

The
ALABAMA
FFA Reporter

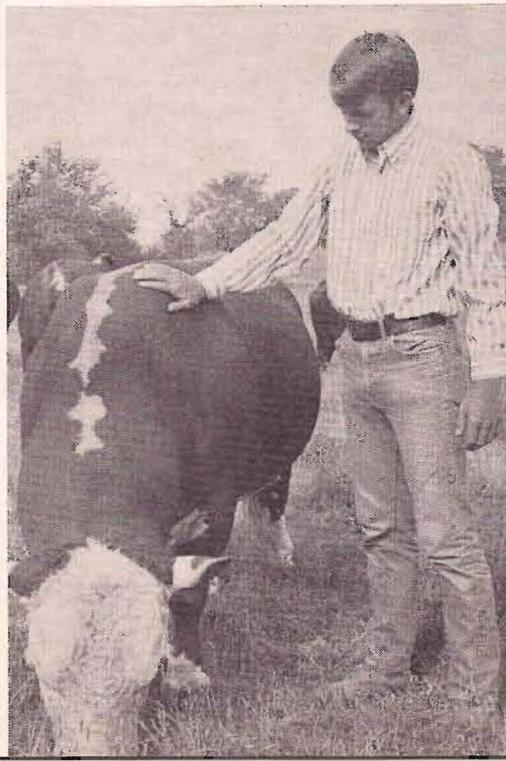
The Official Statewide Publication for Agribusiness Education Students

Vol. 2, No. 3

January-February 1973



*"Alabama FFA:
Uniting Youth
With
Opportunities"*



National FFA Week A Coming Event

National FFA Week distinguishes February 17-24. This year focus is directed at the wide array of FFA activities under the wide umbrella, "FFA Unites Youth with Career Opportunities."

As Alabama's 26,000 FFA'ers join in the nation-wide celebration emphasis is on discovery. FFA, with its meaningful supplements to ag-ed instructional pursuits, allows youth to try on multiple agriculturally related occupations and to specialize after definite career interests have been located. As such today's

FFA and ag-ed students grab a glance at their tomorrows.

Matching interests and skills with opportunities is a major consideration in contemporary agricultural education instruction and FFA adds dimensions of excitement and relevance.

Agribusiness has jobs and functioning people are the moving forces behind our vital agri-complex.

FFA, long noted for its highly practical learning by doing activities, is the means whereby many an Alabama young man or woman is inspired to follow up classroom instruction with on-the-job ex-

periences and in-depth at-home project programs.

Further, FFA'ers reinforce personal and career potentials through chapter activities with built in opportunities for taking the lead, assuming responsibility, formulating and verbalizing opinions and convictions. Not to be underrated are opportunities for group relationships and decision-making.

Across America and at home in Alabama FFA is uniting purposeful youth with real opportunities and the week of George Washington's birthday is a special time to proclaim it.

"How FFA Has Meant Opportunity To Me"

By Spencer Means, Jr.
Carver FFA Chapter

FFA has meant opportunity to me on just about every corner, especially in three areas. These are:

1. The opportunity for occupational discovery;
2. The opportunity for leadership development; and
3. The opportunity to prepare myself to be a contributing and responsible citizen.

Born and reared on a farm, I have always loved farm life. As I progress with my farming projects of 80 head of beef cattle, 30 acres of hay, 20 acres of corn, two acres of vegetables, and a one-acre pond stocked with catfish, the field of farming takes on new glamour. FFA meetings on the state and local level have convinced me that in producing life-giving foodstuffs, FFA members are rendering as big a service to humanity as is the heart surgeon or the cancer researcher. FFA, then, has been an opportunity for me to reinforce my occupational discovery. I am proud to be a

farmer, for farming is not only a challenge; it is an opportunity.

A second opportunity that has been mine through FFA is leadership development. While I was born a farmer, I was not born a leader. I subscribe to the philosophy of my FFA advisor, Mr. E. W. Underwood, that "A person must become someone if he is to have the respect of anyone." "The leadership from ourselves and respect from others" idea advanced by the FFA Creed goes along nicely with this philosophy. As a Greenhand, I worked on chapter fund-raising, served on committees, and in general, grabbed onto every FFA activity possible to prove myself. I set a goal to become a chapter officer, and to participate in public speaking. This past year I earned my State Farmer degree; I ran for state FFA officer; and I won first-place in the Alabama FFA Public Speaking contest. While I continue to work on making 'a someone of myself,' I hear the thundering response of my fellow chapter members this year when I, as their president, ask: "Future Farmers, why are we here?"

REPORTER HONOR ROLL

(Commendation to local reporters doing outstanding jobs in news reporting.)

Michael Allen, East Limestone
Oliver Bearden, Dallas County Area
Ronald Britnell, Russellville
Tim Branton, Rehobeth
Dale Clark, Citronelle
Larry M. Gholston, Livingston
Roger Glass, Attalla
Richard Hammonds, Crossville
Charles J. Hardnett, Milltown
Chuck Jackson, Beauregard
Ken Jones, McKenzie
Ronald Keeton, Paint Rock Valley
Terry Kimbrell, Berry
Terrell Leverett, Goshen
Keith McBrier, Odenville
Paul Newton, Lexington
Pat Patterson, Tanner
Ricky Paschal, Section
Roger Powell, Hackleburg
Kenneth Wade, Oneonta
Larry Walls, Douglas
Dan Wilson, Grove Hill Blue
Glenn Wilson, Sparkman
Victor Womack, Fyffe

If I know how to make a good living; if I derive a measure of satisfaction and am happy in that occupation; I will never be a welfare recipient of my own choos-

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ON THE COVER

EXAMPLES OF ALABAMA FFA'S UNITING YOUTH WITH OPPORTUNITIES: Starting at the upper left cover, Boaz FFA'ers James Cofield and Jerry Smith preview forestry careers with agribusiness instructor Marion Jackson. William E. Bailey, (upper right) a former McAdory student, cares for "Peanut," a crippled deer, largely responsible for Bailey's success in wildlife management. Spencer Means, (middle left) of Eutaw demonstrates oratory that won him the state championship in the public speaking and a trip to the National FFA Convention. Randy Gillespie (middle right) of Speake

used FFA and a gigantic poultry layer business to become No. 1 in the nation in FFA poultry farming even though he has a physical handicap. Jeff McKenzie, (lower left) Section, compiled an outstanding FFA record and was Alabama's nominee for Star Farmer of America this year. Bonnie Strazi (lower right) proves that females have a place in ag-ed and FFA. Bonnie studied horticulture and belongs to FFA at Robertsdale Area Vocational Center. Carl Shewbart, (lower center) the immediate past president of the Alabama FFA Association, is in college today because of his unique plan to finance college with a market beef operation started through FFA.

