



The Alabama FFA REPORTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALABAMA FFA ASSOCIATION

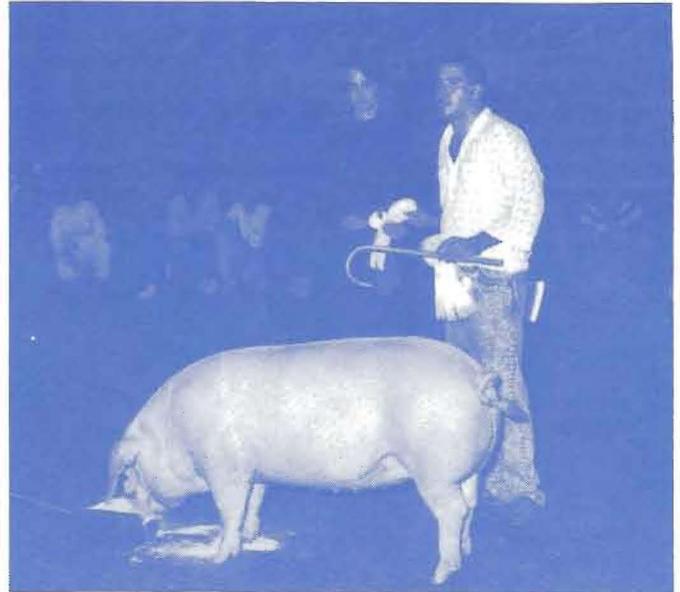
Vol. 17

SPRING 1990

No. 2

GRAND BAY FFA CHAPTER (Mobile County High School) has been a strong force with their swine program over the past five years. Grand Bay FFA is the only chapter in the state that participates in all four FFA purebred swine shows, as well as the state junior market hog show. Grand Bay FFA has won 14 of 16 grand championships with their gilts, including eight in a row. Boar shows have been less successful, but the chapter has won seven of 16 championships. These are accomplishments of which we are very proud and stand as the foundation, heart and main financial source of the chapter budget. Grand Bay FFA has supplemented the swine program by obtaining the facility rights at Bryant AVC where the FFA officially moved all animals and equipment in November 1989. The move helps both schools and the instructional programs and allows for expansion of the Grand Bay FFA purebred herd, as well as member participation. Grand Bay FFA currently owns 20 registered females and four purebred boars. We raise and exhibit four breeds (Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace, and Yorkshire), with most success in shows coming from the Landrace and Yorks. The swine program at Grand Bay has been responsible for success in proficiency awards, BOAC, superior chapter, M. K. Heath award, FFA Degrees, FFA Star Farmer and judging contests. Plans for the future include showing in national shows, getting stronger in market hog shows and improving overall herd quality. Current swine exhibitors are Bart Sessions, Jerry and Walter Hudson, Lee Tunstall, Mike Reeves, and David Treon.

Mike Reeves, Reporter



Mr. Lamar Dewberry, teacher of agribusiness education at Lineville, was a recent recipient of the W. Kelly Mosley Environmental Award for Outstanding Achievements in Forestry, Wildlife and Related Resources. Dewberry received a \$500 cash award and a framed limited edition reproduction of a forestry/wildlife painting. Dewberry is the first agribusiness education teacher to receive this award. Mr. Dewberry was the advisor to the national winning FFA Forestry Judging Team in 1988; he had the winning National Proficiency Winner in Forestry in '88 also, and had the National Wildlife Management Winner in 1989. During the awards ceremony in Auburn, President James Martin stated, "this award recognizes unsung heroes who work to protect and improve our natural environment." We, the members of the Lineville FFA Chapter, are extremely pleased that Mr. Dewberry has received this honor.

Adam Cromer, Reporter



Mr. Lamar Dewberry, teacher of agribusiness education at Lineville High School, was presented the W. Kelly Mosley Environmental Award. Shown during the presentation at Auburn University (l-r) Earl Smith, County Forester, Alabama Forestry Commission; Dr. George Emert, Executive Vice President, Auburn University; Dewberry, and Bill Moody, State Forester, Alabama Forestry Commission.

We requested your assistance, and you answered the request. We are pleased to present news articles prepared by local FFA chapters letting us know of the many interesting and exciting things happening with them.



