buren Skills Center, Fovretville; Minnesota: Lanesboro; Morris,

Ag Ed Network

This year changes on Ag Ed Training, advanced and technical sessions were once again offered. The special message center was again in operation for

teacher/sponsor and student's wishing to send or receive messages from their vo-ag students or classmates at home

Agricultural Proficiency Awards



A national winner was announced in each proficiency award area during the Agricultural Proficiency Awards Pageant Friday evening. National winners were announced with brief slide shows of their projects while on stage. These members show the skills needed to develop the potential of their supervised Occupational Experience enterprises.

A STAR by the name indicates the NATIONAL WINNER in each proficiency area.

Agricultural Electrification

Sponsored by National Food and Energy Council, Inc., Klein Tools, Inc., and The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- ★ Central—Bryan Bower, Barry, Illinois
- ★ Eastern—Mark Bradley, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania
- Southern—Charles Hayes, Limestone, Tennessee
- Western—Richard Frech, Wakita, Oklahoma

Agricultural Mechanics

Sponsored by Case IH

- ★ Central—Jesse Davis, Frankfort, Indiana
- Eastern—Scott Aeschliman, Wauseon, Ohio
- Southern—Jeffery Duncan, Belton, South Carolina
- Western—Richard Rezendes, Chowchilla, California

Agricultural Processing

Sponsored by Carnation Company

- ★ Central—David Shegitz, New Haven, Indiana
- Eastern—Nunzio Obello, Bellevue, Ohio
- Southern—Keith Starling, Avon Park, Florida
- Western—Dusty Shill, Wellton, Arizona

Agricultural Sales and/or Service

Sponsored by Chevrolet Motor Division-Trucks General Motors Corporation, Babson Brothers Company, and The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—Roger Luebke, Jr., Clark, Nebraska
- Eastern—Ruth Johnson, Medway, Ohio
- ★ Southern—Randy Wnigg, Avon Park, Florida
- Western—Burtigh Banning, III, Pine-dale, Wyoming

Beef Production

Sponsored by Nasco Division/ Nasco International, Inc.; and New Holland

- Central—Kurt Overstern, Greenbush, Minnesota
- Eastern—Andrew Meadows, Elkton, Virginia
- Southern—Marshall Johnson, Harrogate, Tennessee
- ★ Western—Jay Overton, Pond Creek, Oklahoma

Cereal Grain Production

Sponsored by Du Pont Agricultural Chemicals

- Central—Douglas Pribyl, Denmark, Wisconsin
- ★ Eastern—Ron Lortcher, Willard, Ohio
- Southern—Robert Hurt, Halls, Tennessee
- Western—Leo Tomsa, Medford, Oklahoma

Dairy Production

Sponsored by Alfa-Laval, Inc., Agri Group, American Breeders Service, and Bristol-Myers Animal Health

- ★ Central—Brian Harbaugh, Elkhart, Iowa
- Eastern—Daryl Duncan, Warsaw, Ohio
- Southern—Lonnie Webb, Lincoln, Arkansas
- Western—Brent Stahlman, Gage, Oklahoma

Diversified Crop Production

Sponsored by Cargill, Incorporated

- Central—Kenneth Bradley, Trafalgar, Indiana
- Eastern—David Miller, Washington C.H., Ohio
- ★ Southern—William McKenzie, Fairhope, Alabama
- Western—Mark Speaker, Briggsdale, Colorado

Diversified Livestock Production

Sponsored by Wayne Feed Division/Continental Grain Company, and Dodge Division, Chrysler Corporation

- ★ Central—Brad Chambliss, Hardinsburg, Kentucky
- Eastern—Craig Bailey, Harrisonburg, Virginia
- Southern—Derek Bartholomew, Huron, Tennessee
- Western—Ralph Perkins, Panguitch, Utah

Feed Grain Production

Sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Incorporated

- Central—David Andregg, Guttenberg, Iowa
- Eastern—Charles Thomas, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- Southern—David Preston, Cantonment, Florida
- ★ Western—Jeffrey Cooksey, Roggen, Colorado

Fiber Crop Production

Sponsored by The Shurtliff Companies Foundation, Incorporated; and Valmont Industries, Incorporated

- Central—Jason Blunt, Essex, Missouri
- ★ Southern—Allen Lewis, Gates, Tennessee
- Western—Jason Chambers, Vinson, Oklahoma

Floriculture

Sponsored by The Levra Corporation, and The Paul Ecke Poinsettia Ranch, and The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—Dawn Dostal, Mamon, Iowa
- ★ Eastern—Adrienne Shaffer, Knoxville, Maryland
- Southern—J. Scott Binford, Bartlett, Tennessee
- Western—Carrne Koons, Eed, Oklahoma

Forage Crop

Sponsored by Gehl Company, Northrup King Company, and United Agri Products

- ★ Central—Tim Fauronte, Pleasant Lake, Indiana
- Eastern—Andrew Yost, Salisbury, North Carolina
- Southern—Bruce Pierce, Speedwell, Tennessee
- Western—Joel Gale, Seabrook, Texas

Forest Management

Sponsored by The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—Thomas Eickholtz, Kendallville, Indiana
- Eastern—Jerry Starkey, Paris, Ohio
- Southern—Nathan Slaughter, Cheffind, Florida
- ★ Western—Ken Hilliker, Eatonville, Washington

Fruit and/or Vegetable Production

Sponsored by Briggs & Stratton Corporation Foundation, Inc.

- Central—Carl Perkins, Howard, Kansas
- Eastern—Bonnie Wehr, Orefield, Pennsylvania
- Southern—James Williams, Worthington Springs, Florida
- ★ Western—Darren Morris, Klein, Texas

Home and/or Farmstead Improvement

Sponsored by Ujohm, TUGO, and Agrow, Agricultural Division of The Ujohm Company

- Central—Scott Neighbor, Winthrop, Iowa
- Eastern—Rene Roy, West Charleston, Vermont
- ★ Southern—Jayme Hamby, Benton, Tennessee
- Western—Alan Manwaring, Port Orchard, Washington

Horse Proficiency

Sponsored by American Quarter Horse Association

- Central—Melodi Hurst, Harrisburg, South Dakota
- ★ Eastern—Lyde Cassel, Hummelstown, Pennsylvania
- Southern—Donald Stemmans, II, Carencro, Louisiana
- Western—Kim Stamps, Norman, Oklahoma

Nursery Operations

Sponsored by The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—John Richards, North Vernon, Indiana
- ★ Eastern—John Pehtit, Valley View, Ohio
- ★ Southern—Jeff Jones, McMinnville, Tennessee
- Western—Chuck Blankenship, Arlington, Washington

Oil Crop Production

Sponsored by The Shell Companies Foundation, Inc.; and The Chicago Board of Trade

- Central—Scott Willard, Farmington, Kentucky
- ★ Eastern—John Davis, Oelaware, Ohio
- Southern—Terrence Whitfield, Elko, Georgia
- Western—Kevin Petrick, Grovada, Nevada

Outdoor Recreation

Sponsored by Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.

- Central—Brian Parkinson, Mt. Vernon, Indiana
- ★ Eastern—Hal Whittington, Strasburg, Virginia
- Southern—Harold Duggan, Woodbury, Tennessee
- Western—Fred Schmitke, Forest Grove, Oregon

Placement in Agricultural Production

Sponsored by CIBA GEIGY Corporation; and International Minerals and Chemical Corporation

- Central—Kevin Nagel, Rensselaer, Indiana
- ★ Eastern—Steven Buschur, New Weston, Ohio
- Southern—Bill Laird, Sanderson, Florida
- Western—Killy Katzer, Elma, Washington

Poultry Production

Sponsored by Chore-Time Equipment, Inc., Red Brand Fence/ Maple by Keystone Steel and Wire Company, and The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—Craig Olson, Parkers Prairie, Minnesota
- ★ Eastern—Kevin Richert, Danville, Ohio
- ★ Southern—Eric Dutton, Benton, Tennessee
- Western—Ken Mitchell, Elk Grove, California

National FFA Contests



Sheep Production

Sponsored by American Sheep Producers Council, Inc. (Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc.), Manna Pro Corporation and The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—Kerri Kraflka, Dysart, Iowa
- Eastern—Billy Wade, III, Greenville, Virginia
- Southern—Anita Golden, Arthur, Tennessee
- Western—Brenda Lowe, Driand, California

Soil and Water Management

Sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund

- Central—Mark Smith, New Haven, Indiana
- Eastern—David Crank, Henderson, West Virginia
- Southern—Ray Hornick, Avon Park, Florida
- Western—Tom Smith, Aguanga, California

Specialty Animal Production

Sponsored by Purina Mills, Inc. and The National FFA Foundation General Fund

- Central—Michael Roy, Shoals, Indiana
- Eastern—Randy Tice, Kenton, Ohio
- Southern—Jeffery Stalvey, Hahira, Georgia
- Western—Justin Avil, Homer, Alaska

Specialty Crop Production

Sponsored by RJR Nabisco, Inc.