The Alabama FFA REPORTER



Published Bi-Monthly
By

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA
State Department of Education
Montgomery, Alabama

The Official Statewide Publication for Alabama
Agribusiness Education Students

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My Father and You

ALAN L. FOWLER

Assistant General Industrial Forester
Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company

There it was, just like my father said, his name beside my mother's name, etched on a glass window in the old agriculture room of Hillsdale High School. This was before it became fashionable to fling rocks through school windows, so the inscription had endured more than 20 years. My father remembered that classroom from two decades earlier because his agriculture teacher, Walter Rawson, was an excellent teacher, a good friend, a great man. Now another 20 years have passed and the etched glass window is gone. Gone too is the old school — and Walter Rawson.

My father still talks fondly of Walter Rawson though, and of the good influence he had on his students and his southern Michigan community. I always thought of this as an isolated instance, but now after working with vocational agriculture and FFA in the Southeast for the past six years, I find there are good men like Walter Rawson teaching agriculture and advising FFA chapters in many communities. And young people today are learning the timeless lessons my father learned — leadership, citizenship, cooperation, and the honest rewards of hard work.



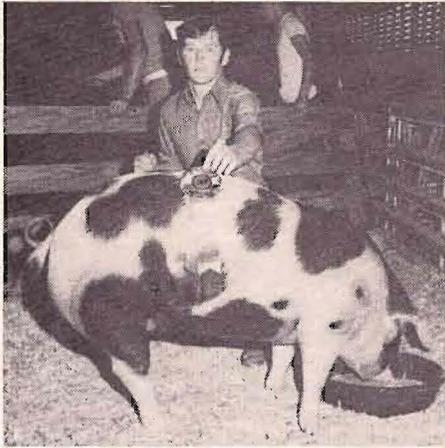
ALAN F. FOWLER

I did not take agriculture in high school. It was dropped the year I would have been eligible because Walter Rawson retired and the school could not find a replacement. This is not an isolated instance either. Every year Ag-Ed (formerly Vo-Ag) and FFA programs are dropped from school schedules because there are not enough qualified teachers. I guess there are easier ways to make a living, but there are plenty of college graduates, with glamorous degrees, walking the streets today looking for work because their specialties are over staffed. Young people today should take a long look at Agribusiness Education and the opportunities provided.

Of course Ag-Ed FFA experience can lead young men and women to success in many fields. I am amazed by the number of successful people I have met during the last six years who unselfishly give Ag-Ed FFA the credit for their achievements. Among them are U.S. Congressmen, state legislators, agriculture commissioners, leading farmers and top business executives. Many young men who have won the FFA forestry award that my company sponsors have benefited from their FFA involvement. Jimmy Middlebrooks, a 1947 winner from Clio, Alabama, now a successful veterinarian and dairy farmer, wrote: "I think that this award was the start that got me moving to try for better things." Isn't that what Ag-Ed and FFA are all about?

In the opening ceremony for all FFA meetings, the vice president repeats the familiar words — "Without labor, neither knowledge nor wisdom can accomplish much." The ability to work efficiently and think clearly are priceless assets passed on to every active FFA member. Indira Gandhi, the great Indian leader, passed along some equally timely philosophy: "My grandfather once told me that there are two kinds of people: Those who do all the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition there."

Your Alabama Ag-Ed FFA program is second to none. I urge every one of you 26,000 FFA members to get involved in your chapter. The education you receive and the experience you gain now in public speaking, parliamentary procedure, proficiency contests and awards, and other activities will serve you well no matter what career you choose. Etch your name in your chapter now. Like my father, you will never forget it!



GRAND CHAMPION SPOTTED GILT at the recent Dothan Fair went to Larry Brannon of Slocomb.

—FFA—



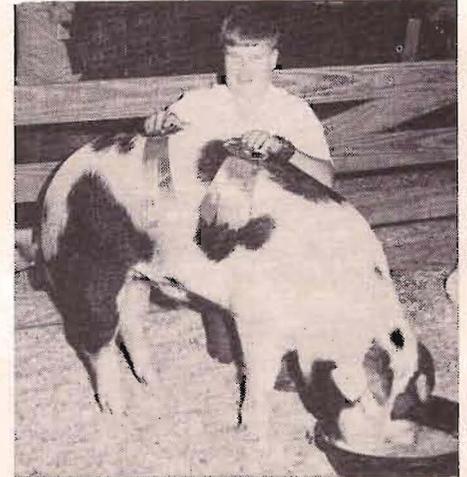
GRAND CHAMPION DUROC GILT at the National Peanut Festival was exhibited by Ronnie Outlaw of Hartford.

Fort Deposit FFA Has Good Christmas Meeting

Fort Deposit FFA members enjoyed a program about Christmas at their December meeting.

Program participants were Howard McCraney, Ray Redding, Clay Nolan, Reyn Norman, Billy Autrey, and Gerald Sexton. Ray Redding and Jerry McNaughton led Christmas songs.

—FFA—



GRAND CHAMPION SPOTTED BOAR at Dothan belonged to Mack Byrd, Slocomb.

Milltown Judging Teams Compete In Fair

Sharpening their skills in judging, Milltown dairy and livestock judging teams were among 37 groups entering the Chattahoochee Valley Fair.

Milltown's dairy judges, Johnny Wallace, Charles Kendrick, and Terry Smith, placed eighth. The chapter's livestock judges, Jimmy Abney, Harvey Blanks, and Bill Harmon placed eleventh.



EXCITEMENT—Sardis Greenhands get in the chase during their initiation with the entire student body as an audience. In addition to the pig chase, other Greenhand performances included an egg throw and a tug of war. Alan Cooper tries to hold on to the "greasy pig."

MEADOW GOLD DAIRIES OF ALABAMA

SALUTES THE ALABAMA FFA ASSOCIATION

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Opelika

★ TRO-FE MEADOW
GOLD
Gadsden

★ DEL-VIEW
MEADOW GOLD
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Look Toward Higher Horizons: Climb Mountains In FFA

Roger L. Page, State Vice President
Alabama FFA Association

"Never look down to test the ground before taking your next step: Only he who keeps his eye fixed on the far horizon will find his right road." These words were spoken by Dag Hammarskjold, and they should be heeded by each one of us in FFA.

Too many times I feel that some members fail to realize what the FFA means to them. Stop! Ask yourself the question: "What does the FFA mean to me?" Unfortunately, I didn't do this until I had wasted almost a year of precious time.

In August, 1969, I stepped into the Red Bay High School Agribusiness Education Building for the first time, not knowing what to expect. Little did I realize this step would turn out to be one of the biggest in my life.

In May, 1970, my agribusiness instructor, Mr. Cecil T. Pounders, asked me to attend the state convention as a delegate. At first, I was very reluctant, but I finally agreed.



ROGER L. PAGE

That convention was the turning point in my life. Upon arrival at the convention I was greeted by two of the state officers. These two officers, along with the other four, played a big part in helping me to realize what the FFA was all about.

When I got home from the convention I really got in high gear. I began to climb mountains to know about the FFA. Due to my new interest in the FFA I was asked to try out for a chapter officer. Again I was a little reluctant, because I

wasn't sure I could do the job. I finally consented, however, and was given the honor of serving the chapter as vice-president. During my year as vice-president, I also placed second at the state level in the Placement in Sales and/or Service contest.

