

Sled dog race

(Continued from Page B10)

have required rest periods of varying lengths, including one 24-hour layover, at the checkpoints of their choice. The race becomes a game of wits. For example: A musher arrives and announces his intention to stay a full day, glancing at the fur-wrapped faces around him. As the weather clears that night, he slips outside, hitches up his team, and "Hike!" he's off. He'll log his 24 hours of rest elsewhere.

Sleepless nights are common. The racers often get fatigued and lost, having to backtrack to find the trail markers. It's a hard race

through a hard land, beautiful at times, boring at others. One musher dozed off while under way and fell from his sled onto the Yukon River pack ice. Fortunately, he was just outside a checkpoint. He walked in and arrived 10 minutes after his dogs.

Who are the Iditarod mushers? Alaskans, most of them. For occupations they list sales manager, printer, truck driver, and schoolteacher. Some find full-time professions in breeding, training, and selling their dogs.

Others come from Europe, Japan, and the lower 48 states. Gary Paulsen of Minnesota wears a small tape recorder and listens to Gustav Mahler's Resurrection Symphony while racing through

the sub-zero temperatures. Terry Hinesley trains each year at the Oregon Dune Musher's Mail Run — a race across 80 miles of sand.

"It's a rare business in Alaska that hasn't been approached at least once to sponsor a dog musher," writes Tim Jones in his book "The Last Great Race." Nevertheless, add up the costs of travel and training, of the dogs themselves, and all the food, sleds, clothing, and other equipment, and a racer can easily spend \$20,000 to run the Iditarod.

Hazards of Nature

The 1985 race was one of the longest and wildest. Bad storms stopped it twice. A third of the mushers failed to finish. Half of all the racers encountered moose that did everything from blocking trails to killing dogs.

Who won? Libby Riddles, a 28-year-old woman who braved a storm three-quarters of the way through the race. The wind chill dropped to 60 below zero across frozen Norton Sound. Yet her team of 13 dogs maintained a steady pace of 5 to 8 mph. Gulping seal oil

and Norwegian chocolate bars, she built an insurmountable lead and crossed under the arch on Nome's Front Street 18 days and 20 minutes after leaving Anchorage.

"Libby Did It!" announced an Alaska newspaper. It was a victory for the spirit of the Iditarod. Nome's cheering residents pounded their mitted hands. They greeted Libby and every other cold musher with a tremendous warmth, as if in the bottom of each sled, wrapped in furs, were small vials of diphtheria serum.

Manheim Central sets agenda for FFA Week

MANHEIM — Members of the Manheim Central FFA Chapter along with 430,000 other FFA'ers throughout the United States will celebrate National FFA Week Feb. 15 to 22. This year's FFA theme is "Leaders for the New Fields of Agriculture."

Neil Benedict, Manheim Central chapter president, says that members will be stressing this new theme in activities planned for the week. "We have a full week of activities planned," he said. They include a week-long canned food drive to benefit Manheim Food Bank, an open house in the vo-ag department for eighth grade students on Tuesday, official dress day on Wednesday, cherry sundaes for high school staff on Thursday, and a drawing for a prize to food drive contributors on Friday.

The new FFA theme emphasizes that agriculture is changing and that it is more than just farming. Computers, bio-genetics, economics and aquaculture are just a few of the 200 career areas in agriculture.

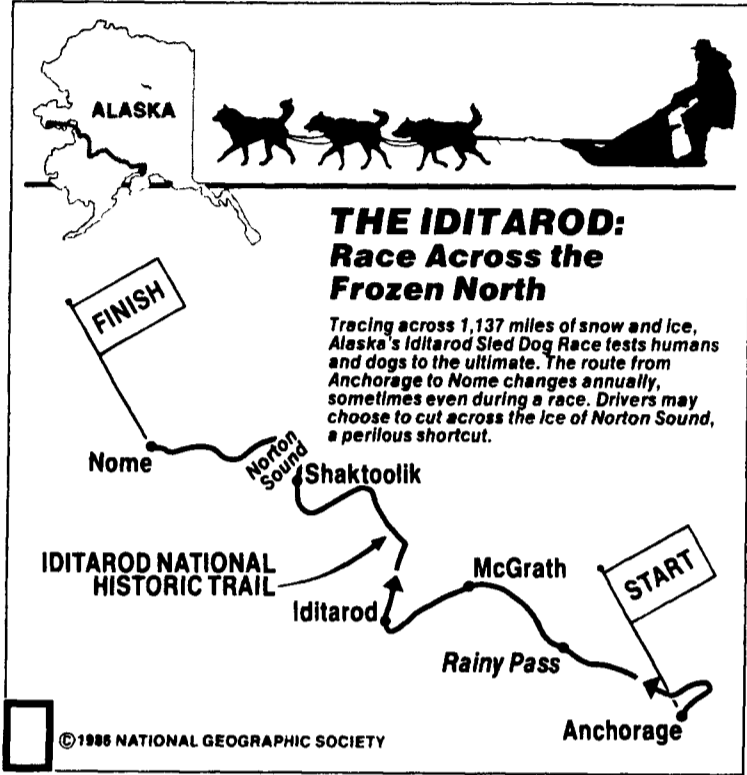
High school vocational agriculture and the FFA

organization are teaching the youth of the city and the country skills that will prepare them to be the leaders for this diverse agricultural industry.