- Central—Scott Travis, Taylorsville, Kentucky
- Eastern—David Snead, South Hill, Virginia
- Southern—Danny Wright, Farmington, Arkansas

Swine Production

Sponsored by Pfizer Incorporated Agricultural Division

- Central—Edward Sheldon, Greencastle, Indiana
- Eastern—Todd Benecoff, Kutztown, Pennsylvania
- Southern—John Gibson, Union Grove, Alabama
- Western—Timothy Johnson, Turlock, California

Turf and Landscape Management

Sponsored by D. M. Scott & Sons

- Central—Brad Meyerholt, Evansville, Indiana
- Eastern—Scott Johnson, Northboro, Massachusetts
- Southern—Joseph Dudley, Trenton, Tennessee
- Western—Kirk Harris, Richfield, Utah

Wildlife Management

Philip Morris Incorporated

- Central—Ken Basai, Iron, Minnesota
- Eastern—Shannon Inman, Newport, North Carolina
- Southern—Shelia Webb, Lincoln, Arkansas
- Western—Bret Mause, Elk City, Oklahoma

Agricultural Mechanics Contest

Sponsored by Firestone Trust Fund

- First Place Team—Jim Hanson, Rich Bergstrom, Alan Schmitz, Adams, Minnesota

High Individual—Kent Starcken, Stanwood, Washington

Dairy Contest

Sponsored by Associated Milk Producers, Inc.

- First Place Team—Eric Schulte, Kirk Schultz, Scott Sooy, Grafton, Ohio

High Individual—Kirk Schultz, Grafton, Ohio

Dairy Foods Contest

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

- First Place Team—Elene Phillips, Lan Dawn Beberes, Songa Bettencourt, Hartford, California

High Individual—Lari Dawn Beberes, Hartford, California

Farm Business Management Contest

Sponsored by Deere & Co.

- First Place Team—Bob Honey, David Shumaker, Doug Thornton, Carl Junction, Missouri

High Individual—Will McDonald, Bismark, North Dakota

Floriculture Contest

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation General Fund

- First Place Team—Christy Youngblood, Derrick Beavers, Gary Hart, Bear Creek, North Carolina

High Individual—Christy Youngblood, Bear Creek, North Carolina

Forestry Contest

Sponsored by Homelite Division of Textron, Inc.; Temple-Eastex, Inc.; and Hammermill Paper Co.

- First Place Team—Tony Waller, Tim Hughes, Stephen Tinsley, Atlanta, Georgia

High Individual—Marland Massey, Louisville, Mississippi

Livestock Contest

Sponsored by Purina Mills, Inc.

- First Place Team—Rosemary Frao, David Gosman, Steve Gambri, Arroyo Grande, California

High Individual—Kelly Schaffl, Mandan, North Dakota

Meats Contests

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

- First Place Team—Jennifer Ahgley, Kevin Caldwell, Johnell Schnruiger, San Antonio, Texas

High Individual—Johnell Schnruiger, San Antonio, Texas

Nursery/Landscape Contest

Sponsored by American Association of Nurserymen, Inc.; Wholesale Nursery Growers of America, Inc.; Kubota Tractor Corporation; and Cotter & Co.

- First Place Team—Zachary Campbell, Teddy Gregory, Andy Rogers, Dunwoody, Georgia

High Individual—Kim Phillips, Bear Creek, North Carolina

Poultry Contest

Sponsored by Victor F. Weaver, Inc.; Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Tyson Foods, Inc.

- First Place Team—John Dieckow, Shawn Harris, Daryl Real, San Antonio, Texas

High Individual—Daryl Real, San Antonio, Texas



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CAREER SHOW



The National Agricultural Career Show and Hall of States was a cooperative effort of the National FFA Organization and major trade associations, professional societies, educational institutions, State FFA Associations and qualifying agribusiness firms concerned with the industry of agriculture. This year's show was bigger and better than ever. Members and guests were able to see a showcase of careers available to today's FFA member, ask questions and gather brochures of interest. Many took a complete set of career information back to their advisors, classmates, student and guidance counselors.

Ag Ed Network/Agdata Resources, Inc.
Agri Education
Allis-Laval Agri, Inc.
Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity
American Angus Association
American Association of Nurserymen
American Breeders Service
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Fisheries Society, Missouri Chapter
American Gelbivah Association
American Morgan Horse Institute
American Phytopathological Society
American Polled Hereford Association
American Quarter Horse Association
American Sales Association
American Simental Association
American Soc. of Farm Managers & Rural Appraisers
American Soybean Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
American—International Charolais Association
Bartlett Agri Enterprises
Bob Jones University
Briggs and Stratton Corporation

Bureau of the Census
Case IH
Chevrolet Motor Division
Coca-Cola USA
Cook College, Rutgers University
Cornell University
Cyamamid Agricultural Division
Oean and Company
DICKEY-john Corporation
Oversited Marketing Association, Inc.
Division of Agriculture/NASULGC
Dodge Truck Operations
Dow Chemical U.S.A.
DuPage Horticultural School
East Butler FFA Alumni
Edge Learning Institute, Inc.
Farm and Industrial Equipment Inst.
Farmhouse International Fraternity
Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Crop Insurance
Florida Department of Citrus
University of Florida
Ford Motor Company
Fornet Candy Co., Inc., The
Frank's Nursery and Crafts, Inc.
University of Georgia
Hampshire Swine Registry
University of Illinois

Instructional Materials Lab
International Brangus Breeders Association
International Minerals and Chemical Corp./Ralpro
Intertec Publishing Corp.
International Minerals and Chemical Corporation
Iowa State University
Kaiser-Estsch
Lincoln University
Louisiana State University
Mangan Sales Co., Inc./Lumber City Products
Mid-America Dairyman, Inc.
Mid-America Vocational Curriculum Consortium
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri, College of Agriculture

Mobay Corporation, AgChemicals Division
Modesto Junior College
NA-CHURS Plant Food Company
National Farmers Organization
National Farmers Union
National Food and Energy Council, Inc.
National Grain and Feed Association
National Agricultural Aviation Association
National Vocational Agric. Teachers' Association
Navy Recruiting Command
University of Nebraska, College of Agriculture
Nickerson American Plant Breeders Agri Pro
North American Limousin
North Dakota State University
Northwest Missouri State University
Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum
Ohio State University

Park College
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
Pipstone Vo Tech
Postsecondary Agricultural Students
Purdue University School of Agriculture
Ruritan National
School of the Ozarks
Seld-Sweet Growers, Inc.
Select Sires Inc.
Shell Agricultural Chemical Company
Sire Power, NOBA, KABSU/Allied Genes
Society for Range Management
Society of American Florists
Society of American Foresters
South Carolina State College
Southeast Community College-Beatrice
Southwestern Vocational Technical Institute
Stauffer Chemical Company
Student Conservation Association, Inc.

Sunkist Growers, Inc.
Surge-Babson Brov. Co.
Texas A&M University-College of Agriculture
Texas Tech University
The National Rifle Association
Tri-State Breeders Cooperative
Union Carbide Agricultural Products Co.
U.S. Marine Corps
USDA Forest Service
Upjohn Company
US Army Recruiting Command
US Air Force Recruiting USA: Farmers Home Administration
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
Wildlife Society, Missouri Chapter
Wix Filters
University of Wisconsin
Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.