During the 1971-72 year I was given the honor once again of serving the chapter, but this time as president, and I placed third on the state level in Placement in Sales and/or Service. Also, I was interviewed for state officer, which had been a goal I wanted to reach since the first convention I attended. Finally, in June I reached this goal, and was given the honor of serving the Alabama FFA Association as state vice-president.

As you can see, I almost waited too late to ask myself the big question. But I'm glad I did. Here is what I found out:

(1) The FFA offers you a chance to develop your moral character through activities that get you involved in decision-making and letting you play a major role in conducting the business of the chapter.

(2) The FFA with its "learning by doing" activities offers you a chance to prepare for your future career.

(3) The FFA allows you to gain con-

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Shewbart's FFA Years Led Him From "Cows To College"

Carl Shewbart's cows are his college. That has been the Speake FFA member's plan from the beginning of his agribusiness education enrollment which started four years ago and ended last spring.

According to J. C. Shewbart, Carl's dad who was also his ag-ed teacher, "Carl's mother and I want him to have a college education but in our opinion, the biggest lesson to be learned in college or anywhere else is appreciation. That's why we have encouraged Carl, from years back, to save and plan for this important milestone."

Beginning with just two cows in 1968



THIS young Hereford is a college tuition payment so Carl protects him with a dose of scours medication.

Carl persuaded his grandfather to take him to cattle sales to buy additional animals as capital became available.

"I have to give Grandpa a lot of credit," says Carl. "He's backed this effort from the start."

Today young Shewbart is an Auburn University freshman. He has built his beef herd to 18 brood cows, "which," notes young Shewbart, "won't quite foot the bill of my college expenses, but if my cows can each produce a \$100 calf per year and I work part-time and in my

How Did You Do It, Carl?

QUESTION: What prompted you to select cows as a means of helping finance your college?

CARL: For most of my life I have worked with cows. Selecting a brood cow project when I enrolled in ag seemed a "natural."

QUESTION: Exactly how did you start your beef operation?

CARL: I got my start this way: In return for my work on the family farm my father loaned me three cows whose calves would be mine for managing them and their mothers. With proceeds from the sale of calves I purchased the brood cows from my father to build my herd.

QUESTION: Why did you select a market beef operation over a purebred herd?

CARL: I really wanted a purebred herd. But in attending livestock sales, I noted that market animals were in more demand. Also, grade cows were more fitted to my kind of investment and my program goals.

QUESTION: What were your biggest lessons as you progressed with your beef projects?

CARL: My biggest lessons were record keeping and learning the livestock market. At first I sold calves by weight. Then I started keeping records on my cows such as weight of calves at birth,

summers in addition to caring for my cows, I'll pay-as-I-go through Auburn."

In line with his beef cattle operation, Carl has built a hay trailer and has part ownership in a hay loader and post hole digging equipment.

Shewbart's "from cows to college" program earned him the first place award in last year's State FFA Livestock Production Program sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

The Lawrence County youth is also the immediate past president of the Alabama FFA Association.

Other 1972 winners in the Alabama FFA Livestock Production contest are Anthony Grant, Goshen, second; Max Junkins, Kennedy, third; and Scott Matthews, Evergreen, fourth.

etc. In watching the livestock market situation, I soon learned when and where to sell and thereby increased my profit by 10%.

QUESTION: Did you continue to reinvest returns from your operation until you reached the size herd you felt you needed, or how have you managed finances?

CARL: Yes, by reinvesting my returns to my program, I have now built my debt-free herd to 18 brood cows.

QUESTION: Looking back, what could you have done that would have improved your program?

CARL: The major thing I would have changed is the amount of time I was able to spend with my cows. Our family lived 60 miles away from my farm and the bulk of my work was restricted to weekends. With more direct contact with my animals, I could have shown fat calves. Possibly I would have tried pork production, also.

QUESTION: Will you sell your cows once you get a college degree, will you be a part-time producer, or what?

CARL: I will continue to be involved in farming after I graduate from college. My wildest dream is to build a beef herd of 1,000 brood cows. I believe I would also enjoy pork and poultry production.

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FFA Update Meeting With Local FFA Presidents and Advisors In The Southeast District

(1) C. W. Reed and G. L. White of the State Ag-Ed. Staff, challenge State FFA President Steve Fowler, center, to lead Alabama FFA chapters in developing relevant and flexible FFA programs.

(2) Mike Williams, left, and Steve Counts, right, of Greenville received workshop materials from Marty Hussey, Troy FFA President.

(3) Southeast District Supervisor L. L. Sellers, center, finds a point worthy of emphasis in the new "Chapter Guide to FFA Activities" as he talks with FFA'er Rollins Taylor of Cottonwood and FFA Advisor L. M. Ezell of Rehobeth.

(4) Pike Countians, from left, Marty Hussey, Troy; John Golden, Hillcrest; Jimmy Phelps, Goshen; and Mack Pugh, Pike County High, compare present chapter FFA activities with standard chapter objectives.



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TO
1963
Activities

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Paint Rock Valley FFA-FHA Chapters Have Ball

The Paint Rock Valley FFA and FHA chapters held their annual Harvest Ball on Saturday night, November 18, complete with music by the Wranglers.

In co-sponsoring the ball, FHA girls raised money by selling Stanley products and FFA boys contributed their financial share through the sale of flower bulbs.

The FFA sweetheart, Susan Sisk, and the FHA beau, Dwight Little, were presented at the ball.

Susan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Sisk of Estillfork, is a junior, member of the FHA, Glee Club, and Student Council. She is also her school's head cheerleader.

Dwight is a senior, member of the FFA, FFA chapter secretary, and manager of Paint Rock's basketball team. He is the son of Mrs. Allie Little of Route One, Scottsboro.

—FFA—

Dallas County Area's Chapters Going Strong

The Dallas County Area Agribusiness Department boasts of having three FFA chapters, one for each of the three classes of agribusiness education students. In addition to officers for each chapter, a set of over-all officers for the entire department coordinates the total FFA program. Over-all officers are Johnny Fuller, president; Clarence Miller, vice president; Roy Billingsley, secretary; Clarence Boykin, treasurer; Oliver Bearden, reporter; Lewis Towns, sentinel; and Clifford M. Manning, advisor.

During Fire Prevention Week, Mr. T. J. Bumper of the Selma Fire Department came to the Area Agribusiness Department and gave a demonstration on fighting fires. He discussed fire extinguishers and how to use them on the different classes of fires.

After Chief Bumper's demonstration on putting out gasoline fires, students tried their hands at extinguishing various fires.

Mr. Collwell, a businessman from Selma, was in the department recently to lecture on welding safety and welding equipment.

—FFA—

Childhood — That wonderful time when all you need do to lose weight is bathe.

Conference — A meeting of the bored.

Dentist — Fellow who bores you to tears.

Dieting — Accepting every loss as a gain.

Dog — A welcome waggin.



SERVICE APPRECIATED—At a recent district meeting teachers in Northeast Alabama did more than verbalize their appreciation of District Supervisor J. C. Hollis' work in their behalf. They presented him a Life Membership in the National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association.



AGRIBUSINESS CAREER EDUCATION—Boaz FFA members emphasize the broad career offerings in agribusiness with this shop-made bulletin board display.



