



# The Alabama FFA NEWS



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# CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The 41st annual convention was held at Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery, June 3-4 with some 2,000 delegates and their advisors in attendance.

Highlights of the convention were: outstanding talks by Montgomery Circuit Judge Richard P. Emmet, National FFA Student Secretary Dennis Pharris, and Past National FFA Officer Jerry Batts; competition in individual and chapter contests; the awarding of Honorary State Farmer Degrees to 11 prominent Alabamians; the conferring of 488 State Farmer Degrees; recognition of Star Farmers; and election of 1970-71 State FFA Officers. (For more details of these highlights see other stories herein.)

Listed below are winners of the 1970 State Awards and Contests.

## CROP FARMING

1--Gary Childers . . . . . Vina  
2--Jeff McKenzie . . . . . Section  
3--Bobby Eaton . . . . . Carrollton  
4--James Gottler . . . . . Foley

## LIVESTOCK FARMING

1--Gerald Salter . . . . . Evergreen  
2--Roger McWaters . . . . . Geneva  
3--David Johnson . . . . . Woodland  
4--Richard Galloway . . . . . Fayette

## DAIRY FARMING

1--Teddy Hoffren . . . . . Fairhope  
2--Joe Hartzog . . . . . Clio  
3--Harvey Kyles . . . . . Reform  
4--Terry Chapman . . . . . Evergreen

## POULTRY FARMING

1--Steve Adams . . . . . Crossville  
2--Jerry Busby . . . . . Fairhope  
3--Curtis Clark . . . . . Section  
4--James Seay . . . . . Boaz

## FORESTRY

1--John Tillman . . . . . Straughn  
2--Van Smith . . . . . Billingsley  
3--Lewis Elmore . . . . . Gordo-B  
4--Dalton Eason, Jr. . . . . Fayette

## ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE

1--Mike Mitchell . . . . . Gardendale  
2--Donald Smith . . . . . Fairview  
3--David Wright . . . . . Plantersville  
4--Donald Pilkington . . . . . McAdory

## SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT

1--Johnny Goolsby . . . . . Wetumpka  
2--Billy Thompson . . . . . Centreville  
3--Eric Pugh . . . . . Evergreen  
4--John Morrow . . . . . Red Bay

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

1--Edward Woerner . . . . . Foley  
2--Louvelle Hoggle . . . . . Akron  
3--Alfred Snoddy . . . . . Carver (Eutaw)  
4--Harvey Earl McCord, Jr. . . . . Princeton

## AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS

1--Elton Romine . . . . . Rogersville  
2--Richard Savage . . . . . Pell City  
3--Carol Snider . . . . . Brookwood  
4--Randy Earnest . . . . . Northside

## FARM & HOME ELECTRIFICATION

1--Royce Jones . . . . . Section  
2--Don Towns . . . . . Rockford  
3--Edward Woerner . . . . . Foley  
4--Gray Wilkinson . . . . . Jackson  
5--Jimmy Taylor . . . . . Ashford  
6--Herbert Kerr . . . . . Pell City

## AGRIBUSINESS

1--Chris Bush . . . . . Sidney Lanier  
2--Glen Jones . . . . . Bay Minette  
3--Rosilyn Wilson . . . . . Gardendale  
4--John Sessions . . . . . Evergreen

## NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

1--Jeff McKenzie . . . . . Section  
2--Arthur Batchelor . . . . . Reform  
3--William Bailey . . . . . McAdory  
4--Tommy Roberson . . . . . Mt. Hope

## PLACEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

1--Jimmy Brannon . . . . . Hartford  
2--Randy Adair . . . . . Wetumpka  
3--Jimmy Yarbough . . . . . Wedowee  
4--Calvin Stalhood . . . . . Fairhope

## PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

1--Harold Grooms . . . . . Prattville  
2--Bill Minor . . . . . Douglas  
3--Tommy Hays . . . . . Susan Moore  
4--Tom Freeman . . . . . Columbia  
5--Brett Bullington . . . . . East Limestone  
6--James Gottler . . . . . Foley

## STRING BAND CONTEST

1--Bay Minette  
2--West Point  
3--Jacksonville  
4--Mount Hope  
5--Union Springs  
6--Stanhope Elmore

