



Florida Future Farmer

Spring 1975

Twice the national High School Rodeo Cutting Horse winner, Joe C. "Butch" Lott, 17, Wildwood FFA Chapter will be seeking a third win at Gallup, N. Mex., this Summer.

FFA Members Enter High School Rodeos

The Florida High School Rodeo Association is a member of the National High School Rodeo Association which is made up of 31 States and two Canadian Provinces. Our association is governed by the by-laws, rules and constitution of the national organization.

Our purpose is to promote the highest type of conduct and sportsmanship at the various rodeos and to promote a closer relationship among the people interested in this activity and the organizations they represent.

Among the organizations that works hand-in-hand with the Florida

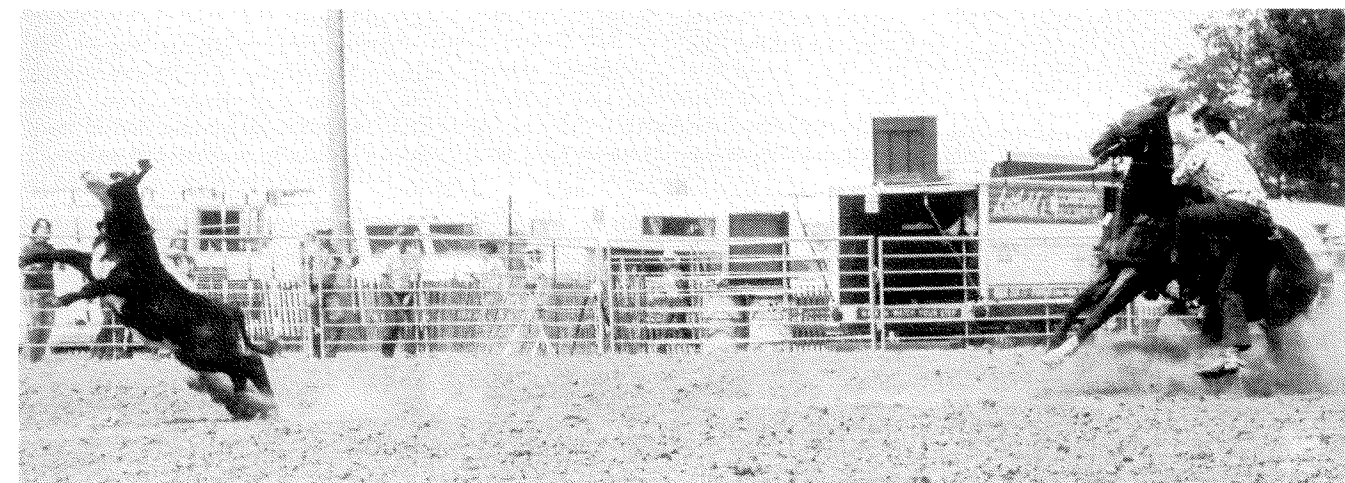
High School Rodeo Association are the FFA Chapters around the State, which have found that this is a very worthwhile venture for both organizations in many ways.

Jim Ward, advisor for the Palatka Chapter, says that this is an excellent opportunity for the students to work with people of the community. The rodeo provides experience in community work and planning of large functions. It publicizes the FFA Chapter and also the Florida High School Rodeo Association besides being an excellent money making project for both.

The Association is made up of 225 student members and 160 adult members. There are nine Board of Directors located around the state whose responsibility it is to see that the rules of the National Association are observed.

The membership is open to students who are under 20 at the first of the calendar year and have been enrolled in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. Students must be in good standing, not ruled undesirable for misconduct at school and have maintained the grade average set forth by

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At the national finals for High School rodeoers in Wisconsin last year, Blane Warwick, 17-year-old junior and member of the Palatka FFA Chapter, is shown making his catch. He was the 1974 Florida Team Roping Champion, selected at Kissimmee's Silver Spurs Arena in June, and one of the top calf ropers as well. In FFA he is an area Pulpwood Estimation winner, and a member of the FFA Rodeo Committee.

FFA RODEOERS

Continued from Last Page
the Florida High School Athletic Association. To become a member write to the State Secretary, Shirley N. Warwick, Box 3, East Palatka, Florida 32031, and ask for a membership application.