ACCESS

ACCESS is a new membership service for agricultural education operated by the National FFA Supply Service. The ACCESS booth at the National Career Show received a lot of attention from vo-ag instructors and students alike. ACCESS provides members with a software Preview Library, Educational Software Reviews, computer software at special educational prices and a one year subscription to the ACCESS-interface newsletter.

ACCESS is a new type of service offered by the National FFA Supply Service. FFA has always provided many services for FFA members, local and state FFA Advisors. Alumni, FFA Chapters and agricultural education in general. ACCESS is a special subscription service aimed at agricultural education and the local agricultural instructor in particular.



HALL OF STATES

Alaska	Iowa	Nevada	Oregon	Wisconsin
Arkansas	Kansas	New York	Pennsylvania	Wyoming
Connecticut	Kentucky	North Carolina	South Dakota	
Idaho	Missouri	North Dakota	South Carolina	
Illinois	Montana	Ohio	Tennessee	
Indiana	Nebraska	Oklahoma	Washington	

Public Speaking Contests

Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Sponsored by American Farm Bureau Federation

The national winner was chosen from four regional winners each of who presented his or her speech from the convention stage on Friday. Contestants had 30 minutes to prepare a four to six minute speech on agriculture using the participant's knowledge and live printed resources. Judging was based on quality of delivery of the speech and ability to answer questions from judges.



"Why Should Students Considering Professional Careers In Agriculture Take Vocational Agriculture In High School?"

Or I want to be an ag mechanic, or I want to be a natural resources expert, when I grow up I want to be an agribusiness manager. When I get older, I love to play with computers, so I'd like to be an ag technologist. Maybe some day I'll be lucky when I grow up I'd like to be a professional speaker. But where can we learn about all of these things — the knowledge and the skills that we will need to live our dreams? You learn all of these things through vocational agriculture in your local high school. Why should students considering professional careers in agriculture take vo-ag in high school? I think there are three very simple reasons that answers this question very clearly.

First of all — for the education value.

Send of all — for benefits in the job market and third — for the chance to be a member, to be a part of the FFA.

Now we all know that in vocational agriculture we have the opportunity to learn so much, much more than just those farming skills. I think the October edition of the *Farm Journal* magazine said this, and I quote, "studies in soils, fertilizers, feeds and feeding, co-op chemical and ag mechanics all put the theories of the academic classroom to practical use, i.e. in your history class you learn about history, but in ag production and vo-ag you learn about history and more." Not only do you learn about history in vo-ag, but there are so many different things you can learn. If you are interested in computers, now all across this great country that we live in there are computer programs going into the local high school in the vo-ag program. Giving students like you and the chance to work directly with computers in our vo-ag classrooms. If you are interested in being a better speaker, if you are interested in becoming a better leader, if you are interested in learning about parliamentary, the organized way to conduct business meetings, you can learn all of this and much, much more in vo-ag.

According to statistics from the USDA, it says that there are 22.5 million people involved in the field of agriculture. Now its obvious to me, fellow FFA members, that the jobs are there, in fact there are 22.5 million of those jobs that are waiting for you and I. All we have to do is prepare ourselves to arrive in this job market. I think our own National Advisor, Dr. Case, said it most adequately in a recent edition of the *Kansas City Times*. He said this and I quote, "The key to surviving is management and decision making. The key to surviving in the agricultural industry is management and decision making. We all know that through vocational agriculture

we learn about this management and these decision making skills that we must have to succeed. If you choose ag production, then fine, you can learn how to be a good manager and make decisions in ag production. If you choose to be in the ag/business field you can learn how to be a good decision maker and a good manager in the ag/business field. I am reminded of a gentleman that I spoke to in my home community, a local agribusinessman and he said, "Buddy, I prefer that my employees be graduates of vo-ag in their high schools."

I think the right reason that it is important that we consider vo-ag is the chance to be involved in the FFA. That's right, the Future Farmers of America. It is my personal opinion that the FFA is the single most motivational, inspirational youth organization in this great world in which we live. You see you take the knowledge that you acquire in vo-ag, apply that knowledge in the FFA and you can succeed. The FFA encourages members, it challenges members to go into competition head on, using that knowledge and those skills that they have learned. It motivates vo-ag students to succeed to use their knowledge.

Educational values are important, benefits in the job market are important and the chance to be a member of the FFA are all reasons why students considering professional careers in agriculture should take vo-ag in their high schools.

National Winner—Kenneth E. (Buddy) Coleman, Lexington, Tennessee
First Runner-Up—Robin Burns, Andover, Connecticut
Second Runner-Up—Brian Mulnix, Ridge-way, Missouri
Third Runner-Up—Paula McKillip, Kennel-wood, Washington

Prepared Public Speaking

Sponsored by FMC Foundation

Four regional winners wrote and presented a six to eight minute speech related to agriculture before the convention on Thursday evening. All four were judged upon their delivery from the convention stage, content and composition and their ability to answer questions from the judges.



National Winner—Bart Collins, Harrison, Arkansas
First Runner-Up—Carrie Brown, Lawton, Oklahoma
Second Runner-Up—Deanna Billings, Green Ridge, Missouri
Third Runner-Up—Tricia Kritzler, Kenton, Ohio

FREE ENTERPRISE: the Answer!!

Honorable judges, fellow FFA members, and guests, since the beginning of man's existence on the face of the earth, one profession has been the backbone of every society — that of the farmer. No other profession has been more respected, honored and esteemed than that of tilling the soil and raising food products. This has been true down through the ages and continues to this day.

Some of you in today's audience may not agree with what I am about to say, but I feel it is time we take a good hard look at the plight of American farming. All you have to do today is turn on the news and you will hear how many American farmers are in serious financial trouble. Many farms are being sold. Many farmers are in debt to the extent they have never been before. Many will not make a crop this year.

because they cannot get the necessary financial backing. The backbone of our country seems to be so bent out of shape that we wonder if recovery is possible.

With farmers in the U.S. today being able to produce record crops each year, why do we have a situation where it seems impossible to make ends meet by farming? What's wrong with the American farming industry today?

I first want to make it very clear that I am sympathetic to the plight of farmers. I, like everyone else, hate to hear of a family losing its farm, perhaps a farm that has been in the family for generations. I like many here, would like to have the opportunity to own a successful farming operation someday, but to go in to a business that appears to be doomed to a fate of overextended debt and long hours of unfruitful toil does not appear to be very attractive.

We are going to have to change some of our basic ideas to ever get the farming industry back on its feet, to get back to the point where it is a profitable business and an attractive way of life.

I would like to comment on some of the problems that I feel have contributed to the dilemma many American farmers now face.

I think the first problem we have to face is the idea that anyone who wants to be a farmer has a God-given right to be one. I know of no other profession that requires entry in so many different fields as does farming. A farmer has to have training in mechanics, animal husbandry, veterinary science, agronomy, soil management, and — perhaps most of all — business. Add to this the fact that he must be willing to work long hard hours in all types of weather, and you begin to put together the American farmer. We have many today who do not meet these qualifications who are attempting to farm. As a result, our philosophy remains that anyone who wants to farm can, and our government's lending programs are geared to help those who may be least capable of farming in the first place, we will always have people farming who cannot meet their obligations. The taxpayer and those who are able to successfully farm will suffer.

The second thing we have to contend with is food policy by our government. The average American family spends a small percentage of its income for food. We all enjoy the fact that the cost of food products requires a lower percentage of our income each year, and this is very popular with politicians, but who is paying the price? Cheap food is great for the consumer but makes it almost impossible for the farmer to receive a fair price for his product because of the price of production. We are going to have to face the fact that we will either pay for food over the counter or under the counter through higher taxes to support government farm programs.

The third problem is one that seems to prevail on all of our society, that if an industry or a segment of an industry gets into financial trouble, it is the responsibility of the government to bail it out. We hear the phrase "the government has to do something!" Many of our problems have been caused by the government "doing something." When the government steps in to support one program, it usually creates another segment of agriculture, creating a greater imbalance in the previous year's existed. A free enterprise system, where supply and demand determines products produced and the price of those products, is the only way the future of farming can be improved. We must have more faith in the free enterprise system which is the heart and soul of our capitalistic economy.

