## FFA Convention Sets Pace For Future

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future with the public release of the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education. A press conference, a five-minute video, and a video news release highlighted this ongoing effort to keep agricultural education in stride with the challenges ahead.

The National Agricultural Center Show, a cooperative effort of the National FFA Organization and major trade associations, professional societies, educational institutions and qualifying agribusiness firms, was the largest ever with 207 exhibitors.

As has come to be expected, a full slate of well-respected guests addressed and entertained the convention. Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter; Miss America Marjorie Vincent; and educator Joe Clark, subject of the film "Lean On Me" were included among the speakers.

Audio-visuals and special effects were an integral part of convention activities. The "Stars

Over America" film, which saluted the eight regional star farmers and agribusinessmen, was only one of the highlights. The National FFA Chorus and Band provided inspirational, high-quality entertainment throughout the convention.

The National FFA Alumni had a successful auction, raising more than \$39,000, a record amount, to support FFA programs. All the items sold at the auction were donated from various businesses and individuals.

# National FFA Winners National Officers

National officers elected at the convention are Mark Timm, 19, president, from Fillmore, Ind.; Danny Grellner, 20, secretary, from Kingfisher, Okla.; Matthew Lohr, 19, eastern region vice president, from Broadway, Va.; Julie Classen, 20, central region vice president, from Ayr, Neb.; Ben Nessmith, 20, southern region vice president, from Statesboro,

Ga.; and Lesa Ann King, 20, western region vice president, from Howe, Texas.

#### Stars Over America

Todd Lotter, 21, of Monroe, Ind., was named the Star Farmer of America, and Chad Luthro, 20, Moorland, Iowa, was named the Star Agribusinessman of America. They were selected from among 1,056 American FFA Degree recipients. The program is a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc., co-sponsored by the American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division; Case IH; Farm Credit System; Na-Churs Plant Food Company; Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.; and Pirelli Armstrong Tire Corporation.

### Prepared Public Speaking Winners

Vicki J. Smith, 18, of the Buffalo FFA Chapter, Buffalo, Mo., won the prepared public speaking contest with her speech, "The Life You Save May Be Your Own." Leigh Ann Wyatt, 17, of the Baker

FFA Chapter, Baker City, Ore., placed second; Philip R. Harbin, 18, of the White House FFA Chapter, White House, Tenn., placed third; and Kristin Marie Digiulio, 18, of Storrs Regional FFA Chapter, Storrs, Conn., placed fourth.

#### Agriscience Teacher Of The Year

Mark D. Lalum of Kalispell, Mont., was named the Agriscience Teacher of the Year. The program is sponsored by GTE Foundation.

#### Agriscience Student Of The Year

Tracie Daniels, O'Brien, Fla., was announced as the national winner in the Agriscience Student Recognition Program, and Lisa Hefty, Auburn, Ind., was named the national runner-up. The program is sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Company.

### Extemporaneous Public Speaking Winners

Speaking on the topic "The Impact of Exports on the Marketing of Agricultural Products,"

Mark Jones of White House FFA Chapter, White House, Tenn., took top honors in the National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking contest. "We must push for ag marketing strength in the future," he said. "Let us now take the reins and guide ourselves toward brighter exports tomorrow." Zachary Stone Brady of the Clyde FFA Chapter, Clyde, Texas; Julie Gebhart of the Blue River Valley FFA Chapter, Mount Summit, Ind.; Kris Snyder of the Elgin FFA Chapter, Marion, Ohio placed second, third and fourth, respectively. The contest is sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

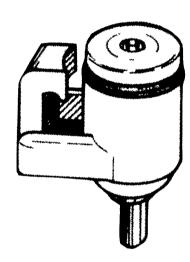
#### BOAC Award Winners

The Raton FFA Chapter, Raton, N.M., captured top honors in the 1990 Building Our American Communities (BOAC) program with a project designed to reclaim area mines by terracing and planting trees, grass and plants, and members constructed a nature trail accessible to the handicapped. The Bowdle FFA Chapter, Bowdle, S.D., placed second; the Citrus Senior FFA Chapter, Inverness, Fla., took third; and the Grassland FFA Chapter of New Holland, Penn., won fourth-place honors. BOAC is a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc., sponsored by RJR Nabisco Foundation, Inc.

### Computers In Agriculture Winners

The national winner in the 1990 Computers in Agriculture awards program was Karla Williams, 17, of Joliet, Mont., a member of the Joliet FFA Chapter. The national runner-up was Robert Johnson, 18, of Platteville, Colo. Other national finalists include Melissa Hath, Merced FFA Chapter, El Nido, Calif.; Domonic Salce, Round Valley FFA Chapter, Springerville, Ariz.; Kevin Herrick, Roslyn FFA Chapter, Roslyn, S.D.; James Jacquier, Housatonic Valley FFA Chapter, East Canaan, Conn.; Clay G. Britt, Green Sea Floyds FFA Chapter, Nichols, S.C.; and John C. Bullock, Hillcrest FFA Chapter, Red Level, Ala. The program is sponsored by the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

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