RANDY ROSE, SELMA FFA TREASURER, is pictured with pre-schooler Amanda Edmonds, as he encourages her to touch and feed the lambs during Farm Day.

Selma High FFA presented "Old McDonald's Farm Day" during National FFA Week. Young expectant faces glowed with delight as FFA students from Selma High in overalls and flannel shirts presented "Old McDonald's Farm Day" at the Lion's Fair Park Livestock Arena on February 23. Many of the 300 plus tiny faces, K-5th grade from Selma City Schools, had never seen or touched barnyard animals before. The first-ever event hopes to become an annual event for the Selma High Agribusiness Department because of its great success. The all-day event provided programs and exhibits on farm crops and commodities, wildlife, water and forestry conservation, hunting and camping safety, and care and management of farm animals.

The event was provided for the children not just for fun, but for vast educational experiences. As well as letting the children go for pony rides and petting the animals, the children were instructed on how important tender loving care is to the animals and to become more acquainted with the farming industry. The Farm Day culminated National FFA Week observance by the Selma FFA Chapter. In addition to hands-on experience of petting and feeding the animals, the children brought canned good items for the FFA's Food Drive for the Hungry and agricultural related cartoons were given to the FFA for judging and awards.

Sherrel White, Advisor



MISS ALABAMA AGRICULTURE -- Alabama Farmers Federation Miss Alabama Agriculture is Lisa Rivenbark, an 18 year old high school senior FFA member from Enterprise High School. Lisa has been active in FBLA, DECA, Spanish Club, Misses Chatauqua Club, and has been a color guard and majorette in the band. Lisa will appear on the 1990 FFA Convention program. *C.C. Martin, Advisor*



ATTALLA FFA SWEETHEART Teresa Thompson, a 17 year old senior at Etowah High School, has been chosen the Attalla FFA Sweetheart for 1990. Teresa is dance-line co-captain; member of the All-State Chorus, Etowah High School Marching Band Colorguard, and is listed in Who's Who Among America High School Students.

James Turner, Advisor



CLEMENTS FFA SWEETHEART --Bene' Castleberry is the Clements FFA Sweetheart for 1989-90. She has been active in FFA activities this year. Her other activities include Jr. Cheerleader (head), volleyball, FHA and Class Vice-President. Bene' is 15 years old and is in the 9th grade agribusiness class at Clements. *Donald Wilson, Advisor*

Community Projects --

FFA CHAPTER OFFERS FREE BLUEBIRD HOUSES -- The Lauderdale County High School FFA Chapter in Rogersville constructed 140 bluebird nesting boxes for free distribution to senior citizens in their eastern Lauderdale County community.

The FFA officers initiated the community service idea during a work session last summer at the North District FFA Leadership Workshop at the University of North Alabama.

The beautiful eastern bluebird has received much publicity in recent years because its population has been declining for a number of reasons, but primarily because of a loss of nesting cavities due to stands of old timber being harvested and/or cleared for row crop production.

The students desired to assist in the bluebird replenishment effort and to provide hours of enjoyment for the senior citizens. Moss Lumber Company, a local hardwood sawmill, provided lumber for the project. FFA members provided hinges for the lids and labor in constructing the projects. The boxes feature hinged lids which allow for easy cleaning and also increases the enjoyment by allowing the owner to check the progress of the nesting process.

Our local weekly paper printed the story of the project. The article included an order form for senior citizens to return by mail in order to receive a free birdhouse. "The response to the project has been phenomenal," states Cecelia Richardson, chapter president. Richardson further states, "I believe that the public will demand that this be made an annual event."

Each complimentary nesting box contained a fact sheet about the bluebird and its habitat. It also included information on problems and solutions to problems from competing birds and predators.

Ross Smith, Advisor



ROGERSVILLE FFA CHAPTER PRESIDENT, Cecelia Richardson, and Ross Smith, Chapter Advisor, presented T. J. Moss Lumber Co., Inc. a bluebird nesting box in appreciation of the company's donation of lumber for the chapter's bluebird construction project. Shown accepting the box is Edward "Mickey" Moss, company president.