LIVINGSTON FFA OFFICERS—Leading Livingston chapter activities are, left to right, Johnny Clark, president; Wendolyn Pruitt, sweetheart; Walter Porter, sentinel; back row, Larry Gholston, reporter; James Deavers, member; and Jerry James, secretary.

LOOK TOWARD

Continued from page 5

fidence in your abilities. This confidence is developed by letting you get first-hand experience in planning, organizing and carrying out chapter activities.

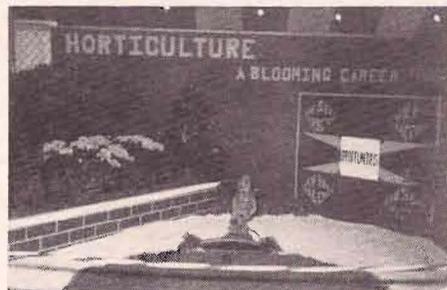
(4) The FFA helps you to accomplish high goals. The accomplishments you make do not go unrecognized, either; each year the FFA contest and awards programs recognize thousands of outstanding members and chapters for their fantastic accomplishments.

You can see that the FFA is full of opportunity; moreover, each opportunity is yours for the taking. But you must get involved to climb mountains. Someone once said, "If men have a right to equality, it is the equality of opportunity."

Fellow members, you have this equality today. Don't let anything keep you from getting everything you can out of the FFA. It terrifies me to think that at one time I almost passed up these opportunities. It is for this reason I feel it is our duty as members of the FFA to inform all new and prospective members of their wonderful opportunities in FFA.

Mr. W. H. Danforth expresses my challenge to you in his words: "I dare you to be yourself, I dare you to do your best, I dare you to do better tomorrow than you have today."

—FFA—



FAIR EXHIBIT WINNER—The Semmes FFA Chapter took first-place honors at the Greater Gulf States Fair this year with its attractive horticulture display.



WHERE THERE'S SMOKE—Members of Beauregard FFA Chapter and their dates recently enjoyed a chapter hamburger supper. The cooks, left to right, are: Gary Dunning, Douglas Broadwater, William Presley, and Ricky Golden.

Forestry Winner's Program Points Up Emphasis On Forestry By Ag-Ed

The length and width and thickness of Dalton Eason's agribusiness education instructional program spans more than a board foot.

In his four years at Fayette County High School Eason has specialized in agribusiness forestry whereby he also received orientation and has participated in exploratory experiences highly relevant to his interests.

According to H. W. Green, State Agribusiness Education Supervisor, Montgomery, today's agribusiness instruction is geared to backgrounding over 800 students, who like Eason have occupational objectives in forestry, in all phases of forestry as well as giving them specialty training.

"Forestry is a major field of study with our students," Green related.

In conjunction with his classroom activity, young Eason has completed an extensive forestry program on his home farm for reinforcement of all-important hands-on skills. A resume of his forestland activity shows his planting of 31,000 seedlings, direct seeding of five acres, controlling hardwoods on 12 acres, thinning 160 acres, constructing eight miles of firebreaks, and selectively cutting 624 acres.

Eason has harvested 364 cords of pulpwood, 68 cords of fuelwood, 12,500

board feet of sawtimber, and over 700 fence posts.

Recently named the first-place winner in the National FFA Forestry Management Program, the Fayette youth is expanding his forestry proficiency by picking up specialized courses in forestry at a local junior college which were planned in cooperation with representatives from the forestry industry. By taking a college degree in agricultural education with a major part of his electives in forestry, Eason is allowing himself several options. He may teach specialized forestry or work in a forestry industry.

"Alabama is able to turn out products like Eason largely as the result of the close association of agribusiness education with pulp and paper companies and the Alabama Forestry Commission," Green pointed out.

"A number of agribusiness education departments maintain forestry plots as practical laboratories and receive technical assistance from nearby forestry professionals. Planning their futures firmly in forestry, FFA members plant more than a million pine seedlings supplied them by the forestry industry, and this summer a forestry camp is planned for FFA members by Alabama Forestry Commission personnel will include short-course training in forestry technology," Green said.



NATIONAL FFA FORESTER HONORED—Dalton Eason, Jr., right, receives the Seaboard Coast Line Forestry Plaque from W. Thomas Rice, the Railroad's President and Chairman of the Board, as Horace M. Emerson of SCL and Jean Ann Montgomery, Miss Transportation U.S.A., look on. The presentation was made at a recent Houston, Texas luncheon honoring FFA forestry winners from the Southeast.

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VERNE COLLIER
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Bay Minette Student Wins Welding Award

Mike Howell had never struck a welding arc before enrolling in agribusiness education class at Baldwin County High School. He showed exceptional promise as a beginner, however, according to Daniel Nelson, his agribusiness teacher, and put his welding skills to use as soon as he acquired them.

Mike had always wanted to build a dual purpose dune buggy, one that would travel on sandy beaches and also rough terrain for hunting.

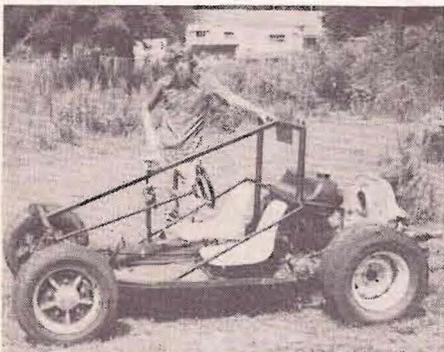
After acquiring an old Volkswagen, Mike began research on his project. With help and planning from his FFA advisor, Mike's dream began to take shape as he worked after school in the shop. Upon removing the VW body, young Howell cut the wheel base and shortened it twenty inches. This necessitated remounting the steering bracket, gas tank, and battery. A whole new ignition system had to be improvised. And for safety, Mike added a roll bar and seat belts.

After learning from his advisor of the James F. Lincoln Welding Awards Contest, the Baldwin County youth decided to write up his buggy as an entry. In early October Mike received word that his project had won a fifth-place award in the home and recreational category. In earning the award, Mike competed with entries from twelve southern states and received \$50.

Since completing his first buggy, Mike has established a small farm shop with an arc welder and oxy-acetylene outfit.

Making improvements to his prize-winning buggy, Mike has just completed a second dune buggy which he hopes to sell.

"My agribusiness training has given me more than skills I can use to get a job," says Mike. "I am using the same skills for a highly satisfying leisure; I like to be constructive."



LINCOLN WELDING WINNER—Mike Howell, Bay Minette FFA member, won a fifth-place national award with his dune buggy in the home and recreational division of the Lincoln Arc Welding Program.