In 1974 Florida sent 21 team members to the National Finals which were held in Tomah, Wisconsin.

Out of those 21 contestants, nine made it to the top fifteen. Butch Lott, our student president, set a record by winning the Cutting Horse Event for the second year in a row.

Kirt Crabtree, Palatka, placed third in the Steer Wrestling, Debbie Perdue, Wauchula, placed third in the Barrel Racing.

This is competing against 800 other students. This rodeo or finals is considered and called the largest rodeo in the world. Two performances are held each day for seven days and the total paid attendance was 61,300 which broke the record set by Minnesota in 1964.

Judging Schools Held In Gainesville

The University of Florida Animal Science Department hosted over 1,200 FFA members from throughout Florida who attended our annual Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, and Meats Judging Schools.

Prof. Don Wakeman and Prof. Ken Durrance provided the classes of beef and swine along with reasons and explanations for placing the animals.

Dr. Jack Van Horn hosted the Dairy Judging Teams at the University's Dairy Research Unit at nearby Hague. Current trends in livestock selection and updated judging tech-

STATE OFFICERS

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THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION, FFA, is sponsored by State Department of Education, Ralph D. Turlington, Commissioner of Education; Joe D. Mills, Director of Vocational, Technical, and Adult Education, Tallahassee, Florida.



Edie Masters of Palatka FFA Chapter puts a fast wrap on her goat and won the trophy saddle for the state in 1974. She is 17.

niques were imparted to the attending FFA members.

Prof. Les Kalch schooled teachers and students alike in the latest methods of judging live poultry, dressed, market poultry, as well as internal and external egg quality.

Dr. A. Z. Palmer hosted the FFA Advisors at the Meats Laboratory in a Meats Judging School which brought out the latest changes in USAA meat standards.

36 Teams Are In Citrus Contest

The 1975 State Citrus Identification Contest was sponsored by Florida Citrus Showcase, in cooperation with Florida Association, Future Farmers of America, University of Florida Citrus Experiment Station, Lake Alfred, and Agricultural Education Section, State Department of Education.

Also providing specimens were Lake Garfield Nurseries and Haines City Growers Association.

Results were announced on

February 20 at the Showcase Building in Winter Haven.

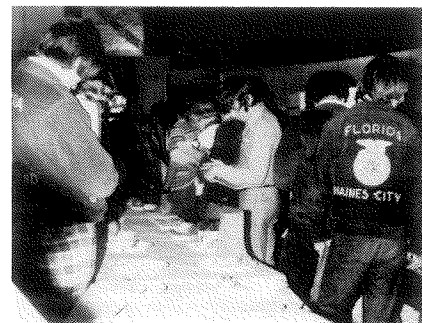
Students, representing 36 FFA Chapters, competed in identifying citrus rootstocks, leaves, fruit varieties, insects and diseases and nutritional disorders. Team placings are based on a maximum of 459.

The first place team was Dade City Senior with 387 points. Receiving the Rosette and \$75.00 were Jamey Best, Ed Larkin, Dean Gray, and Robert Bentley.

Second place went to Groveland Senior Chapter, composed of Geary McGregor, Mike Jones, Durell Tootle, and William Story. They received a Rosette and \$50.00. Their score was 374 points.

Third place was won by the Polk Vocational Tech Chapter, who received a Rosette and \$30.00. Members were Archie Campbell, Gary Smith, Ron DeLoach, and David Wolfe.

Individual winners were: 1st. Geary McGregor, Groveland Senior, 134 points; 2nd, Dean Gray, Dade City Senior, 134 points; 3rd, Jamey Best, Dade City Senior, 128 points.



Citrus Judging tested FFA knowledge. See winners page 8.