The fourth thing we must try to overcome is over-inflation. Bankers will often loan any amount of money to an industry that seems to be booming. Farmers have received what has proven to be bad advice. Agriculture has appeared to be booming because the price of land has gone up. Farmers have been encouraged to expand their operations and go into debt based on the value of land — not the productivity of the land. The commonly made statement "there's more people being born every day, but there will never be any more land made" has contributed to the fact that the price of land will continue to go up. But, land-behold, the impossible has occurred: land prices have gone down, for example, 19% in Arkansas, 38% in Missouri, and as much as 48% in Iowa. The decline in the value of land has caused the net worth of farmers to be reduced drastically. If a farmer can't show enough collateral to cover his debts, it is next to impos-

sible to obtain loans for production purposes; and if his debt load is such that the productivity of the land will not reduce his debt, he is in serious trouble. That's what has happened to many farmers. Farmers' bankers and government loan officers must resist basing debt limits on the net worth of a farmer, and instead base debt load on the payback potential of a farming operation. A farmer cannot rely on inflation and the increase of land prices to bail him out.

I think American agriculture has a great future, but I believe we must reduce and eventually eliminate government programs that undermine our future. I realize that to stop government programs today is a very scary thing. But let us ask ourselves: Have they really helped or are our programs based on which segments of agriculture can hold the loudest? Do we not still have farmers going broke each day? Do we not all agree that any so-called "farm package" generally is one-sided, that while solving a problem for one area of farming, it creates more problems for others? Did you know that the USDA will pay an estimated \$ billion dollars in deficiency or loss of living payments this year? That's 25% of the total net cash income farmers are expected to receive, yet a recent Ohio State University poll discovered that 45% of the farmers surveyed are philosophically opposed to government programs?

Farmers must have and deserve to have good sound financial advice. Bankers and loan officers must be educated to the point where they can help farmers, not cause them to get into greater debt loads than they can handle. Farmers must realize they themselves are businessmen and educate themselves not only in producing a product but managing a farm operation from a business standpoint. Government programs should be geared around education, not taking one segment of agriculture and supporting it to the detriment of another.

Our country, and especially our agriculture industry, was based on free enterprise. If we do not allow free enterprise to control our economy, then special interest groups will always be able to determine our farm programs. It's here today to tell you that our national farm program should be based on one principle, and one principle only: FREE ENTERPRISE!

National Convention Committee Reports



Nominating Committee Report

We, the Nominating Committee, have given careful and deliberate consideration to all applicants running for National Offices. The Committee nominates the following slate of candidates to the delegates of the 59th National Conference to serve as National Officers for the year 1986-87.

President, Kevin Eblen, Iowa
Secretary, Kevin Yost, Nebraska
Vice President, Central Region, Dean Harder, Minnesota
Vice President, Eastern Region, Wiley Loftin, North Carolina
Vice President, Southern Region, Jayme Feary, Alabama
Vice President, Western Region, Darren Coppock, Oregon
National Treasurer, David Miller, Maryland
National Executive Secretary, C. Coleman Harris, Washington, D.C.
National Advisor, Larry D. Case, Washington, D.C.

Respectfully submitted:
Donald Ray Nash, Mississippi, Chairman
Bill Hollis, Illinois, Co-Chairman
Scott Stump, Indiana, Secretary
Tertt Lynn Hames, Oklahoma
Matthew C. Musselein, Iowa
Micky Elmore, West Virginia
Bruce Westerman, Arkansas
Jack Blattner, Idaho
Chris Englebrecht, New York
James W. Warren, Consultant
James P. Clouse, Consultant

National FFA Convention Committee

We, the members of the 1986 National Convention Committee, on behalf of the delegate body, after careful evaluation of the 59th National FFA Convention, wish to extend our sincere appreciation and congratulations to many individuals who gave their time and talents towards a very successful convention.

1. Dur National FFA Officers—Rick Mair, Coby Shorter III, Cindy Blair, Kevin Colfman, Kipling Godwin, and Robert Weaver
2. Dur National Executive Secretary, Mr. Coleman Harris, National Advisor, Dr. Larry Case, National Treasurer, David Miller, and Mr. Tony Hoyt, Program Specialist-Leadership
3. Steve Meredith for the opening invocation.
4. The Honorable, Richard L. Berkley, mayor of Kansas City, Mr. Bob MacGregor, President Kansas City Chamber of Commerce for their warmth and hospitality in welcoming the National Convention to Kansas City, Missouri.
5. Mr. Jack Anderson, for his informative and innovative comments.
6. Mr. Dan Outsenberry, Kansas City Royals Baseball Club, for his welcome and appearance.
7. Mrs. Susan Forte, finalist in the teacher in space program, for her motivational presentation.
8. A very special thank you to all of the sponsors of the FFA and the FFA Foundation for their continued support and interest in the future of our organization.
9. Mr. Bill Munsell, 1986 Chairman, Foundation Sponsors Board for his dedication and leadership the past year.
10. Mr. Robert Lanphier II, 1987 Chairman, Foundation Sponsors Board, for his optimism and enthusiasm.

11. Mr. Bob Moawad, President of the Edge Learning Institute for his outstanding message that will be a special memory of this convention.
12. Honorable Richard E. Lyng, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, for his greetings and message of optimism towards American agriculture.
13. Honorable E. "Kika" de la Garza, Chairman, House Committee on agriculture for his greetings and special remarks about our organization and the future of American agriculture.
14. Bruce Jenner, for his dedication and outstanding service to his country and its people.

15. John Schneider for his special appearance.
16. Reba McEntire, Sawyer Brown and John Schneider for their presentation at the American Royal.
17. Members of the National FFA Alumni who conducted the leadership workshops.
18. Judges and timekeepers for their dedication.
19. National FFA Courtesy Corps for their cooperation in making this convention a success.
20. The dedication displayed by Mr. Roger Heald, National FFA band director, Mr. Stan Kingma, National Chorus director and Don and Martha Erickson, directors of

- the National talent
21. Sponsors, participants and exhibitors of the Career Show for their worthwhile efforts displayed through the last twenty one years at the national convention.
22. Convention organizers!
23. Enthusiastic speakers at all the various meals and leadership programs throughout this week.
24. Many thanks for the dedication displayed in the newsroom and the staff of the FFA TIMES. Our sincere appreciation to Jacques seed company for sponsoring the FFA TIMES
25. Attendees of FFA members and guests at the 59th FFA convention.

EXCELLENCE

You don't have to look far to find those who will leave their mark on our future. They can be found in the local high school agriculture classroom.

Today, young men and women study agriculture and prepare for over 200 challenging and rewarding careers. Along the way, FFA offers a vast array of programs and opportunities to help them develop that rarest of commodities: excellence.

They are the leaders for the new fields of agriculture!



MADE IN THE FFA.



26. Convention Committee consultant staff and state staff for their words of advice and guidance.

27. A special thanks to all those who helped set-up and decorate the convention setting.

We also submit the following suggestions for improvements or changes in future National FFA Conventions:

1. We recommend that the newly-elected National FFA officers have a terrific year as they help us explore the new fields of agriculture.
2. Those participating and auditioning for talent should be shown more courtesy. They should not be required to be at the convention early because it causes travel and expense difficulties and participants should be better informed of performance times.
3. More upbeat organ music during lag times on stage and long ceremonies.
4. A shuttle service be operated from hotels in alliance with National programs and contests and also from the airport.
5. Doors be regulated to prevent strong drafts and cold from disturbing guests on convention floor.
6. Continue use of safety cards available at registration.
7. Include maps of Kansas City and convention center in program.
8. Give band and chorus more exposure outside of the national convention.
9. The National FFA Convention Committee highly recommends that the 430,000 FFA members continue to realize the importance of our organization towards the future of Agriculture, America, and our world, and that everyone strive for a very successful year in 1987...

