ALABAMA SHOWS IN "SHOW ME STATE"

It was finally happening. The 58th National Convention was about to kickoff in the “Show Me State” of Missouri. Its theme, “Leaders for the New Fields of Agriculture”, proved to be a fitting one. With almost 22,000 attending and one idea in mind, “promoting agriculture”, the convention was a tremendous success. The week ahead was full of excitement and hard work.

After arriving in Kansas City on Tuesday morning, we all began to concentrate on the duties we were to perform. For Jody Brewer, David Parmer, and Thomas Spencer, the day was to be full of committee meetings and delegate orientation. Jody served on the National Future Farmer Magazine Committee, while David served on the Membership Development Committee. Tom was chosen to serve on the National Information Service Committee. The Courtesy Corps members attended an orientation meeting where they were assigned their duties for the week. The participants in the team and individual contests also received final instructions for their particular contest.

On Wednesday evening the auditorium was filled to capacity for the vespers program. The vespers put everyone in the mood of appreciation and thinking about the American farmer, the backbone of our nation, and thoughts of where we would be without him.

On Thursday morning we witnessed a very impressive opening ceremony, performed by the National Officers. We heard the retiring address of the National Secretary Michael Gayaldo, entitled “Passing Thoughts”. We also viewed the National Theme audio visual, “Think About It”.

Six chapters from Alabama received the National Chapter Participation Award. They were: Daleville, Dale County, Scottsboro, West Limestone, Crossville, and Douglas FFA Chapters. We then heard an inspirational address by motivational speaker Zig Ziglar.

Thursday afternoon the National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Contest was held. We also heard from Nanci Mason with her retiring address, “Let Yourself Go”. A special guest appearance was made by 1985 Olympic Gold Medalist Bart Conner. In this session the Dale County, Scottsboro, Crossville, Ider, Douglas, Daleville, and G. W. Long FFA Chapters received National Chapter Awards.

(continued on page 2)
The Douglas FFA Chapter received national recognition in the National Safety Award Program. Shown accepting the award for the chapter are representatives Tommy Robertson and advisor Larry Wilson.

The Scottsboro FFA Chapter received national recognition in the National Safety Award Program. Shown representing the sponsors are (left) Robert Lamphier, Dickey-John Corporation, and (second from right) John Hagaman, Dow Chemical, U.S.A. Chapter representatives are Jonathan Lyles, John Knight and Talmadge Butler, advisor.

The Daleville FFA Chapter received national recognition in the National Safety Award Program. Shown accepting the award for the chapter is Michael Sokoly and advisor Alan Waters.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We regret that pictures of American Farmers, Honorary American Farmers, Chapter and BOAC winners were unavailable at press time.
The G. W. Long FFA Chapter represented Alabama in the Agricultural Mechanics Contest. Representing the sponsor, The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, is (left) Terry J. Renninger. Team members are (left to right) Tony Hancock, Richard Pinyan, and Mark Etheredge. Advisor to the team is Bob Moorehead.

The Hayden FFA Dairy Judging Team was Alabama's representative in this competition. Representing the sponsor, Associated Milk Producers, Inc., of San Antonio, Texas, is (left) Jack Parks. Team members are (left to right) Glen Graves, Brian Reid, Leigh Booth and advisor Johnny Mills.

The Wetumpka FFA Chapter represented Alabama in the Floriculture Contest. The team is shown with sponsor representative, Kim Havens, of the National FFA Foundation, Inc. Team members are (left to right) Cindy Goodman, Donna Hughes, alternate, Tammy Peavy, Dusty Lee and Chapter Advisor Joe L. Brown.

The Valley Head FFA Chapter had the team representing Alabama in the Nursery/Landscape Contest. Sponsor representatives pictured (left to right) are Rick Brennes, Kubota Tractor Corp., Kerry McCoy, American Association of Nursermen, Inc., and Cheryl Gauss, True Value Hardware Stores—Professional Care Program. Team members are Van Battles, Steve Chambers, Chris Jackson, Ricky Barkley, and advisor L. A. Smith.

The Troy FFA Chapter represented Alabama in the first National FFA Forestry Contest. Representing the sponsor, Homelite Division of Textron, Inc., Charlotte, North Carolina is (left) Steve Moore. Members of the team are (left to right) Tony Whitman, Mike Rhodes, and J Harrell. Advisor to the team is L. M. Carter.

The Beauregard FFA Chapter competed in the Livestock Judging Contest. Representing the sponsor, Purina Mills, Inc., is Don Maurry (left). Team members are (left to right) Todd Pate, Tommy Spence, Michael Bankston, and Jason McConnell. Shown with the team is advisor Dan Porterfield, and John Colquitt, student intern, Auburn University.
SOUTHERN REGIONAL PROFICIENCY WINNERS

AGRICULTURAL ELECTRIFICATION — Kyle Hearn is pictured with Kenneth L. McFate, National Food and Energy Council, Inc., and Doug Howison, Klein Tools, Inc., sponsors of the National FFA Agricultural Electrification Proficiency Award program. Kyle is a member of the Beauregard "A" Chapter, and his advisor is Dan Porterfield.

FOREST MANAGEMENT — Jeff Boutwell is pictured with Kim Havens, of the National FFA Foundation for Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation, sponsor of the National FFA Forest Management Proficiency Award Program. Jeff is a member of the Daleville FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Alan Waters.

AGRICULTURAL SALES AND/OR SERVICE — Marty Wootten is pictured with Thomas W. Stadtmueller and Robert J. Hill, of Deutz-Allis Corporation, sponsor of the National FFA Agricultural Sales and/or Service Proficiency Award Program. Marty is a member of the Ider FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Jasper Wagner.

HORSE PROFICIENCY — Robert Burns, Jr., is pictured with Don Treadway, American Quarter Horse Association, sponsor of the National FFA Horse Proficiency Award Program. Robert is a member of the Tuscaloosa County "Blue" FFA Chapter and his advisor is Dupree Galloway.

BEEF PRODUCTION — Mike Duke is pictured with W. Phil Niemeyer, Nasco Division, Nasco International and Robert M. Wright, of Sperry New Holland, sponsors of the National FFA Beef Production Proficiency Award Program. Mike is a member of the Munford FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Jimmy Sewell.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT — Stanley Clarke, is pictured with Doug Butler, National FFA Foundation for Philip Morris, Inc., sponsor of the National FFA Wildlife Management Proficiency program. Stanley is a member of the Lineville FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Lamar Dewberry.

DAIRY PRODUCTION — Denise Smith is pictured with L. A. Skeate and Jay Muthmann, Alfa-Laval, Inc., Agri Group sponsors of the National FFA Dairy Production Proficiency Award program. Denise is a member of the Arab FFA Chapter. Her advisors are Randy Britnell and Randy Wilkins.

STATE OFFICERS — represented the Alabama Association as official delegates: state flag bearer, and as courtesy corps members. Officers are: (l-r) David Parmer, Phillip Hutson, Jody Brewer, Greg Smith, Thomas Spencer, and Mike Dunkling.