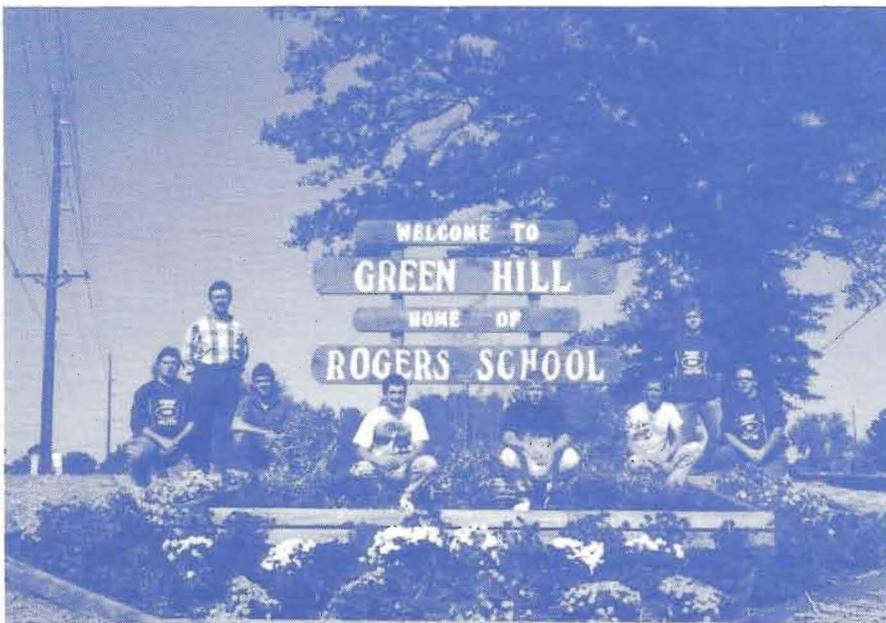
GREENER GRASS IN GREEN HILL -- The grass is getting greener in Green Hill thanks to the green thumbs of some Rogers agribusiness education students and FFA members.

The senior citizens of the community wanted a welcome sign off Highway 43 and the agribusiness education teacher at Rogers High School, Greg Hamner, wanted a hands-on project for his students. A landscaped welcome sign proved to be the perfect project to meet both goals.

The students constructed a wooden sign which reads, "Welcome to Green Hill, Home of Rogers School." During the fall, the area was ablaze in red, gold, yellow and pink mums. The spring should bring with it a bright green carpet and colorful blossoms to the site.

The project was entered in the BOAC awards program. The community has responded favorably to the project. People will drive by and give us the OK sign or yell out, "Looking Good!" Citizens also used the sign to express community support for the Rogers Pirates who made it to the finals of the state 3A football championship. Large all-weather corsages bearing the school's colors were displayed on the welcome sign.

Greg Hamner, Advisor



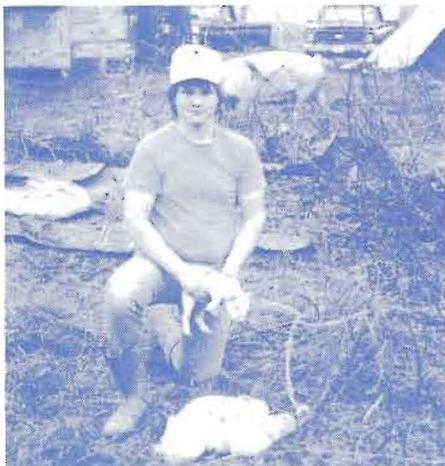
ROGERS AGRIBUSINESS DEPARTMENT PROJECT --- Shown displaying a new community welcome sign and landscaping project recently completed are (l-r) Joe Miller, Greg Hamner, Chapter Advisor, Robert Bogus, Marlin Hines, Tony Chamblin, Tommy Pettus, Brandon Strait, and Jeffrey Quillen.

**THE ALABAMA FFA REPORTER
SPRING 1990**

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Keith Bozeman, of the Straughn FFA Chapter, outside Andalusia, is the proud owner of one registered Yorkshire sow and six young pigs.

Keith, as a seventh grade FFA member, purchased a gilt from the Straughn FFA and entered her in the South Alabama State Fair FFA Hog Show in Montgomery this last October. Keith plans to enter two pigs in the 1990 show.

