The 58th annual State FFA Convention of the Alabama Association brings together the best of the best from Jackson County to Mobile County and from Lauderdale County to Houston County. From statewide, FFA members will attend the State Convention to rise to new levels of achievement. Even though everyone cannot win first place, you are all winners—getting this far is an achievement itself. We extend to you our congratulations. We anticipate approximately 1200 in attendance. This will include FFA members, advisors, and guests. Awards will be given to the contestants exhibiting their knowledge and skills and their ability to reach new levels of achievement.

Excitement in the Air

The convention will set the tone for these competitors as excitement is in the air. As we compete against one another, one thing important to remember is why we attend. The ultimate purpose of the competition is to enhance the best out of every individual striving for excellence in the Alabama FFA Association. A great deal is to be learned from the experiences we will share during this week.

Many FFA members have been busy preparing for the 1987 convention. They have worked diligently in the classroom, the agricultural shop, and have learned new skills through these experiences. They have worked to maintain a strong SOEP, have studied hard, and have shown discipline in training for their particular contest area.

Members have also worked hard in producing a strong proficiency program from which they gained a valuable lesson through this effort.

Chance to Expand Horizons

The 1987 State Convention will also provide FFA members with the chance to expand their horizons by gaining new friends, reuniting with old acquaintances, and getting first-hand experience of what it is like to be a real winner. A high level of enthusiasm is always consistent at such a spectacle. The incredible enthusiasm is always kept in tact by the willingness of eager minds to expand on a certain basis, always trying to be better than before. The result—a completely successful convention, but it all depends on YOU, the member. This is your opportunity to make this a very successful convention, expand your knowledge, values, and skills; for once the opportunity has passed, it will never return.

National Winners

Glancing at the past year, this officer team has seen the many accomplishments of the Alabama FFA Association. To really express the magnitude of such a successful Association, let us remind you some of these achievements. One year ago the Southern Region Vice-President, Robert Weaver, was from Alabama. Chris Thompson followed Robert's year of service by receiving the Star Farmer of America Award. Tommy McKenzie also became a national proficiency winner when he placed first in Diversified Crop Production. To end a climatic year, Jayme Feary from the Falkville FFA Chapter was elected to assume the former role of Robert Weaver. Robert and Jayme are from the same FFA Chapter. This was the first time in FFA history that two members from the same chapter served back-to-back terms as national officers. The accomplishments of Robert and Jayme reflect a precedence which will be difficult to follow, but it can be done. We, as FFA members, have big shoes to fill and higher levels to achieve.

“Something Extra”

We feel that the experiences provided at the State Convention give you that “extra something” required to reach for the top. The training, leadership, diligent work, active participation, cooperation, and enthusiasm we have received is the stamina. With these accomplishments in mind, and our instinct of making the best better, we strive to make this convention the best it can be.

If you think you're good; try to be better. If you think you're better; try to be the best. In this, we challenge you to learn from your experiences at the State Convention in Montgomery. Take the enthusiasm and motivation that you have received and strive to reach higher levels of achievement.
1987 Call To Convention

“Reaching for Higher Levels of Achievement”

by
Brad Lewis
State President

Fellow FFA Members! Another exciting year has passed by. We will celebrate the year's achievements and set our sights for future achievements at the 58th annual State FFA Convention. On June 9-11 in the Montgomery Civic Center, FFA'ers from across this great state will come together to be recognized for their accomplishments and will be motivated to reach for higher levels of achievement.

A Complex Business

American agriculture has become a very complex business and new fields and careers are being explored that have never been thought of before as part of agriculture. Our most essential industry is faced with many challenges, but if we work together, we can meet these challenges. The FFA is promoting "Excellence: Made in the FFA." Excellence that is made possible by your hard work and dedication. The State Convention has inspired many FFA members to set goals for themselves and reap the benefits that the FFA has to offer. This year's state convention will once again be a rewarding and unforgettable experience.

Many Challenges Met

You have spent long hours working on SOE projects, keeping accurate records, and dedicating yourself to reach higher levels of achievement. You started on the first level and developed your skills and abilities. Step by step you have made progress and have met and overcome many challenges. The state convention brings together the very best from throughout Alabama and FFA members will be rewarded for their efforts.

Keep Up Spirit

Convention time is at hand. The opportunity of a lifetime is here. Keep up the spirit and enthusiasm that has helped you reach those higher levels of achievement. Attend and participate in the Alabama State FFA Convention in Montgomery, June 9-11. See how excellence is made in the FFA because you are not only the future farmers of America, you are the future of America. You are not only leaders in the new fields of agriculture, you are the leaders of tomorrow.