Respectfully submitted,
 Chairman—Rayneta Halemasu, Hawaii
 Co-Chairman—Colin Mellon, Arizona
 Brent Viselmyer, Colorado
 William Ray, South Carolina
 Mark Hooper, Maryland
 Perry Denton, New York
 Wanda Burr, Michigan
 Becky Carter, Mississippi

Auditing Committee

We, the auditing committee of the 59th National FFA Convention, recommend to the National FFA organization:

1. The audit report of Stoy, Malone and Company found satisfactory and meeting the requirements of Public Law 740 for the fiscal year of September 1, 1985 to August 31, 1986, be accepted.

2. A condensed financial report be again distributed to each official delegate. The report should include balance sheets of assets and liabilities, statements of revenue and expenses, and changes in fund balances as taken from the auditor's report with a simplified, concise summary of total revenue, total liabilities, and under and over.

3. A full auditor's report be available upon request from the National FFA Center.
 4. We thank Mr. David Miller, National Treasurer and Mr. Wilson Carnes, Administrative Director for their help and guidance in our committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted:
 1986 Auditing Committee
 Bruce Cobb, Texas, Chairman
 Joyce Scott, Ohio, Co-Chairman
 Ron Hostetler, Michigan
 Frank Winslow, Maine
 Tina Barnett, Delaware
 Dennis Symons, New Jersey

New FFA Food Film

Sponsored by Kraft, Inc.

A new 10-minute film will be produced this year to supplement the Food For America program. The new FFA Food Film will look at the ingredients of our pizza to help explain agricultural production and processing to elementary school children.



The Collegiate Agriculture Education Development Committee

We, the members of the 1986 Collegiate Agriculture Education Committee, after having been oriented to the current conditions of the collegiate level of membership, feel that these conditions can be improved upon. After discussing the recommendations set forth by the 1985 Collegiate Ag Ed Committee and the advice of our consultants, we have reached the following recommendations:

1) The continuation of a national scholarship program under the auspices of the National FFA Foundation to recognize outstanding leadership and academic performances.

2) To continue holding an annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri simultaneously with the National FFA Convention.

3) That an addition to our National Constitution be proposed which will better define the roles and type of membership entitled to Collegiate FFA members.

4) That the chair and the co-chair persons of the Ag Ed Committee attend a session of the National Collegiate Ag Ed Conference to build better relationships and understanding of that organization and the Ag Ed Development Committee Reports to the delegates later in the week to allow for the committee to work with representatives of the National Collegiate Ag Ed Organization.

5) To include the Collegiate Ag Ed Development representatives of Collegiate FFA to foster a better understanding of the roles of both groups in establishing a stronger organization overall.

6) The National FFA invite a representative of the Collegiate Agriculture Education Organization to bring greetings to the convention along with other youth representatives.

7) To encourage all Ag Ed groups to become more involved with state level FFA functions.

8) Allow each state to nominate Collegiate Ag Ed members to serve in various capacities at the National FFA Convention, such as judging contests and the Courtesy Corps.

We, the members of the 1986 Ag Ed Development Committee after considerable discussion, hope that these recommendations will help to foster quality excellence in the teachings of Vocational Agriculture.

Respectfully submitted,
 Claude Poren, Vermont, Chairman
 Darren Killison, Wisconsin, Co-Chairman
 Leslie Danielson, Idaho, Secretary
 Melissa Jones, Massachusetts
 Chris Reeves, Louisiana
 Hugh Solomon Jr., North Carolina
 Joe Payne, Nevada
 Steve Davis, California

National Contest Committee

We, the National Contest Committee of the 59th National FFA Convention of the Future Farmers of America see a need for evaluation and possible restructuring of our National Contests. We see a need for the exercising of the skills and talents acquired by FFA members through Vocational Agriculture instruction. However, in light of constant innovations in our Agriculture industry, we feel the need to remain current with the changing times in Agriculture by preparing FFA members to be the leaders for the new fields of Agriculture.

We would like to thank the special committee for National Contests, particularly committee chairman Dr. Kirby Barrick, Ohio State University, for their discussion enlightening us to the issues facing the National Contests. We would like to express our support to them as they begin their 14 month analysis of the nationwide contests.

1. We recommend that in response to proposal of addition and/or deletion of National Contests that the Special Committee first investigate the following:

a. Purpose of the contest system as a whole

b. Purpose of the contest on an individual basis

c. Feasibility of new contests

2. In response to the need of procedure clarification, we recommend that the following be investigated:

a. Rules and proceedings of the contests

b. Committees that run each contest.

c. The establishment of competency or minimum requirement test to ensure national participation qualification.

3. In light of the current economic situation, we recommend that the special committee give careful analysis to the financial feasibility of making changes in the national contest system.

4. Recognizing regional differences within the national scope of our organization, we suggest that the special committee investigate the possibility of regional contests for those contest areas not encompassing adequate participation due to the regional variety.

5. In their investigation, we see the following as important resources to be involved in the decisions of the special committee studying the national contests:

- a. Students
 - b. Agriculture educators
 - c. State staff members
 - d. National contest superintendents and their committees
 - e. Collegiate sponsors of the state contests
 - f. Industry sponsors
 - g. National Board and staff
 - h. Alumni association
 - i. Parents and other supporters
- Recognizing the challenges associated with this issue now facing the entire FFA organization, and realizing the importance

of the special committee for national contests, we hope that their impacting decisions, can and will be substantiated publicly in order to involve the FFA organization as a whole in these decisions which will effect all those involved with the Future Farmers of America.

Mary Wilson, Kansas, Chairman
 Menessa Ransom, Oklahoma,
 Co-Chairman/Secretary
 Mike Smith, Alaska
 Maryann Vogt, New York
 Bronwyn Bishop, Alabama

Delegate Business

During the Business Session on Wednesday, the delegates voted to keep the dues at \$3.00. The delegates also accepted all the committee reports as read. They also referred the Contest Amendment to the Constitution to a study committee to report back in January of 1988.

The minutes of the 58th National FFA

Convention were read and accepted by the voting delegates and afterwards they witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation by the National Association of Conservation Districts, The National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association and the FFA.



International Committee

We, the members of the International Programs Committee present the following recommendations for consideration to the 59th National Convention of the Future Farmers of America:

1. To have specific information about WEA, including grants available, accessible through the A&E-Ed Network
2. International Programs be incorporated as a health standing committee in the program of activities.
3. Encourage states to have recent WEA participants give a presentation(s) at the state convention.
4. Advertise in order to encourage participants to seek college credits.
5. Request that a detailed information packet, similar to BOAC and Food for America, be made available to individual chapters through the National FFA Supply Service.
6. Specify one day during National FFA Week as International Day in order to promote International Programs
7. Encourage states to publicize in-bound and out-bound WEA participants.
8. Present specialized visual media to local chapters through the cooperation of in-

ternational - national based corporations

9. Encourage state officers at NLC/SCO conferences and state presidents' conference to participate in the Young Farmers Clubs (YFC) exchange

10. Encourage states to seek recognition of participation in international programs by state officials (ie. governor and representatives).

11. Implement a shorter term program of approximately one month.
12. Have host families recognized on the state level

We, the International Committee extend sincere thanks to Bruce Kane, Molly Wilson and Walter Upton for their input and advice on the matters of the International Committee.

Chris Wilder, Florida, Chairperson
 Marco Volk, North Dakota, Co-Chairman
 Mike Acker, Texas
 Michelle Davis, Idaho
 Lia Mullen, Wisconsin
 Lou Lansing
 Michael Milmine, Montana
 Sher Mero
 Wesley Sand, Oregon



Membership Development Committee

We, the Membership Development Committee of the 59th Annual National FFA Convention believe that recruitment of new members is essential to the growth and development of our organization.

We believe in order for our organization to grow, involvement must be stimulated, and a challenging program developed which provides for the retention of students interested in FFA programs. We believe the aforementioned could be done by implementing major recommendations proposed by this national committee.

1. Promote the widespread use of the Agricultural Career Recruitment Program sponsored by Monsanto and prepared by the staff of the national organization.