Ricky Bass, Advisor

At the February meeting of the Opp "Gold" FFA Chapter, we invited the President of the Opp Jaycees, Mike Carnley, to visit with us and make a presentation. The presentation was on the Southeastern Diamondback Rattlesnake. Mike also talked about the 31st Annual Rattlesnake Rodeo held in Opp on March 3 and 4.

Brock Lunsford, President

Activities from Across the State ---



READY FOR NORTHERN EXCHANGE -- This group left for Litchfield, Minnesota, on February 5, as our representatives for the 19th Annual Hartford-Litchfield, sister-city Exchange Program, sponsored by the FFA Chapter. Pictured (l-r) Rebecca Birdsong, Hartford FFA Vice-President; John Highsmith, FFA President; Shay Atkinson, 1990 Miss National Peanut Queen; (standing) Debbie and Mike Cotton, Hartford Young Farmers & Wife Association; Sonya Armstrong, and J.D. and Myra Chesteen, City of Hartford representatives. We salute the Alabama Peanut Producers Association and the City of Hartford for their continued support and assistance to the Hartford FFA-Litchfield Exchange Program.

Stacy Hatcher, Advisor



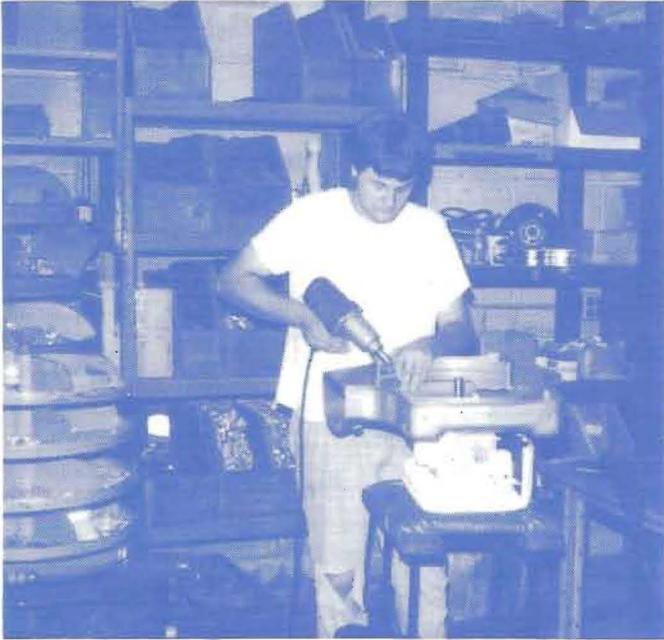
ELBA PRE-VOCATIONAL AGRIBUSINESS CLASS -- is pictured with door wreaths which they designed as part of a Horticulture/Home Orchard Unit. The students learned the basic principles of establishing a home orchard in class, and the wreaths were made from the salvaged cuttings of muscadine vines pruned at a local adult farmer's orchard. Through this Horticulture/Floriculture Unit, each student not only learned how diversified agribusiness education has become, but they also had fun crafting an improvement project for their home.

Michael Harrelson, Advisor



PARAMOUNT HIGH FFA CELEBRATES FFA WEEK -- Bradley Lewis, Southern Region National Vice-President, was the guest speaker at a Paramount High school FFA special assembly program during National FFA Week. He challenged the 487 FFA members and high school students present to create goals and to take steps in accomplishing their goals. Two members of the FFA Chapter, Norman Atkins, Chapter Reporter, and Delicia Carey, State FFA Secretary, were special guests of Kimberly Essex, host of the mid-day talk show, "News and Views" on WCFT-TV 33 in Tuscaloosa, on Thursday of FFA Week. The FFA members explained some of the activities in which they are involved.