(continued on next page)

## LAND JUDGING CONTEST

- 1--Enterprise
- 2--Fairhope
- 3--Thomaston
- 4--LaFayette

## LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

- 1--Hartford
- 2--Uriah
- 3--Belgreen
- 4--Ranburne

## DAIRY JUDGING CONTEST

- 1--Linden
- 2--Arab
- 3--Hackleburg
- 4--Mellow Valley

## CORN GROWING CONTEST

- Champion Corn Grower  
Rodney Moon.....Sparkman
- District Winners
- Ken Banks.....Wetumpka  
Albert Wilson.....McKenzie  
Jimmy Copeland.....Fairhope  
Joe Johnson.....Greensboro  
Jerry Davis.....Vina

## SAFETY CONTEST

- 1--Moulton
- 2--Sylvania
- 3--Wedowee
- 4--Haleyville
- 5--Gurley

## CHAPTER CONTEST

- Standard Chapters.....
- Goshen  
Fairview  
Hillcrest High  
Russelloville  
Sumter County Training  
Akron  
Waterloo  
Toun Creek  
Milry  
Moore Academy

## Superior Chapters.....

- Chelsea  
Marengo County Training  
Grove Hill  
Evergreen  
Reform  
Crossville  
Carver (Eutaw)  
Speake  
Woodford Avenue  
Leighton Training  
Curry  
Brookwood

## Gold Medal Chapters.....

- Fairhope  
Gurley  
Haleyville  
Section  
Sparkman

# McKENZIE - STATE STAR FARMER

The highest honor the Alabama FFA Association can bestow upon a member has gone to Jeff McKenzie, 19, of Section.

Jeff, a recent graduate of Section High School, was named 1970 Star Farmer of Alabama during the 41st annual State FFA convention in Montgomery, June 4.

He was one of six District Star Farmers from Alabama honored by more than 2,000 FFA members at the convention. Other district star farmers were: James Gottler, Foley; Tim Presley, Opp; Richard Galloway, Fayette; Johnny Goolsby, Wetumpka; and Sammy Hinkle, Fairview.

On his route to receiving the the top FFA award Jeff posted an array of achievements that include serving as sentinel and reporter of his local FFA chapter.

During the convention, this enterprising Future Farmer was awarded twice for his outstanding achievement in agricultural proficiency (1st place in Natural Resource Development and 2nd place in Crop Farming) and also received his State Farmer Degree.

Jeff's farming program features swine production--20 sows for breeding and 1800 market animals--and embraces row crops as well as a small herd of beef cattle. His net earnings from three years of completed projects total over \$22,000. This might be considered a good indication of his success in farming.

One reason for his success stems from his belief in conserving and improving his facilities. Jeff is always looking for ways to make his farm better. This includes everything from improving his shop, orchard, and farm pond to planting seedlings, treating his buildings for termites, and vaccinating his pigs. In 1967, he was cited by Governor Brewer for his exceptional conservation work.

Jeff also realizes full well the importance of breeding high-

quality stock. He knows how to select the best animals for his breeding program and his proficiency in this area has made him a champion livestock judge. The result is that he breeds and grows picture-perfect feeder pigs--and markets 1800 top hogs per year. \*\*\*

## ALABAMIANS HONORED

Eleven outstanding leaders in Agriculture and Business were presented with Honorary State Farmer Degrees by the Alabama FFA Association at the state convention, June 3.

The ten men and one woman receiving the honorary degrees were: Dr. V. S. Eaddy, Coordinator, Agricultural Teacher Education, Auburn University; Mr. W. E. Cooper, Special Supervisor, Agricultural Education Service, Tuskegee Institute; Mr. E. L. Donald, Teacher Educator, Agricultural Education, Tuskegee Institute; Mr. J. D. Hays, President, Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, Montgomery; Mr. William B. Lingle, State Conservation Director, USDA-Soil Conservation Service, Auburn; Mr. John A. Garrett, Director, Farmers Home Administration, Montgomery; Mrs. Mary George Waite, President, Farmers and Merchants Bank, Centre; Mr. B. A. Wright, President, Peoples Trust and Savings Bank, Goodwater; Mr. Ozell Thrasher, President, East Lauderdale Banking Company, Rogersville; Mr. Dewey K. Wilson, President, Farmers and Merchants Bank, Ariton; and Mr. Hugh C. Dale, Vice-president, Camden National Bank, Camden.