2. Recommend the production of a brochure to be used to enlighten anyone from school board members, counselors, to chapter members of the positive preparation vocational agricultural programs can have on prospective college students. This brochure would also include information on a system establishing academic credits in math, science and/or public speaking for participation in v-e-ag programs. This brochure will also incorporate the attitudes of colleges towards students with entrance requirements which have been met in this manner and a background of active FFA participation.



3. Promote an exploratory program in the 7th grade to introduce to prospective members the opportunities that await them if they become an active FFA member and v-e-ag student. Establishing a full 8th grade program, where feasible, would also increase enrollment.

Information on a crediting system and exploratory programs are available through various state associations such as Virginia, Oregon, and Texas which have these programs.

We believe that the adoption of these recommendations will initiate a significant change in the current membership trend and will insure the continued quality of the Future Farmers of America

Respectfully submitted,
 Eddie Miller, Missouri, Chairman
 Kathlene M. Reed, Oregon, Co-Chairman
 Phillip Baker, Tennessee
 Lee Nitting, Virginia
 Michele Sargent, New Hampshire
 David Wilson, Utah
 Pedro Rivera, Puerto Rico

National Awards Committee

We, the members of the National Award Program Committee, with the purpose of encouraging educational experiences beyond classroom activities in order to encourage, motivate and recognize achievement in agricultural career training, citizenship and cooperation while gaining leadership skills, by becoming involved in BOAC, proficiency awards, national chapter awards, safety and the degree program

1. We encourage chapter, state and national awards winners to write thank-yous to national award sponsors.
2. We recommend further study into the possibility of considering that pulp wood fall under the fiber crop proficiency award and that Christmas trees fall under the specialty crop proficiency award.
3. We reviewed the proficiency awards and found a need for an in-depth study dealing with the possibility of altering, de-

leting or creating award areas because of the vast and dramatic changes in the aspect of career opportunities in the agricultural industry of the United States of America

4. We suggest that the state associations review and follow the recommendations of the regional and national scoring committees and pass the information down to the local level.

5. We recommend that the national awards program be made as efficient as possible

6. To increase participation in Safety, BOAC, and the national chapter award, we recommend that the state associations establish an award program for chapters that participate in all these of the above award areas

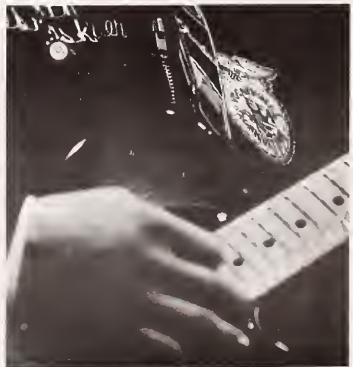
7. To increase recognition, we recommend that chapters with national ratings in all three areas of BOAC, safety and national chapter be recognized by introduction at the national convention.

8. We recommend that a committee of state and national staff study the possibility of simplifying and standardizing the state degree application with the purpose of establishing consistency of the degree among the states.

9. We recommend that the members of the Future Farmers of America extend a tremendous thank you to Mr. Robert Seefeldt, Program Specialist, Awards and state services and to Mr. Ted Amick, Program Specialist, Contests, for their outstanding service and commitment to our organization. The National Awards Program Committee believes that these recommendations are necessary to increase and insure the quality of the areas of BOAC, safety, national chapter, proficiency awards program and the degree program

We wish to thank the following state and national staff: Robert E. Juncker, Indiana; Laura Grim, Idaho; Elton Whit, Illinois; and Kellie Mahrenholz, national staff consultant for their support and cooperation throughout this committee's session.

Kathy Lineburg, Virginia, Chairperson
 Robert Powalaki, Alaska, Co-Chairperson
 Charles Estes, Washington, Secretary
 Rila Arcard, Wisconsin
 Richard Amundson
 Scott Sooy, Ohio
 Robert Hanson



Alumni Committee

We, the delegates serving on the National FFA Alumni Committee wish to express our sincere thanks to Gary Mrazic, Robert Cox, Steve Brown, Richard Kati, Larry Reese and Rick Metzger for their contribution and enthusiasm to our committee. We would also like to congratulate the alumni members for their outstanding services to the Future Farmers of America. We feel that the development of the FFA alumni affiliates throughout the country is of vital importance for the betterment and expansion of vocational agriculture.

The National FFA organization realizes that the key to success for the national, state and local alumni affiliates is for each organization to have a definite purpose. We therefore suggest the following items to help continue progress toward this purpose.

We, the alumni committee feel that the FFA Alumni should concentrate its thrust towards local, state and national levels in order to help the FFA organization. We suggest the following items under each heading:

I. Chapters

a. Send letters of alumni information to seniors in local FFA chapters.

1. Encourage national organization to include year of student as a part of the membership roster.
2. Encourage FFA alumni to send information pamphlets to interested students.

b. Encourage alumni to establish incentive programs in local chapters.

1. To encourage a complimentary alumni membership in all honorary degree ceremonies
2. Encourage alumni to give scholarships to members who participate in the local alumni chapters

c. Encourage established alumni affiliates to help aid other affiliates

An alumni is the key to not only a successful FFA chapter but to the promotion of vocational agriculture

II. State Organizations

a. Encourage state officers to promote alumni through goodwill tours, leadership conference camps, NLCSO, chapter visits and WCP program.

1. Encourage state officers to discuss benefits of alumni.
2. Encourage state officers to establish workshops on setting up alumni affiliates.

b. Encourage state officers and alumni officers to have annual meetings on the progress of both organizations

c. Encourage state FFA Associations and alumni to hold state conventions during the same week.

d. Encourage the establishment of alumni workshops at state agriculture teachers meetings

e. Encourage the establishment of alumni workshops at state conventions and contests

f. Encourage collegiate groups to explore the possibilities of establishing a collegiate FFA alumni.

1. Encourage alumni to send letters of information to all collegiate groups
2. Encourage alumni to set-up incentive programs for collegiate groups
3. Encourage colleges to advise students to set up an alumni chapter where the students will student teach.

g. Encourage state associations to include alumni membership in honorary degree ceremonies. If the state officers continue to promote the alumni then we will indeed continue to achieve our goals of the FFA organization.

III National Organization

a. Encourage alumni to inform the NVATA on the benefits of an alumni affiliate at the chapter level.

1. Encourage alumni to establish a workshop at the annual NVATA meeting
2. Encourage national recognition by FFA and alumni organizations
3. Encourage recognition of lifetime members at the national FFA and alumni conventions
4. Encourage recognition of state officer teams who work diligently to promote the alumni

b. Encourage alumni to attend NLCSO and WCPs to educate state officers and other members on how to promote alumni in the states and in the chapters.

1. Encourage alumni to set up workshops showing specific ways to promote and start an alumni affiliate
2. Encourage program directors of NLCSO and WCP to set up a casual meeting between alumni and FFA members.

c. Encourage the National FFA and alumni to continue holding the conventions during the same week

The National FFA Alumni continues to strive to make Vocational Agriculture number 1. If we all work together as one, then we will achieve our goal.

We the National FFA Alumni Committee have worked diligently to produce suggestions for the benefit of the Future Farmers of America and Alumni organization. We hope that our suggestions can be utilized toward the expansion of Vocational agriculture. We challenge each of the members in the state association to establish a local alumni affiliate. Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Chalkey, Connecticut, Chairman
Michael McIntosh, Louisiana, Co-Chairman
Dawn Rucker
Cara Nick, Kansas
Bill Blank, Pennsylvania
Patricia Port, South Carolina

The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine Committee

We the members of the 1986 NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER Magazine Committee, on behalf of the membership of the tradition and pride which has been incorporated into the magazine and its name, wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine staff and commend them on a job well done.

We feel The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine and staff have done a great job of informing the FFA, organization, sponsors, and general public, about the activities and purposes of the FFA; and keeping in touch with the members and outlook of agriculture. After careful consideration, we submit the following recommendations:

- 1) Continue to encourage FFA members, alumni, state officers, and state staff to send in stories and articles.
- 2) We encourage the magazine staff to continue to monitor the readers interests and ideas.
- 3) We encourage chapters to purchase editions of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine for annual alumni members, FFA supporters, and school officials.
- 4) We suggest the use of subtitles to better capture the attention of the reader.
- 5) We encourage putting students personal addresses only, on rosters in order that they may receive the magazine at their home. As a reminder to chapters to remember to fill out the roster, we suggest:

- a) A letter to the chapter advisors from Dr. Larry Case, National Advisor.
- b) A message directed toward advisors in "Between Issues."
- c) A message directed to members through The National FUTURE FARMER.