FFA Sweetheart

The 1986-87 FFA SWEETHEART at Danville High School is Kim Spears. Kim is a member of the school softball team, has been a cheerleader four years, and is a member of FHA. Kim's hobbies include horseback riding and motorcycle riding.
Program
58th Annual Convention
Alabama FFA Association
June 9, 10, 11, 1987

Monday, June 8
A.M.
11:00
Livestock Judging Contest (Livestock Arena, Auburn)

P.M.
1:00
Forestry Judging Contest (Montgomery)
Dairy Cattle Judging Contest (E.V. Smith Research Center, Milstead)
Land Judging Contest (Montgomery)
Agricultural Mechanics Contest (Auburn)
Small Engines Contest (Montgomery)
Agricultural Construction and Maintenance Contest (Montgomery)
Nursery/Landscape Contest (Civic Center)
Floriculture Contest (Civic Center)

7:30
Final Interview of Officer Candidates (Civic Center)

Tuesday, June 9
A.M.
8:00-12:00 Registration (Civic Center)
9:00
Public Speaking Contest Preliminary (Civic Center)
String Band Contest Preliminary (Civic Center)
Quartet Contest Preliminary (Civic Center)
11:30
Courtesy Corps Meeting (Civic Center)

P.M.
1:00
Delegate Orientation
1:30
Opening Ceremony
Invocation - Jody Brewer, Citronelle
National Anthem
Official Seating of Delegates
Greetings - Jayme Feary, National FFA Vice President
Business Session
Appointment of Committees
String Band Finals
Retiring Address - Denny Johnson, Sentinel

Tuesday Evening
P.M.
7:30
FIRST GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Public Speaking Contest Finals
Future Farmer of the Year Award
Honor Parents and Advisors of 1986-87 State FFA Officers
Retiring Address - Ricky Dorman, Secretary
Awards - String Band Contest
Closing Ceremony

Wednesday, June 10
A.M.
8:30
Music - Convention Organist
9:00
SECOND GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
State FFA Officers' Annual Report - Ricky Dorman, Secretary
Address - Jayme Feary, National FFA Vice President
Retiring Address - Merle Flowers, Treasurer
Chapter Awards
Crime Prevention Awards
Activity Program
Retiring Address - Michael Kaiser, Reporter
Building Our American Communities Awards
Computers in Agriculture Awards

Awards - Agricultural Construction and Maintenance, Agricultural Mechanics, Small Engines
Announcements
Closing Ceremony

P.M.
1:00
Educational Tours

Wednesday Evening
P.M.
6:00
Foundation Board of Directors Meeting (Civic Center)
7:30
THIRD GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Conferring of Honorary State Farmer Degrees
Retiring Address - Bronwyn Bishop, Vice President
Quartet Contest Finals
Proficiency Awards - Placement in Agricultural Production, Agricultural Sales and/or Service, Agricultural Processing, Forest Management
Awards - Quartet Contest
Announcements
Closing Ceremony

Thursday, June 11
A.M.
9:00
LAST GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Star Farmer Ceremony
Retiring Address - Brad Lewis, President
Speaker - Mercury Morris
State Farmer Degree Ceremony
Installation of New State Officers
Presentation of Past Officer Pins
Presentation of Gavel to Past President
Announcements
Closing Ceremony
New Officers, their Parents and local Advisors Meeting (Civic Center)
To Appear on Convention Program

Jayme Feary
National Vice President

Jayme Feary of the Falkville FFA Chapter will address the convention on Wednesday morning. This Auburn University Sophomore, majoring in Agricultural Education, is serving as Southern Region Vice-President of the FFA. Jayme was 1983-84 State President of the Alabama FFA Association. He has served as Chapter Vice-President and BOAC "PRIDE" Committee Chairman. His SOEP of cattle, horses, goats, and forage crops earned him the American Farmer Degree. We look forward to having Jayme attend our State Convention.

"Mercury" Morris
Former Pro Football Star

EUGENE "MERCURY" MORRIS earned All-American Honors in 1967 and 1968 at West Texas State University. In 1969 he was drafted by the Miami Dolphins. He played on back-to-back World Championship teams in 1972 and 1973. The Dolphins had a perfect 17-0 season in 1972. Mercury's appearance during the Thursday morning session is sponsored by Capitol Chevrolet, Inc., of Montgomery and the Montgomery Athletic Club.

EXCELLENCE

FFA offers opportunities to young men and women studying high school agriculture to help them develop that rarest of commodities: excellence.

MADE IN THE FFA.