Gov. Askew Praises Agriculture in Proclamation of Feb. 15-22 As Future Farmer Week in State

STATE OF FLORIDA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the continued growth and stability of the economy of Florida is dependent upon a prosperous agriculture, and all Florida is indebted to those of our citizens who work close to the soil and who make Florida's agriculture prosper, and

Whereas, the Florida Association of Future Farmers of America organization is composed of students who are studying vocational agriculture in Florida secondary schools, preparing for future careers in agriculture in Florida, and

Whereas, the Florida Association of Future Farmers of America has as its major purposes developing leadership, encouraging cooperation, promoting good citizenship, teaching sound and modern methods of farming, agri-business and inspiring patriotism and love of country among the members, and

Whereas, for forty-seven years, since 1928, the Florida Association of Future Farmers of America has made an outstanding and vital contribution to the economic welfare and growth of all Florida, to the economic well being of all Florida citizens, and to the successful improvement of agricultural activities and opportunities, and

Whereas, Florida now has 260 active FFA chapters throughout the State, more than 13,000 presently active members and more than 125,000 former members, and

Whereas, all the members of the Florida Association of Future Farmers of America are performing vital and valuable community services and providing important and necessary leadership in the development of our agricultural economy and in the building for all of us a better State in which to live;

Now, therefore, I, Reubin O'D. Askew, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of February 15-22, 1975, as

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA WEEK

in Florida, and urge my fellow citizens to take notice of the many significant contributions being made by the Future Farmers of our State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 3rd day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-five.

Reubin O'D. Askew, Governor
Attest. Bruce A. Smathers, Secretary of State



Gov. Reubin Askew proclaimed Feb. 15-22 as Florida FFA Week.

State Judging Contests Were a Big Success

On March 1, the University of Florida's College of Agriculture hosted 1500 FFA members and advisors for our annual State Judging Contests.

Dean C. B. Browning held receptions for the teachers in attendance. We appreciate, very much the cooperation we receive from the College of Agriculture in making this event a success.

Results in all contests were mailed to all teachers and are listed below with chapters listed in order of their ranking:

Meats Contest

Hardee County Sr. 2160; South Sumter Sr. 2011; Hardee County Jr. 1993; South Sumter Jr. 1972; Dade City Senior 1969; J G Smith 1921; Orlando Colonial 1900; Crescent City 1887; Tate Senior 1860; Palatka Senior 1861;

Interlachen 1794; East Bay Senior 1789; Bradford Senior 1784; Baker County 1713; Crystal River 1705; Vanguard Senior 1691; Zephyrhills Sr. 1683; Tate Junior 1678; Groveland Senior 1668; Sebring High 1628;

Ponce De Leon Hi 1604; Sante Fe Senior 1599; Graceville 1579; Pahokee 1559; Chiefland Senior 1518; Bethlehem 1497; Bradford

Junior 1486; Union Park 1485; Belle Glade 1480; Miami Agri. Sch. 1477;

Cottdale 1465; Wildwood Junior 1458; Bell 1451; Hamilton Co. Sr. 1426; Williston Senior 1410; Winter Haven Sr. 1398; Auburndale Senior 1371; Okeechobee 1351; Turkey Creek Jr. and Wakulla High 1350 (tie);

Madison Gary 1337; Williston Junior 1325; Avon Park 1295; Santa Fe Junior 1052; Gainesville Agri Bu. 1029.

Dairy Contest

Santa Fe Senior 1171; Plant City Sr. 1169; Dade City Senior 1157; New Port Richey 1143; Wildwood Senior 1131; New Smyrna Senior 1122; Okeechobee Senior 1120; Zephyrhills Senior 1119; Lakeland Senior 1117; Callahan Junior and Auburndale Senior 1113 (tie);

Cottdale 1111; East Bay Senior 1101; Newberry Junior 1095; Groveland 1092; Citrus 1090; Chiefland Senior 1089; Santa Fe Junior 1087; Hardee Senior 1085; Crystal Lake Jr. 1084;

Bronson 1079; Newberry Senior and Malone 1078 (tie); Vanguard Senior 1075; Lake Butler Jr. 1074; Pensacola Tate and Hawthorne and Trenton 1074 (tie); South Sumter Jr. 1073; DeLand Senior and West

Nassau 1071 (tie);

Bradford Senior and Bartow Senior and South Sumter Senior 1070 (tie); Union Park Junior 1069; Brandon Senior 1066; Bell and Suwannee and Land O' Lakes 1064 (tie); Miami 1062;

Chumuckla and Madison Gary 1058 (tie); Pahokee 1056; Palatka Junior 1055; South Dade 1054; Coconut Creek 1053.