6) We suggest the following ideas for new articles:

- a) Have an article on collegiate FFA
- b) Have an article contrasting agriculturalists of yesterday and today.
- c) Have a series of articles on history of the FFA
- d) We suggest articles of different innovative leadership programs, from chapter and state levels
- e) Articles pertaining to current agricultural issues.

7) We suggest focusing an article on the growth of a greenhand.

8) We suggest that a year-end report be submitted to the 1987 National FUTURE FARMER Magazine Committee, regarding the action taken on the above points

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Millsap, Oklahoma, Chairman
Jeff Vance, Ohio, Co-Chairman
Leigh Loughhead, Arizona
Adrian Williams, Florida
Jim Pritchard, West Virginia
Julie Halverson, South Dakota
Leigh Fox, Arkansas
Nicholas Wells, California



Supply Service Committee

We, the members of the National FFA Supply Service Committee wish to express our appreciation for the fine job that the staff and employees of the Supply Service have done in the past, and would like to make the following recommendations for the future operation of that service

- Discontinue:
- Silk ties
 - Instructions for tying female scarves
 - Field jacket similar to official jacket
 - Pocket planner/calendar
 - Reversible jacket
 - camouflage/fluorescent
 - License plate holder
 - Golf hats
- Changes in supplies:
- High quality
 - Wider state officer notebook
 - Discontinue selling old student handbook

Calendar Program:
We encourage the supply service to continue with the present program of encouraging chapters to participate.

We would also like to thank Mr. Dennis Shaler and Ms. Debbie Quigley for their input on the matters discussed at this time

Respectfully submitted
Lee Harris, Texas, Chairman
Keith McDougall, Utah, Co-Chairman
Buck Oestman, Maryland
Matthew Trembley, Vermont
Carl Weis, District of Columbia

National Informational Service Committee

We, the members of the 1986 National Informational Service Committee, make the following recommendations to improve and further develop the informational services of the national organization.

1. That information concerning the new and ever changing fields of agriculture be directed toward both internal and external audiences using non-traditional media (TV, contemporary and popular radio stations)
2. Review and evaluate the effectiveness of promotional informational funds directed toward the internal audience and consider relative benefits redirecting these resources to the external audience to promote the awareness of agriculture, vocational agriculture, and the Future Farmers of America.

3. That in order to encourage chapter



Coming Soon,
to a classroom near you...

STARRING PEPPERONI PIZZA
In his first leading role, the new 10-minute film spectacular will thrill elementary school children with the story of the agricultural food chain as seen through the eyes of a pizza.

Production of the Food Film is sponsored by Kraft, Inc. as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. It's the perfect complement to a dynamic Food For America program.

WATCH FOR IT!

It's the New FFA Food Film!

awareness and involvement, regularly send a synopsis directed to the chapter president of the pertinent information the chapter has received, which should be distributed with the chapter members.

4. To encourage the chapters to utilize the National FUTURE FARMERS Magazine as an informational, promotional and recruitment tool.

a. Make the magazine available at a reduced rate (member cost) to be able to provide complimentary subscriptions to the key supporters such as school board members, administrators, guidance counselors, and local businessmen.

b. Use the magazine as a recruitment tool by displaying or making it available to prospective members.

5. We thank the Staff of the Information Services: Mr. Bill Stapp, Director; Miss Rachel Vining, Information Intern; and Miss Roni Horan, Information Program Assistant; for their hard work and development of the Agricultural Career Recruitment Program. FFA week material and public service announcements.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Wilcox, Wyoming, Chairman
Brian Mullix, Missouri, Co-Chairman
Michael G. Burton, Indiana
Sheila Blidie, Pennsylvania
Rocco Carroccio, Montana
Ricki Doran, Alabama
Linda Teterault, Rhode Island

National Issues Committee

We, the members of the National Issues Committee have met to identify, clarify, and discuss the issues facing the national organization presently and issues of the future.

I. Addition of a National Officer
We feel that an additional national officer is unnecessary whereas the present number of officers is sufficient to meet the needs of the national organization.

II. Emblem Change
We as a committee wish to reemphasize the importance of the symbolism of our national emblem, therefore we do not recommend any change of the organization's emblem.

III. The FFA Creed
We feel that if revisions of the Creed are to be made they should be in the fifth paragraph in the following way; by striking out the words rural America and inserting American agriculture so that the paragraph would read in the following manner: "I believe that American Agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task."

IV. State Farmer Degree
The committee acknowledged and addressed the proposed amendment to Article IV, Section D. We feel the 3% maximum

quota should be dropped only in the event that the state associations raise or maintain present qualifications so that the state farmer degree is still a prestigious honor or achievement.

V. Name Change
We, the committee feel that this is the prevalent issue facing our organization. After lengthy discussion and consideration we conclude that the problem lies not in our organization's name, but in our organization's image, therefore we do not recommend a name change. However, we recommend the following strategies to improve our image.

Support and promote present programs such as Food For America, and Think About It.

Intensify efforts to educate adults as to the numerous careers available through agriculture. Emphasize the fact that although less than 3% of our nation's population are involved in production agriculture, over 20% of the nation's work force is employed in an ag related industry.

We feel the need to educate guidance counselors, educators, legislators and parents because of the obvious importance of agriculture in our nation.

We also wish to reiterate the 1985 issues committee recommendation - That Vocational Agriculture be revised to qualify for business or credit in the high school curriculum. Furthermore we propose an additional chapter awards program that would be specifically concerned with public relations and promotion of the organization (the FFA) in the chapter's community and state. The awards might be issued on local, state, and national levels. The purpose being to promote Vocational Agriculture and the FFA to those unaware of our programs.

We, the 1986 National Issues Committee report in hopes that our recommendations will be of benefit to our members and organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie McCall, North Carolina, Chairman
Mickey Davis, Texas, Secretary
Roger Seedorf, Colorado, Co-Chairman
Edgar Bruns, Kentucky
Brad Lewis, Alabama
D.J. Elliott, West Virginia
Shane Stewart, Oklahoma
Scott Stitzer, Nebraska

National Leadership Conferences Committee

Washington Conference Program
We, the members of the National Leadership Conference Committee have carefully analyzed and evaluated the 1986 Washington Conference Program and State Presidents' Conference. With our primary objective being to improve the leadership training at these conferences for our fellow FFA members. We do hereby submit the following recommendations.

1. We recommend that the conference staff encourage more exchange of ideas between Washington Conference Program participants by:

a. Continuing to separate participants from the same chapter or state when making lodging arrangements.

FFA TIMES

Sponsored by Jacques Seed Company



This was the FFA TIMES sixth year of providing daily news and information during the convention.

The paper was read by nearly 20,000 members, advisors, sponsors and others attending convention sessions. The paper had the breaking news of the convention, such as the announcement of the Stars of America and the time to do behind-the-scenes feature stories.

A staff of about fifteen college students work, provided photography, edited and oversaw the printing of the FFA TIMES. Most of the staff were past FFA members who have attended previous conventions. The editor this year was Rachel Vining, National FFA Information Staff Intern.

FFA members volunteered as FFA TIMES carriers to distribute the FFA TIMES during the week.

After each convention the FFA TIMES is mailed to every chapter in the country as a record of the week in Kansas City.

b. Creating a casual mixer which is broken into small groups.

c. Encouraging a formal idea exchange session for chapter and state activities.

2. Encourage the conference to continue activities to develop a conference leadership skills but place a stronger emphasis on teamwork and hold more activities dealing with cooperation.

3. We recommend the conference staff spend more time explaining the National FFA award programs, activities and services to conference participants and encourage them to relay this information to their fellow chapter members.

4. We request that staff members continue to utilize national officer talents and skills by requiring the presence of two national officers during FFA sessions and encouraging them to interact with WCP participants on a one-on-one basis.