Henry Miles, Advisor



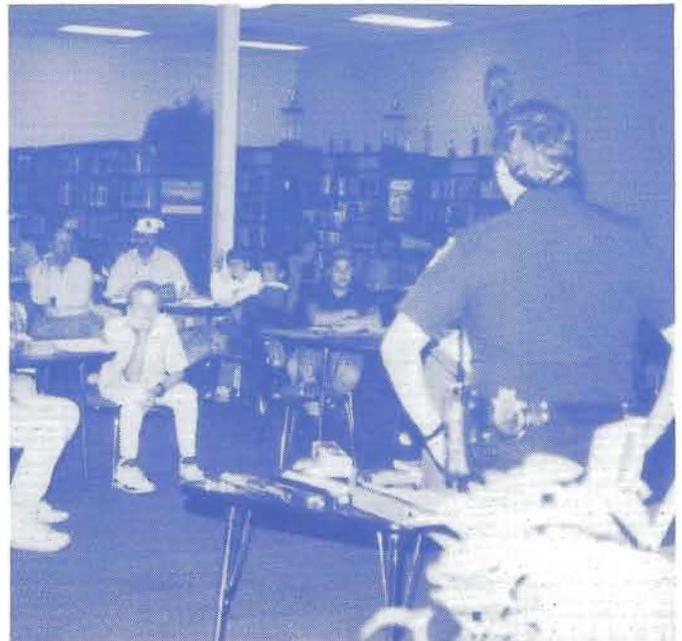
Scott Eaton, a senior at McAdory High School, is employed by the Green Craft Hardware and Small Engine Center, of Bessemer. Scott gains experience in Ag Mechanics through his placement for work experience. Scott's instructor is Douglas Caddell.



Agribusiness Instructor Daren Holland, McAdory High School, demonstrates proper sanding skills to one of the Exploratory Shop Classes (7th grade).

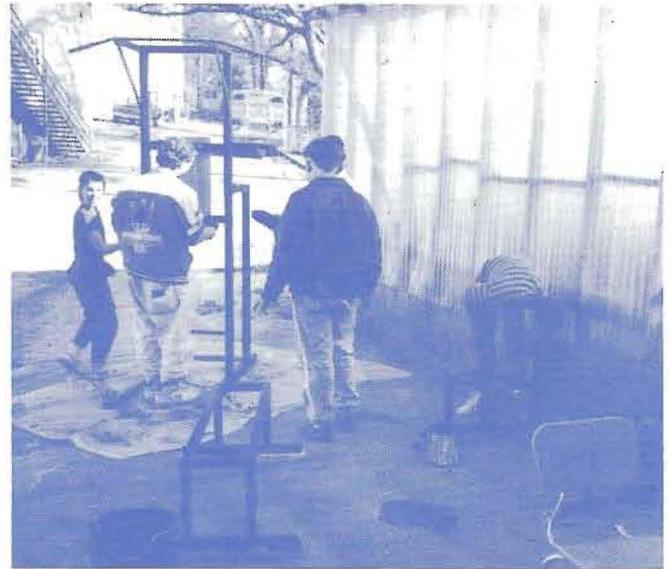
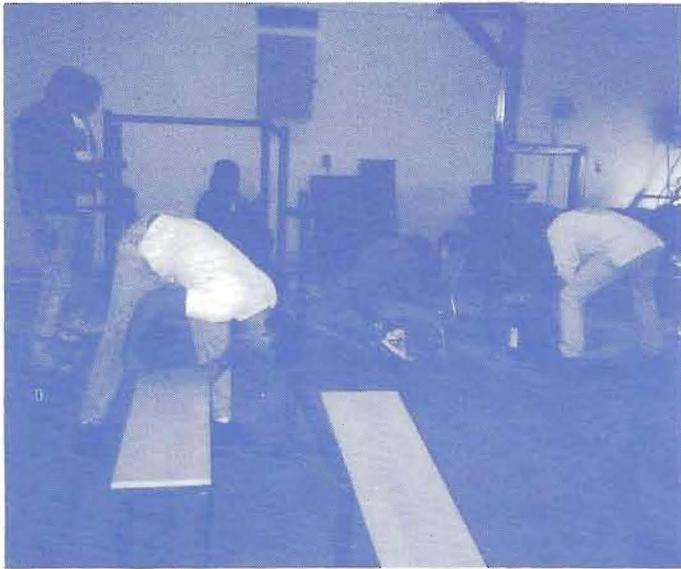


Andre Jackson, a junior at McAdory High School, is employed by the S.T. Jerrell Company of Bessemer, where he gains experience in the packaging of dry milk. Andre is in the Agribusiness Work Experience Program and his instructor is Douglas Caddell.