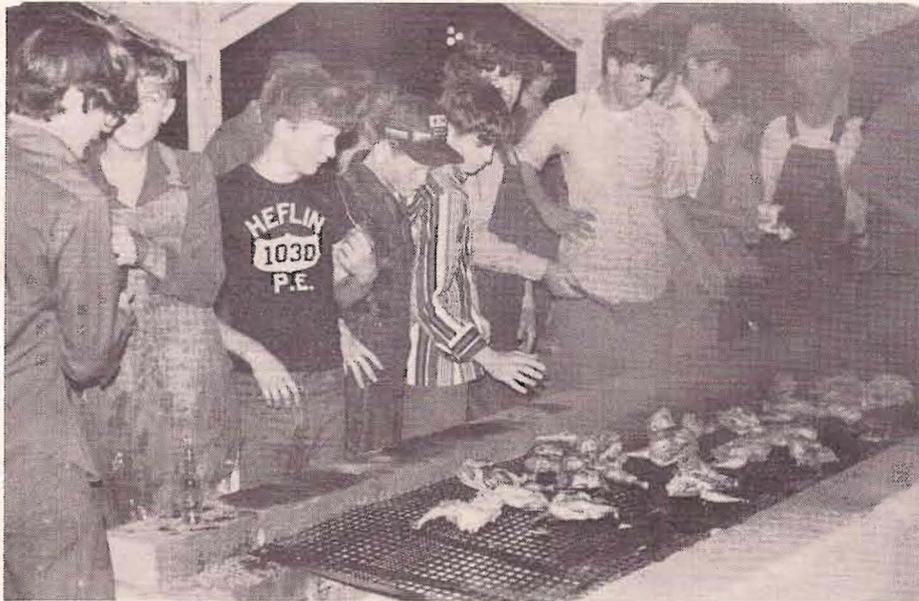
Heflin Has Barbecue

Heflin FFA'ers made the most of their Greenhand initiation this year. They climaxed it with a chicken barbecue.

Some 175 persons enjoyed this year's food feast. Guests included city, county, and state officers, school trustees, and male faculty members at Heflin as well as speakers scheduled to appear on programs featured by the Heflin FFA Chapter during the year.

Greenhands furnished the chickens and FFA members and their advisor, W. B. Thrash, cut up the birds and did the barbecuing.

Following the meal FFA president Jack Whitman presented advisor Thrash with a shirt and tie from the Heflin FFA membership and entertainment was rendered by FFA bandsmen Roger Hill, Jimmy Curlee, and Roger Turner.



FIXING A FEAST of barbecued chicken for 175 members and guests are these Heflin FFA members.



TAKING IN STATE FAIR activity in Birmingham this fall were these Winston County FFA and FHA members. Among the nearly 100 students making the fair trip were Lonnie Garrison, Terri Moore, Sandra Waid, Dennis Thompson, Dianne Lewis, James Whitman, Connie Wright, FFA president James Wolfe, Becky Feltman, and James Steele.

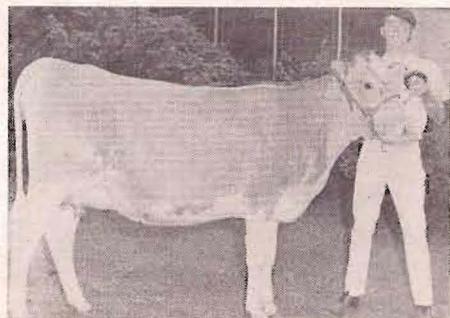
—FFA—

CRITICISM—Two men were knocking another. "To me," said one, "he's a pain in the neck." "Funny," said the other, "I had a much lower opinion of him."

FFA'er Wins Trip

Dennis Cunningham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Cunningham, won the State Senior FFA Dairy Showmanship contest at the Alabama State Fair in Birmingham and a \$200 trip to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City.

Active in the local FFA chapter for the past three years, Dennis is presently serving as secretary of Millport FFA. He hopes to receive the State Farmer Degree this summer.



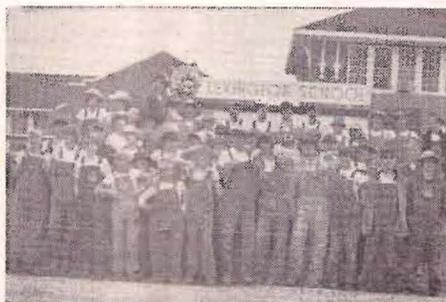
WINNING FORM—Dennis Cunningham demonstrates the form that won him dairy showmanship honors at this year's State Fair in Birmingham.

Lexington Initiates Largest Membership

The Lexington Chapter of the Future Farmers of America held its annual Greenhand ceremony recently. Some 57 members were initiated. Advisor James Ray Hankins pointed out this was the largest number of members to be initiated to the chapter in one year. President Dwight Newton welcomed as new members: Dale Balentine, Ricky Bassham, Ronald Clemons, Timmy Fleming, Terry Garner, Phillip Hardman, Ricky Holden, Marty McCain, David McGee, Randy Newton, Jerry Sledge, Brent Smith, Billy Springer, Dennis Swinea, Curtis Wright, Ricky Adams, Terry Balentine, Alex Barnett, Kevin Barr, Craig Campbell, Tim Cox, Butch Danley, Toney Davis, Larry Fielder, David Garner, Franklin Glover, and Mark Hammond.

Also admitted as new members were Tommy Holden, Charles Hunt, Morris Howard, Morris Ingram, Randy Johnston, Keith Jones, Keith Michael, Harold Pettus, Arthur Phillips, Ricky Phillips, Keith Putman, Ricky Richardson, Jimmy Romine, and Terry Sledge.

Also, Jimmy Springer, Terry Smith, David Tate, Dwayne Thornton, Joey White, Tommy White, David G. Tate, Byron Butler, Eddy Tayes, Terry Williams, Tommy Word, Mack Herston, Phillip Hyche, and Tom Killen.



RECORD BREAKERS—The group of Lexington FFA Greenhands comprise the chapter's largest first-year students ever!

—FFA—

Fyffe Wins First In Fair

For the second straight year, the Fyffe FFA Chapter won a first-place award with its exhibit at the DeKalb County VFW Fair.

Promoting farm safety and public relations the Fyffe display focused in on misuse of tractors and farm machinery through the use of miniature tractors and posters.

Members of Fyffe's fair booth committee were Kenneth Williams, Jimmy Cuzort, David Murdock, Michael Richey and Mickey Sharp.

"FFA—Youth With A Purpose"

By Daniel Jones

Alexander City Jr. High

To be a youth with purpose is my theme,
A top-notch FFA record is my dream.
I want to climb up the ladder each day
And make my agribusiness training pay.
There are many nobodies walking and preaching,
But the dedicated FFA'er is working and reaching.
Some sow wild oats, some raise cane,
While the FFA member builds a tomorrow lane
Where he will be a contributor and a man
Never idle, the FFA'er activates his plan.
He's got a mission; he knows where he's going,
Wherever he goes, his goodness is showing.
These are the strong hands—the real "Me" powers.
These are the providers—the anchors and towers.
Purposeful youth is a creditable way
Of insuring tomorrow through the FFA.



DANIEL JONES

Russellville Greenhands Outstanding Salesmen

The Russellville FFA Chapter has just about sold a massive 1,200 cans of mixed nuts this year to finance chapter activities.

According to W. C. Parmer, chapter advisor, "Our first-year students are showing real enthusiasm in their selling contacts. Traditionally Greenhands are the better salesmen and this year is no exception," said Parmer.

