

FFA HAPPENINGS

N.J. State FFA Convention
More than 325 FFA members, advisors, and guests attended the 65th Annual N.J. State FFA Convention held on the Cook Campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. from May 23-25.

During the three-day convention, FFA members from across the state gathered to conduct business and honor fellow members for their achievements.

More than \$11,000 in college scholarships were awarded to FFA members with an additional \$5000 in awards presented to FFA chapters and individuals. Scholarships and awards were sponsored by State and National FFA Foundations, the State FFA Association, and other agricultural organizations.

Special convention speakers included National FFA President Curtis Childers of Nemo, Texas; Past National FFA Officer Matt Lohr or Broadway, Virginia; Dean of Cook College Dr. Daryl Lund; N.J. Secretary of Agriculture, Arthur R. Brown, Jr.; and Dr. Thomas A. Henry, director, Office of Adult and Occupational Education, N.J. Department of Education.

1993-94 N.J. State FFA Awards and Recognitions

• **Food for America Award:** 1st Place receiving \$50 and a plaque was the Phillipsburg Chapter. The Food For America Program is designed to encourage FFA Chapters to teach elementary school children where our food comes from.

• **Public Relations Contest:** 1st Place receiving \$100 and a plaque was the Woodstown Chapter. The Public Relations Award Program is designed to encourage chapters to promote FFA and Agricultural Education within their schools and communities.

• **FFA Week Award:** 1st Place receiving \$50 and a plaque was the Woodstown Chapter. The FFA Week Award is awarded to the chapter that has an outstanding program of activities for its school and community during National FFA Week.

• **Extemporaneous Public Speaking:** The first place Extemporaneous Public Speaker was Gabby Gordon from the Newton Chapter. Gabby was given an agricultural topic, had 30 minutes to produce a speech and present it to a panel of judges. She will com-

pete at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

• **6-8 Minute Prepared Public Speaking Contest:** The first place Prepared Public Speaker was Becky Tucker from the Woodstown FFA Chapter. Becky will compete at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

• **3-5 Minute Prepared Public Speaking Contest:** The winner of the 3-5 Minute Prepared Public Speaking Contest was Melissa Jenkins from the Woodstown FFA Chapter.

• **Creed Winner:** Jocelyn Hawkins of the Hunterdon Central Chapter placed first in the Creed Contest receiving a \$50 check and a plaque. This contest requires contestants to memorize and deliver the FFA Creed.

• **The 1993-94 NJ FFA Member of the Year** was Tammie Kenney from the Hunterdon Central Chapter. Tammie was chose for this award based on her Supervised Agricultural Experience project and her participation in FFA Activities on the local, state and national level.

• **Proficiency Awards:** Proficiency awards are presented to those members who have displayed outstanding leadership and development in their Supervised Agricultural Experience program (SAE). With 29 different project areas to excel in, the following members were presented with pro-

iciency awards:

Specialty Crop Production: Mitchell Jones from the Belvidere Chapter. **Soil and Water Management:** Stephen Lauritsen from the Piscataway Chapter. **Floriculture:** Pamela Antonucci from the Piscataway Chapter. **Placement in Agricultural Production:** Daniel Dilks from the Cumberland Chapter. **Agricultural Mechanics:** Walter Katona from the Northern Burlington Chapter. **Home and/or Farmstead Improvement:** Heather Gorski from the Belvidere Chapter. **Turf and Landscape Management:** John Scott Pyontek from the Hackettstown Chapter.

All state proficiency winners will now compete for national awards.

Newly Chartered Chapters - This year New Jersey FFA had the opportunity to expand the State Association by chartering several new chapters which include:

Penns Grove Chapter, Penns Grove-Carneys Point High School, Penns Grove, NJ. Morris County Chapter, Morris County Vocational School, Denville, NJ. Hackettstown Jr. Chapter, Hackettstown High School, Hackettstown, NJ. Salem County Chapter, Salem County Vocational School, Woodstown, NJ.

New Jersey FFA Elects Officers

Jim Kruize, Oldwick, N.J. is the

1994-1995 New Jersey State FFA president.

Jim, the 18-year old son of Reuben and Bernadine Kruize, is a member of the Hunterdon Hills FFA Chapter, Voorhees High School, Glen Gardner, N.J. in Hunterdon County. His adviser is Steve Tucker.

A four-year member, Kruize has served as chapter chaplain and vice president and has competed in various state judging contests. His supervised agricultural experience program included raising Jersey dairy cattle and pigs as well as working part-time on a farm that raised beef cattle and crops. Currently attending Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pa. for dairy science, he plans to own and operate his own dairy farm.

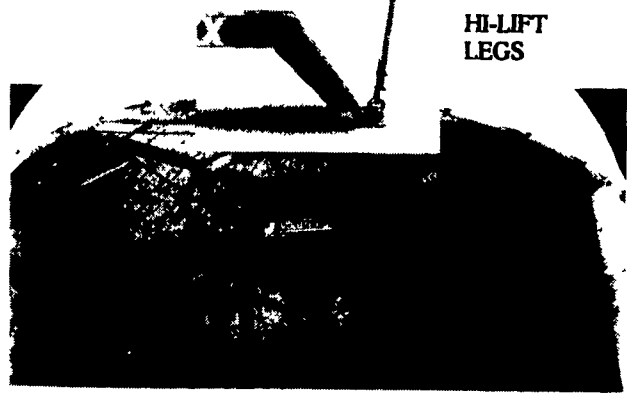
Bill Taylor, of Bridgeton, N.J. is state FFA vice president. The 18-year old son of William and Marcia Taylor, he is a member of the Cumberland Regional FFA chapter, Cumberland Regional High School, Seabrook, N.J. in Cumberland County. His adviser is Tom Passmore. A four-year member, he has served as chapter vice president and president. He has also attended state and national conventions and conferences.

His supervised agricultural experience program is in nursery operations. He is an integral part of his family's business, Hopewell

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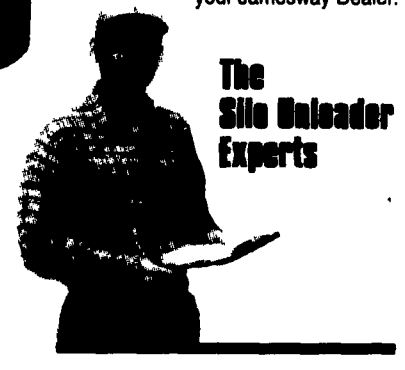
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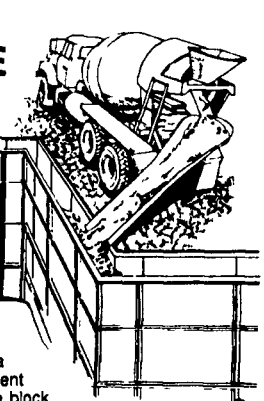


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