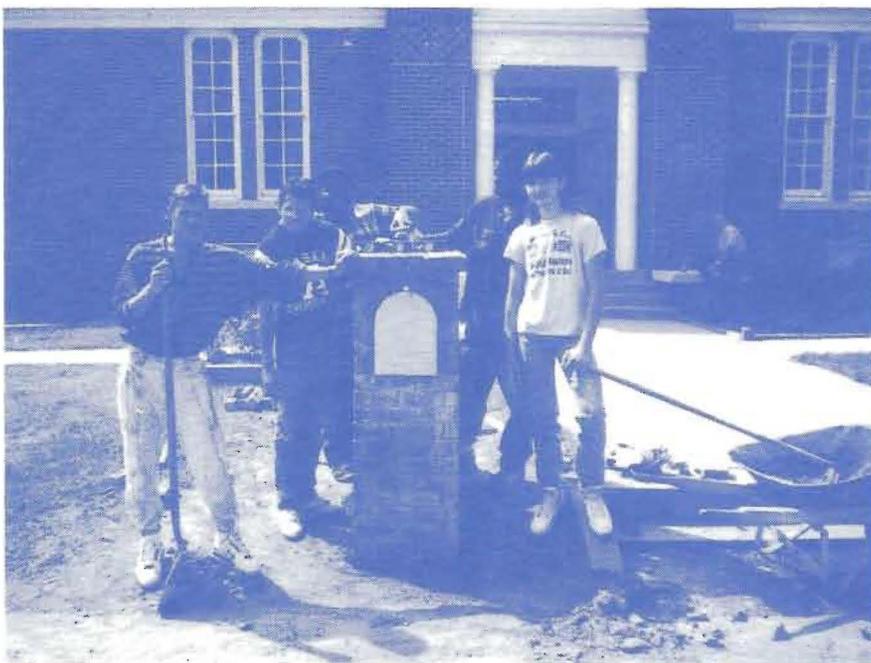


McADORY FFA conducts Hunting Safety Seminar for students and parents. Over 40 students and adults received training and passed the test to become a certified hunter. Mr. Tom Swaffield, agribusiness instructor, and members of the Bessemer Police and Fire Departments were the presenters.

Douglas Caddell, Daren Holland, Tom Swaffield, Advisors



Advanced Agribusiness Technology II students assisted with the construction and painting of weightlifting equipment for West Jefferson's new weight room facility as a part of their BOAC Project. The chapter advisor and athletic boosters would construct the machines in the Ag shop at night, and the students would paint and finish them during the day.

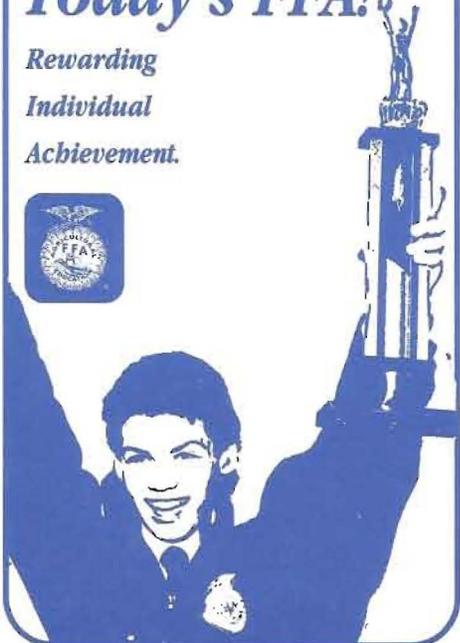


Shown (l-r) Chris Popham, Greg Colvert, Melvin Long, Michael Evans, and Darrell Hicks, eleventh grade students, with a brick mailbox they constructed for West Jefferson High School. The project was built as a part of the Chapter's 1990 BOAC project.

**Tomorrow's
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*Rewarding
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Achievement.*

Florala Activities --

THE FLORALA HIGH SCHOOL FFA has spent most of 1989-90 building the school greenhouse, developing a land lab and restoring a very old ox cart.

The greenhouse was built from the ground up with FFA members doing everything except pouring the concrete floor. The greenhouse will be used to teach plant propagation, as well as selling discounted plants to the community.