Sparkman Cleans Up In County Program

Sparkman FFA'ers proved themselves "Willing Workers" as they participated in a county wide cleanup campaign recently. Advisor W. W. Dulaney singled out 29 boys for significant contributions to the clean up program.

They include Bobby Adcock, Jim Abston, Thomas Bunn, Mark Blackburn, Randy Cooper, Mike Clark, Gerald Evans, Greg Fisher, David Gurley, David Gravitt and Ray Hill.

Cited, too, were Tim Hendrix, Dwain Holman, Fred Morris, Hoyt Mason, Louie Oden, Greg People, Bobby Satterfield, David Shelton, Randy Shook, Dwight Satterfield, and Hermon Thompson.

Also, David Zaun, Ronald Wilbanks, Mike Moore, Joe Hulse, Randy King, Fred Moore, and Glen Wilborn.

—FFA—

Hurtsboro Racks Up In Dairy Judging

At the Chattahoochee Valley Fair livestock judging contest, the Russell High Chapter of Future Farmers of America at Hurtsboro won first-place in dairy cattle competition.

Wayne Dix, a tenth grade student, won first-place in the individual judging competition. Other participants in the contest were Earl Moore, Ralph Gary, Willie Pass, Jimmy Berry, and James Lindsey.

First-place prize in dairy cattle judging was \$70. First-place prize in individual competition was \$15.

For its first-place win the Hurtsboro dairy judges received \$70 while Dix netted a \$15 prize in the individual competition.



FIRST-PLACE WINNERS in the Chattahoochee Valley Fair dairy judging competition were Hurtsboro FFA'ers Earl Moore, Ralph Gary, William Pass, Wayne Dix, Jimmy Berry and James Lindsey.

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FFA SWEETHEART—Alicia Burns, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Burns of Route 1, Boaz, is the Sardis FFA Sweetheart this year. Seventeen, she is a senior and participates in Library, Pep, and FHA Clubs and is a member of the school's annual staff. She loves and tries to help all kinds of wildlife.

—FFA—



FFA SWEETHEART—Miss Suzette Burkhalter is the current sweetheart of the Gordo FFA Chapter. Suzette is a senior at Gordo and is highly involved in school activities.

—FFA—

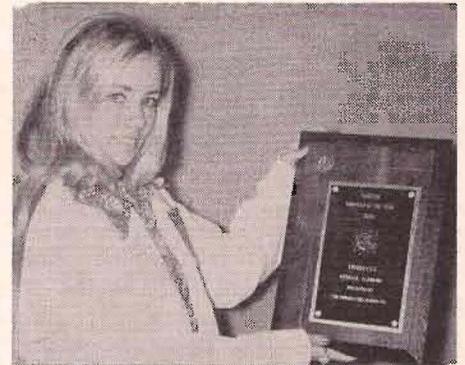
Sends President To K. C.

The Crossville FFA Chapter sent its president, Elton Bolton, to the 45th National FFA Convention.

While in Kansas City, Bolton accepted the gold emblem award won by his chapter in the National Chapter program.

The recipient of a \$100 travel allowance from his chapter, Bolton paid \$50 of his own money to make the trip.

—FFA—



FFA SWEETHEART—Donna Wesson, Attalla FFA Sweetheart, displays a plaque won by the Attalla chapter for selling over \$3,000 worth of magazines in the Sunland Plans Program sponsored by the Progressive Farmer Company. The chapter established a new state record in magazine sales in earning the plaque.

FFA Started At Madison

The Sparkman FFA chapter extended its influence this fall by installing officers at the neighboring and newly organized Madison FFA Chapter.

Serving as charter officers at Madison are Ronnie Farmer, president; Greg Bingham, vice president; Randy Edwards, secretary; Mike Brewer, treasurer; Donnie Bell, reporter; and Billy Thomas, sentinel.

CAUSE AND EFFECT—“I’ve just heard about your husband being in the hospital,” said the neighbor sympathetically. “What happened?”

“It’s his knee,” replied the wife. “I found a blonde on it.”



**LEARNING TO DO
DOING TO LEARN
EARNING TO LIVE
LIVING TO SERVE**

We Salute Our State's FFA Members For Their Many Contributions To The Growth And Development Of Our Communities. Their Dedicated Efforts And Achievements Are Truly Outstanding.

ALABAMA RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

WE CARE

"We Are The People"

State Contest In Ag Mechanics

The word is "Go" for the State FFA Agricultural Mechanics contest for the Spring of 1973. A three-man team from each district may compete in the first state-wide FFA Mechanics contest which will be held in Auburn prior to the State FFA Convention.

District eliminations are being planned which require contestants to complete a written examination and specified problem solving activities. The state contest will add a third phase calling for participants to complete "hands on" mechanical skills.

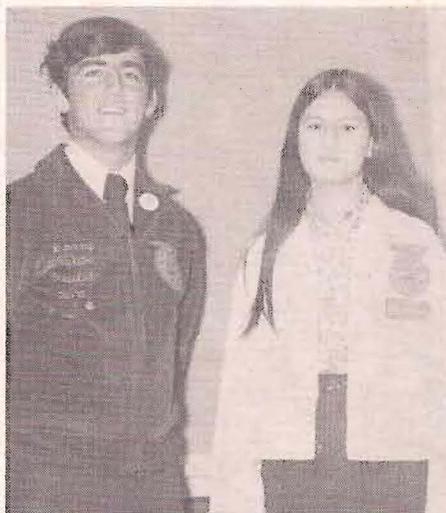
Chapters wishing to test their "horsepower" rating in Agricultural mechanics during the district contest must submit an entry form to the district advisor by February 1, 1973.

The team will compete in three instructional areas as designated for the specific year's contest. The major instructional areas planned for 1973 are: Agricultural Power and Machinery, Agricultural Mechanics Skills, and Soil and Water Management. The Agricultural Mechanics Skills area will include: oxy-acetylene welding and cutting, plumbing and pipe fitting.

The purpose of the new contest is to provide opportunities for students of agribusiness education and FFA to develop skills, and to compete and demonstrate skills, abilities, and competencies learned in the agricultural mechanics program of agribusiness education.



1972 PILOT AG. MECHANICS CONTEST—Ronald Turner, Citronelle chapter, checking the timing on tractor engine during 1972 pilot ag. mechanics contest. Contest officials shown are Professor Elmo Renoll, Agricultural Engineering Department, Auburn University and Paul B. Holley, Ag. Ed. staff member.



FFA SWEETHEART—Leann Andert shows off the FFA jacket presented her by Danny Singleton, Centre FFA president, at a recent joint meeting of FFA and FHA. Centre's sweetheart is a freshman, marches in the school's band, plays piano, rides in a saddle club, and participates in FHA, Pep Club, and Acteens.

—FFA—

Citronelle Does Well At Gulf States Fair

The Citronelle Chapter of the FFA won second place for an exhibit in the Greater Gulf States Fair in Mobile this fall. The fair was held from October 21 to October 28.

This year's theme for the Citronelle exhibit was "Building Our American Communities." (B.O.A.C.) For its display the Citronelle FFA received \$145 in prize money.