5. We recommend that advisors who have not participated in a conference report their concerns to the committee.

a. Underlining the advisor activities in the WCP brochure.

b. Promoting the WCP advisor program more extensively in The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine, as well as in FFA public relations.

c. Publishing a SPECIAL pamphlet pertaining to the advisor activities at WCP which should be sent along with the WCP brochure.

6. We suggest that FFA members be encouraged to participate in the conference by:

a. Producing a promotional film or slide show about WCP.

b. Giving promotional materials to the state chapters at NLSUCO to utilize during their chapter visits.

7. We recommend that the National FFA organization help alleviate the cost of the program by:

a. Encouraging state and national associations to provide funds for WCP scholars.

b. Providing chapters with ideas and information to utilize while soliciting sponsors in their local communities.

c. Encouraging the national organization to negotiate with businesses in order to obtain discounted travel and lodging rates.

d. Requesting the national organization evaluate the budget to avoid increasing the WCP participants.

e. Recommending that certificates of appreciation be distributed to the supporters of WCP participants.

8. We recommend that the directors of WCP review and update the pamphlets and brochures by:

a. Dedicating more space and attention to the advisor's schedule.

b. Providing personal comments from past WCP participants.

c. Adding the biographical data of directors and staff.

d. Removing the specific emphasis of the conference is primarily for chapter presidents.

9. We recommend that a specific session be used so participants can learn how to report and share ideas that they bring during the WCP.

State Presidents' Conference
We encourage the national organization to continue utilizing national officers as conference directors and increase the number of past national officers to share motivational and inspirational material with the delegates.

2. We recommend that the conference directors provide more information by:

a. Emphasizing the different career opportunities in agriculture.

b. Explaining the vocational and possible careers of Vocational Agriculture and the Future Farmer of America.

c. Continuing to provide question and answer sessions on the FFA and agricultural issues.

3. We recommend that states be prepared to submit a specific concern upon arrival in Washington, D.C., with the directors to be used within the issue and answer committees.

4. We recommend that WCP counselors treat state presidents conference participants in a mature and adultlike manner so the participants can express their maturity and professionalism.

5. We encourage counselors and staff members to observe and closely follow the scheduled agenda to all activities and appointments set up ahead.

6. We recommend that news releases and pictures be given directly to participants to utilize at their own discretion.

To follow up the 1986 National Leadership Conference, we recommend the following resolution go on record at the 59th National FFA Convention:

1. Be it resolved that the National Leadership Committee at the national convention provide a summary of the evaluations of the Washington Conference Program and the State President's Conference in order to make more educated and informed decisions.

2. Be it resolved that the National FFA Organization sincerely appreciates the efforts, cooperation, and support of all the people involved in the planning, executing and funding of the Washington Conference Program and the State FFA Alumni for the scholarships it sponsored, as well as, the Chevrolet Division of the General Motors Corporation for their sponsorship of the State FFA Presidents' Conference.

As members of the National Leadership Committee we sincerely appreciate and believe that these recommendations will indeed help us as we prepare leaders for the new fields of Agriculture.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Kurfin, Illinois
Way Thompson, Mississippi, Co-Chairman
Terri Harder, Texas
Brian Hicks, Minnesota
Brent Buck, Maine
Scott Kurfin, Illinois
Noel Bonds, Nevada

National Leadership Conferences For State Officers Committee

We as a committee would like to commend the National Officers and National State Officers for their cooperation in the planning and presentation of the NLSUCO programs.

We felt that the following were effective techniques and activities and recommend that the newly elected officer team continue their National Officers' work throughout the year starting before and during the conference as well as they did the year. Continue the impromptu speaking workshops, committee projects, self confidence building, banquet and preconference survey. We as a committee also recognize certain programs:

Problem: Particular associations are being denied participation in NLSUCO programs because of conflicting schedules.

For example - the north-eastern area. Solutions: In order to facilitate the participating state officer such as in the north-eastern area the NLSUCO program date be moved earlier.

Problem: We as a committee see that insufficient time is spent on practical skills and knowledge.

Solutions: We recommend that the following programs be combined or condensed - the resource system, telephone publicizing and traveling tips.

Problem: Officers are not being sufficiently prepared for practical situations.

Solution: National officers should train state officers to plan a chapter visit, district conference, chapter leadership conference or greenhand conference. Methods could be: use of a case study of hypothetical situations being presented.

We as a committee recommend the reinstatement of a quiz bowl. We also recommend that the national officers contact hosting states two weeks before the conference.

Respectfully submitted,
David Dam, Nebraska, Chairman
C.J. Elmer, North Carolina, Co-Chairman
Stephan Yantis, Georgia
Bill Hollis, Illinois

Brad Chamblis, Kentucky
Alicia Horan, Rhode Island
Jaymie Smith, Tennessee
Marly Copeland, New Mexico

1986 National FFA Program of Activities Committee

We, the members of the 1986 National FFA Program of Activities Committee, have carefully studied the formal and con-

tent of the FFA's National Program of Activities, and respectfully submit the following recommendations for its improvement:

1. Encourage better communication between staff members and state officers in regard to reimbursement of National FFA Board Meeting Minutes, National FFA Association Board Meeting Minutes, proposed Constitutional Amendments, and other pertinent information distributed by the National FFA organization.

2. Provide for in-service instruction to state FFA officers and state staff members present at National FFA officers and staff members at such activities as NLSUCO's, State President's Conference and State Staff Members Conference. These in-services should deal with areas of Board, National Chapter Award Program, National Chapter Safety Program, National FFA Program of Activities, the National FFA Budget, etc.

3. Make special provisions to make the 1986 National FFA Officers' Conference more enjoyable by inserting a few explanatory pages to aid in its interpretation.

4. Consider creating a National Leadership Intern position at the National FFA Center to assist in administration of national and state programs.

5. Develop a motion picture or video cassette tape geared toward assisting prospective local FFA Alumni Affiliates on how to become organized and established.

6. Specify in the National FFA Program of Activities and Alumni Association membership opportunities are offered to National FFA Foundation sponsors.

7. We commend the National FFA Board of Directors and Staff on their establishment of a committee to carry out an in-depth study of all National FFA Contests and Awards Programs.

8. Establish a permanent policy for the notification of National Board and Chorus applications to their respective schools and scheduling and practice, etc. We recommend this information should reach these individuals no later than sixty days prior to the corresponding National Convention.

9. We commend the National FFA Organization on its ongoing care and maintenance of an outstanding National FFA Hall of Achievement.

10. Consult with appropriate individuals, specifically elementary school teachers, on the development of programs similar to classroom materials. Useful information may also be obtained from the American Farm Bureau Federation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Education.

11. Establish a more concise format for the National FFA Awards Program modeled after that of the Agri-Science Teacher of Year Award Program explanation (pg. 14). This should include specifying the selection and recognition of individual state winners.

12. Reconsider the recommendation of the 1985 National Program of Activities Committee to reinstate The National FUTURE FARMER series to include publicizing and awarding to local chapters.

13. Provide for greater awareness and recognition of National FFA Academic Scholarships.

14. Consider the establishment of an inter-state FFA exchange program similar to WEFA for exchange and work experience among FFA members within the United States.

15. Establish a standard policy on the sale and/or distribution of The National FUTURE FARMER mailing list to outside parties.

16. Provide the National FFA Program of Activities with an attractive cover for all state FFA officers at NLSUCO's and have copies accessible to local chapters.

In closing, we have found the format and organization of the National FFA Program of Activities to be very acceptable, and we commend the National FFA Staff for keeping this document ordered and up-to-date.

We gratefully acknowledge our National Staff Consultant, Mr. C. Coleman Harris, and our state staff consultants, Mr. Ron Crawford of Washington, Mr. Ronald Johnson of West Virginia, and Mr. Mark Wilde of Vermont for their advice and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Barber, Iowa, Chairman
Michael Fossom, South Dakota, Co-Chairperson
Allison Downer, California
Nomi Peckham, Connecticut
Rebecca Perry, Texas
Greg Long, Georgia
Keith Fujikawa, Hawaii
Dana Degano, Delaware