The Floral High Land Lab is constantly being expanded with the recent addition of blackberries, additional fruit and nectarine trees and drip irrigation. Future plans include a catfish pond and vineyard.

The highlight of the year will be the completion of the ox cart. Members are working on the 100 year-old cart as a BOAC project. The ox cart, which was used before the advent of power machinery to pull logs from forests, was one of the many used in the Floral area from 1900-1945. During this time timber was the predominant industry in this area.

John Harbuck, Advisor



Students at Floral have been excited about the restoration project of a 100 year-old ox cart. This has been a part of their BOAC project.



Students and community leaders are proud of their orchard and the sign designating this area.



During the year, students have been busy working in the land lab. They have added blackberries, fruit and nectarine trees, as well as drip irrigation to the lab.



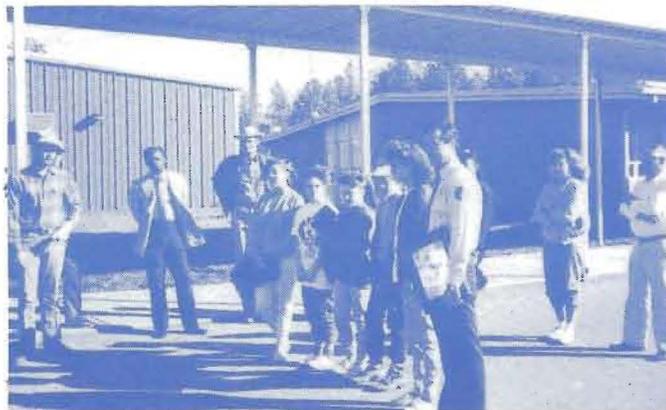
Floral agribusiness students are shown during the construction of their greenhouse.



GOOD HOPE PROJECT -- Pictured is the advanced agribusiness class at Good Hope High School and the project they recently completed. The chapter has a gooseneck trailer, but it is a bit large to haul lambs, so the class built this lamb trailer. It is all metal with a wood interior, and the interior is lighted. The truck pictured was in rough shape, when we purchased it. The students removed the paint and repaired the dents, then painted the truck and trailers to match.
David Bice, Advisor



THE LOUISVILLE FFA CHAPTER always looks forward to the arrival of their new FFA jackets. Here we see some of the officers and members displaying their new FFA jackets which recently arrived. From l-r Marcus Hunter, Sentinel; Brian Teal, member; Mickey Hamm, Treasurer; Celeste Thompkins, Vice President, and Deborah Brascom, Reporter.
Duane Baxley, Advisor



CHEROKEE MIDDLE FFA AND CALS --In the Fall 1989 the Cherokee Middle School FFA Chapter developed a CALS (Children Against Littered State) program of the Shoals organization. The purpose is to do away with litter and to develop our community.
Dennis Deaton, Advisor



AT SOUTH DALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, we feel we must make modifications with time or be left behind. With the addition of our computer, we are moving with technology. The computer has helped us maintain accurate records for fundraisers we have fulfilled this year. We created a Data Base System during our fruit sale to allow easy access to the quantity of boxes each student sold. We also use our computer for newsletters concerning various FFA activities.
Greg Childree, Advisor



COFFEE SPRINGS FFA OFFICERS --- were up bright and early to prepare breakfast for the Coffee Springs Faculty and Staff during National FFA Week. Officers (l-r) Jeff Sconyers, Reporter; Shannon Nichols, Vice-President; Freddy Martin, Sentinel; Charles Howell, President; Richard Nelson, Treasurer, and Carrie Arnold, Secretary. *Chapter Advisor is Tracy Weaver.*



COFFEE SPRINGS FFA OFFICERS -- toured the Fleming Foods Facility in Geneva, Alabama, during National FFA Week. Fleming Foods Company is the largest food distribution company in the United States. Officers present for the tour were (l-r) Freddy Martin, Sentinel; Jeff Sconyers, Reporter; Richard Nelson, Treasurer; Carrie Arnold, Secretary, and Charles Howell, President. Mr. Jimm Bennett (right), Distribution Facility Manager, conducted the educational tour. Not pictured is Vice-President Shannon Nichols. *Tracy Weaver, Advisor*