Chester Lewis, FFA member from Citronelle, won top honors with his premium gilts, one a Duroc and the other a Yorkshire. He received \$75 in prizes.

—FFA—

Section FFA Chapter Completes Fund-Raising

The largest and usually most successful money raising project of the Section FFA Chapter is the sale of candy. This year the chapter had almost 100% participation in its sale. At the end of two weeks, approximately 1,300 boxes were sold for a net profit of \$450.

Top salesmen this year were: Ricky Paschal, first—\$30; Terry McCoy, second—\$20; and third—Terry Fountain, \$10.

Section FFA'ers recently elected Miss Darlenè McGee, sophomore, as their chapter sweetheart.

HOW FFA

Continued from page 2
ing and will have "less need of charity." If I equip myself to participate in society from the inside out at the exclusion of protesting from the outside in, I will be using "my own ability to work efficiently and to think clearly." Realizing I am a coming citizen of tomorrow, if I continue to avail myself of opportunities through the FFA, I will be a contributing citizen.

—FFA—

HOW DID YOU DO IT

Continued from page 6
QUESTION: What is the best advice you can offer a student who loves livestock and wishes to establish himself as a producer?

CARL: Take livestock production seriously by keeping accurate records, figuring out sound breeding and feeding programs, and watch spending. Depend upon experienced producers, your agribusiness teacher, and your local vet for help.

—FFA—

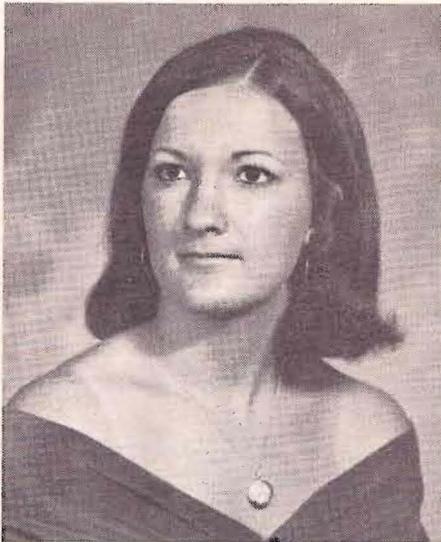
Siluria FFA Renders Community Service

Spinal boards for use in Shelby County ambulances were recently constructed by the FFA chapter at Thompson High School.

William Carter, FFA advisor at the school, said that the class made 17 boards, to be available in case of serious accidents. The boards are designed to prevent severe back injuries or pinching of the spine when patients are transported.



PUBLIC SERVANTS—Siluria FFA members who recently constructed spinal boards for use in local ambulances included Dwight Braham, Randy Chanell, Glynn Holmes, Billy Kirkland, Bruce Safford, James Tannichill, Michael McKnight, Gary Philen, Greg Barnett, and Tony Bishop. Receiving the spinal boards for the Shelby County Hospital are Nurse Ivey, left, and Ambulance Driver Goggans, right.



FFA SWEETHEART—Miss Nell Cain is B. B. Comer's FFA Sweetheart. Attractive Miss Cain is an office assistant, a Beta and Remor Club member, and a former cheerleader.

—FFA—

WHENCE COMETH — "Mama, is it true that we came from dust and will return to dust?" "Yes, dear. That is what the Bible teaches us. Why?"

"Well I just looked under the bed, and there's somebody there, either coming or going."

GOOD LISTENER? "My wife has a terrible habit of talking to herself," one man confided to another. "So has mine," the other replied. "But she thinks I'm listening."

—FFA—



FFA SWEETHEART—Berry FFA boys elected lovely Miss Pam Fields as their 1972-73 FFA sweetheart. The 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Fields of Route 4, Fayette, Pam is a 10th grader and is active in 4-H, Library Club, secretary of the Pep Club, and represents the 10th grade in the Campus Queen Court.

FFA ROUNDUP

LEXINGTON: Harvested 2½ acres of cane and made 90 gallons of molasses; prepared cuttings for greenhouse; constructed exhibits for Birmingham fair; sold 136 boxes of candy; landscaped local yards; collected money for educational tour to Florida; purchased new wood lathe, radial arm saw, portable jigsaw, portable sander, woodworking tools for shop; recognized outstanding members; appointed active program committees; published four news releases; operating concession stand during basketball games; initiated Greenhands; subscribed to 73 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; Greenhands prepared stew for other members in FFA chapter; ordered 22 FFA jackets.

DALAS COUNTY AREA: Featured fire fighting and welding safety programs at chapter meetings; presented film on tractor safety; some FFA members visited Huntsville Space Center; having weekly FFA meetings.

McKENZIE: Built two truck bodies; McKenzie FFA boys get mail through five different post offices; helped raise \$150 for a local family in need.

RAMER: Featured a group discussion at chapter meeting on safety that included shop, home, farm, road and hunting.

EAST LIMESTONE: Second-, third-, and fourth-year ag students built woodworking projects; third- and fourth-year students learned welding; chapter sold \$600 worth of flower bulbs and will receive 40% of the money; initiated 24 Greenhands; conducted safety checks of homes and farms; shop safety program; subscribing 100% to Alabama FFA Reporter; initiated a traffic and safety pro-



FFA SWEETHEART—Personable Pam Trawick is the reigning sweetheart of the Rehobeth FFA Chapter. She is active in her school's Pep Club, FHA, and Student Council.

gram in community and at school; working in community volunteer Fire Department.

BAY MINETTE: Won fourth-place with FFA exhibit at Gulf State Fair in Mobile; participated in FFA Sears Pig Chain show at Gulf State Fair—winning five ribbons including two reserve breed champions; placed emphasis on supervised home projects and job training program at chapter meeting—showed slides of students' projects and job training work; raffled off gun cabinet for chapter fund-raising; worked on litter barrels for school campus; ordered FFA jackets; entered FFA float in homecoming parade and won first-place.

LIVINGSTON: Elected officers and chapter sweetheart; set up fund-raising program; appointed activity program committee.

CROSSVILLE: Sent Elton Bouldin, chapter president, to National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri; published two news articles; held two regular business meetings; took in Greenhands as members; let Greenhands march and officers ride with FFA sweetheart in homecoming parade.

FYFFE: Completed leadership training program for officers; subscribed to 107 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; appointed activity program committees; purchased water cooler; entered exhibit in county fair; built three sets of steps for football field bleachers.

RUSSELLVILLE: Sold FFA calendar ads and mixed nuts for fund raising projects; had monthly

meeting; held officer meeting; officers helped FHA put up display in a local store.

DOUGLAS: Raised money for chapter by selling chances on a pig that was given away at annual Harvest Festival; had a "Get-Acquainted" party for the FFA members and FHA members; FFA officers and advisor, W. L. Minor, took a trip to the Alabama State Fair in Birmingham, to reward the officers' hard work; had a meeting at which the president appointed his committees for the 1972-73 year, and initiated Greenhands and Chapter Farmers; featured importance of safety at one chapter meeting; for fun and profit, sponsored basketball game with FHA-FFA boys being handicapped by being tied together, two boys making one player—yet the FFA still won; all members receiving and enjoying personal copies of Alabama FFA Reporter.