In addition, Outstanding Service Plaques were presented to the Honorable Richard P. Emmet, Judge of the 15th Judicial Circuit of Alabama, Montgomery; and Mr. Eddie Downs, President, Bank of West Blocton, West Blocton.

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

CHAPTERS SHOULD INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN THE ACQUISITION OF FAVORABLE PUBLICITY FOR THE FFA AND VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE --PARTICULARLY IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES. A SOUND PUBLIC IMAGE AND ACCEPT-BY PARENTS, FACULTY, AND BUSINESS LEADERS CAN ADD STRENGTH AND SUPPORT TO EVEN THE BEST CHAPTER.

THE OFFICIAL FFA CALENDAR PROGRAM IS ONE TOOL WHICH CHAPTERS CAN USE TO GAIN ADDED PUBLIC AWARENESS, AND NOW IS THE TIME TO DISCUSS THIS PROGRAM.

CALENDAR ORDERS FOR 1971 NEED TO BE IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN 1970.

SO, START THE BALL ROLLING AND LET THESE CALENDARS DO A BIG PART OF YOUR CHAPTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK.

THERE ARE THREE STYLES OF FFA CALENDARS AND THREE PLANS OF PARTICIPATION. A TWO OR THREE MAN COMMITTEE CAN EASILY HANDLE THE PROJECT.

THE THREE TYPES OF CALENDARS ARE: 1) HOME AND OFFICE STYLE WITH 12 COLOR PICTURES; 2) TENT-STYLE DESK CALENDARS; AND 3) A LARGER POSTER STYLE.

A FREE CALENDAR KIT (AVAILABLE FOR ALL CHAPTERS UPON REQUEST) CONTAINS SAMPLES, ORDER FORMS, AND MORE COMPLETE DETAILS.

THE THREE WAYS A CHAPTER MIGHT PARTICIPATE ARE DESIGNATED AS PLAN A, B, OR C. PLAN A-INVOLVES A BUSINESS FIRM SPONSORING THE CALENDARS IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHAPTER. IT PROVIDES A 25% COMMISSION TO THE CHAPTER, A MONEY-RAISING BENEFIT FOR CHAPTER TREASURIES.

PLAN B-HAS NO SELLING OR COMMERCIAL INVOLVEMENT. THE CHAPTER ORDERS CALENDARS WITH ITS OWN NAME AND FFA MESSAGE TO BUILD GOODWILL OR EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO THE COMMUNITY.

PLAN C-CALENDARS ARE NOT PERSONALIZED BUT HAVE A GENERAL FFA MESSAGE, INSTEAD. THEY ARE AVAILABLE IN SMALL QUANTITIES TO CHAPTERS OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS.

WHATEVER YOUR CHAPTER DOES TO PROMOTE FFA AND VO-AG, OFFICIAL FFA CALENDARS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PLAN. --JBM

## CHAPTER NOTES

### NOTICE CHAPTER REPORTERS

**THIS COLUMN BELONGS TO YOU. PLEASE MAKE USE OF IT TO REPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS.**

**JUST A FEW LINES ON A POSTAL CARD WILL TELL US WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR CHAPTER.**

**SO, LET'S HEAR FROM EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.**

--JBM

## SEVEN MEMBERS WIN REGIONALS

The State FFA Association has just been informed that seven of Alabama's 13 proficiency award winners have won in Southern Regional competition.

This means that these outstanding FFA members will each compete for national honors along with three other regional winners in their particular award at National Convention in Kansas City, October 13-16.

The winners and their award areas are: Livestock Farming-Gerald Salter, Evergreen; Poultry

Farming-Steve Adams, Crossville; Ornamental Horticulture-Mike Mitchell, Gardendale; Agricultural Mechanics-Elton Romine, Rogersville; Farm and Home Electrification-Royce Jones, Section; Natural Resource Development-Jeff McKenzie, Section; and Placement in Agricultural Production-Jimmy Brannon, Hartford.

The Southern Region includes Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Puerto Rico. \*\*\*