FFA Week traditionally includes George Washington's birthday. Washington gained respect for FFA through his great leadership skills and innovative practices in agriculture. He serves as an

example for all FFA members.

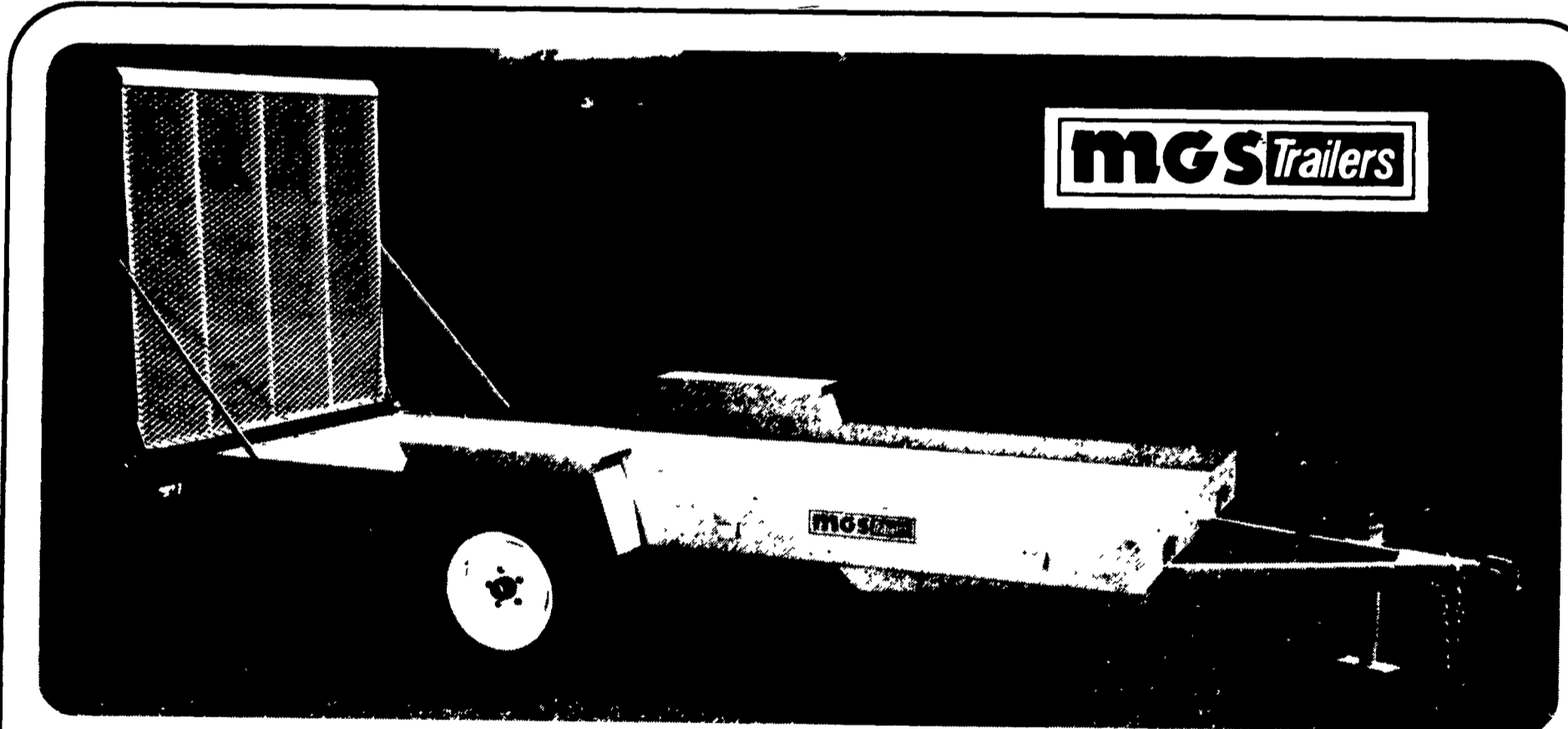
The FFA has been promoting leadership, cooperation and citizenship among young people since 1928. With the changing roles of agriculture, the organization realizes the importance of continuing the emphasis of developing agricultural skills and in building "Leaders for the New Fields of Agriculture."



Answers for Kid's Komer game

PRESIDENTS FIRST NAMES

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. GERALD FORD | 10. JOHN KENNEDY |
| 2. HERBERT HOOVER | 11. ANDREW JACKSON |
| 3. (JOHN) CALVIN COOLIDGE | 12. JAMES POLK |
| 4. MILLARD FILLMORE | 13. LYNDON JOHNSON |
| 5. DWIGHT EISENHOWER | 14. WILLIAM MCKINLEY |
| 6. GROVER CLEVELAND | 15. ULYSSES GRANT |
| 7. RICHARD NIXON | 16. JAMES MADISON |
| 8. HARRY TRUMAN | 17. JAMES MONROE |
| 9. (THOMAS) WOODROW WILSON | 18. JOHN TYLER |



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