MILLTOWN: Subscribed to 56 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; published two news releases; have 100% FFA membership for year; elected chapter reporter; finalized plans for litter barrels to be placed on highways in community as BOAC project; attended Chattahoochee Valley Fair in Columbus, Georgia to judge livestock.

BERRY: Have 100% FFA membership and 100% participation in Alabama FFA Reporter; elected FFA sweetheart; sent picture and release to local paper and sponsored sweetheart in "Miss Berry" contest; sold Progressive Farmer magazines; built four what-not shelves, stereo record cabinet, bookcase, dish cabinet and ag-ed notebook case; helped beautify the Baptist Pastorial grounds; started electric-arc welding practices; purchased 150 pounds of welding rods; built and painted two welding tables for shop; divided shop into different working sections; attended State Fair and reviewed FFA exhibits; purchased \$30 worth of hand tools; completed all productive projects; began experimental shop work with 9th grade.

BEAUREGARD: Held FFA officer training program; held ice cream supper for members; had program on gun safety; have program planned on highway safety; 50 members are preparing FFA speeches; planning FFA Week activities.

ODENVILLE: Sponsored turkey shoot; made plans for a fruit sale and another turkey shoot.

TANNER "A": Constructed chain link fence around horticulture area; built second school greenhouse; entered exhibit in county fair; granted 35 Greenhand degrees and eight Chapter Farmer degrees; purchased \$175 of teaching materials; officers for this year are Buster Williamson, president; Marc Hays, vice president; Ronald Tucker, secretary; Joe Williams, treasurer; Pat Patterson, reporter; and Shirrell Bloodworth, sentinel.

ATTALLA: Conducted Greenhand initiation; purchased Rockwell belt and disc sander for shop; raised Greenhands to Chapter Farmers; entered float in homecoming and Christmas parades; purchased 15 FFA jackets for members this year; selected chapter corn growing champion; presented jacket to FFA sweetheart.

HACKLEBURG: Elected officers; reworked field house; put top on press-box; built workbench; published three news releases; replaced floor tile in ag classroom; appointed activity program committees; subscribed to 42 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; built three cattle gates; assembled filing cabinets.

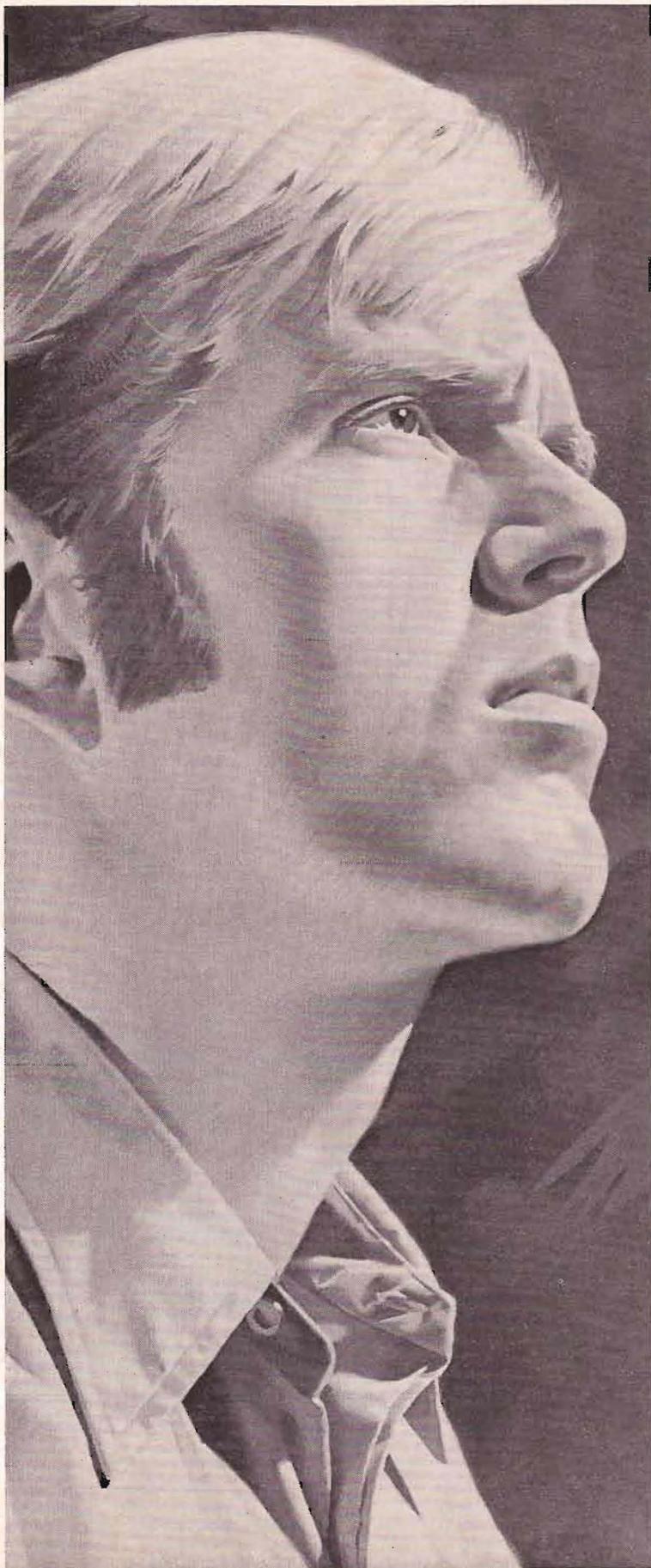
PAINT ROCK VALLEY: Elected Susan Sisk as FFA sweetheart; appointed committee to work on Greenhand installation; held annual Harvest Ball November 18; cleaned off fence row next to the vocational building; built benches for athletic dressing rooms; built bookshelves for the principal's office; published one news article; awarded top sales winner of flower bulbs with FFA T-shirt.

WINSTON COUNTY: Completed fund-raising on nuts; picked pine cones for National Forestry Service.

GOSHEN: Had representative from Soil Conservation Service to talk at regular meeting; elected sweetheart for this year; moved shrubbery to new Ag-Ed Building; president and vice president attended district meeting; had old corn in barn ground to make room for this year's crop; sold chances on turkey to raise money for recreation; some FFA students built mailboxes and gunracks; held FFA-FHA Christmas Dance; built manger scene for school play; put news article in paper.

ONEONTA: Submitted 100% state and national dues; subscribed 100% to Alabama FFA Reporter; operated popcorn booth at home football game; elected FFA officers for school year; refinished desks for school classroom; gained experience on methods of sanding, taking off varnish, and other woodworking practices by refinishing desks; decorated FFA car for homecoming parade; constructed ramp for local beauty pageant; built protection for gym windows; discussed fund-raising activities and plans for purchasing more shop equipment.

GROVE HILL BLUE: Entered FFA beauty in school beauty review; had float in homecoming parade; members received \$137 order of jackets, pins, decals, rings, and other items from FFA Supply; held regular monthly meeting and gained approval on chapter program of work.



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