Allentown 1052; Seminole Pinellas 1050; Deerfield Beach and Umatilla 1047 (tie); Plant City Jr. 1046; Munson 1045; Hardee Junior and Dowdell Tampa 1044 (tie); Zephyrhills Junior 1043; Interlachen 1041;

Bonifay 1040; Ft. Meade 1034; J D Smith 1033; Osceola Senior 1032; Chiefland Junior 1030; Pompano 1029; Williston Jr. and Okeechobee Junior 1024 (tie); Branford 1023; Moore Haven 1019;

Lafayette 1016; Sanford Senior 1015; Orlando Colonial 1012; Palatka Senior 1009; Apopka Junior 1007; Bunnell 1005; Milton 1004; Gainesville Ag. Bus. and Wildwood Junior 999 (tie);

Graceville 997; Godby and Sebring 996 (tie); Jay 994; Buchanan Junior 993; Bartow Junior 984;

Chipley and New Smyrna Junior 979 (tie); Bethlehem 976; St. Lucie 973;

Mulberry 968; Clermont 967; Baker Fla. 965; Turkey Creek Jr. 964; Vernon 960; Wakulla 957; Ponce De Leon 941; Hudson Senior 933; McLane Junior 930; Bradford Junior 929;

Evans Orlando 906; Altha 864; Calhoun Blountstown 852; Crescent City 796; Columbia 646; Van Buren 602; Columbia Senior 599.

Poultry Contest

Dade City Senior 1178; Bradford Senior 1127; Auburndale Senior 1122; Santa Fe Senior 1120; South Sumter Senior 1103; Santa Fe Junior and Bradford Junior 1103 (tie); Dade City Junior 1097; East Bay Senior 1077; Zephyrhills Senior 1075;

Interlachen 1067; Miami 1059; South Sumter Junior 1038; Fort Meade Jr-Sr. Hi. 1036; Citrus 1032; DeLand Senior 1030; Graceville 1027; South Dade 1026; Bartow Sr. 1021; East Bay Junior 1019;

Hudson 1011; Nassau County 1002; Williston Jr. 995; Tampa Dowdell 992; Eisenhower 982; Brandon 981; Chipley 971; Vanguard Senior 963; Coconut Creek 961; Union Park Jr. 960;

Land O' Lakes 959; Seminole Pinellas 951; Trenton 949; Deerfield Beach 946; Bonifay 936; Baker County and Palatka Junior 930 (tie); Zephyrhills Junior 917; Greensboro 901; Bethlehem 878;

Cottdale 864; Lakeland Senior and Bartow Junior 857 (tie); Hamilton County Sr. 849; Ponce De Leon 836; Frostproof 828; Bunnell 824; Madison Gary 750; Buchanan 531.

Livestock Contest

Dade City Senior 1143; Williston Senior 1125; Chiefland Senior 1116; Sante Fe Senior 1077; Plant City Senior 1061; Citrus High 1060; Newberry Senior 1059; Colonial 1044; South Sumter Senior 1042; Greensboro 1034;

Malone 1021; Ocala Forest 1020; Trenton 1018; Cross City 1017; Okeechobee 1015; Allentown 1006; Tate Senior 1004; Hardee Senior 1002; Bronson 996; Union Park Junior 988;

Plant City Jr. 987; Williston Junior 964; Newberry Junior 963; Tate Junior 960; Wildwood Senior 956; Tomlin Junior 951; Chiefland Junior and East Bay Senior 946 (tie); Land O Lakes Jr. 941; Bunnell 932;

Groveland Senior 930; South Sumter Junior 927; Marianna 926; Moore Haven 925; Groveland Junior 923; Vanguard Senior 920; Dade City Junior 915; Cottdale 910; Palatka Junior 909; Hawthorne High 902;



State Citrus Contest winners from Dade City Senior Chapter pose following the competition, left to right: Mr. Floyd Philmon, advisor; Robert Bentley, Dean Gray, Jamey Best and Ed Larkin.

Leesburg 894; Miami 893; Palatka Senior 892; Hamilton County Sr. 886; J G Smith 880; Riverdale High 872; Umatilla 869; Taylor High 867; Munson 858;

Graceville and Santa Fe Junior 855 (tie); Okeechobee Junior 851; Walkulla 847; Baker County 844; Lake Butler Senior 841; Chipley 839; Liberty County 835; Avon Park 834; Ponce De Leon 828;

E F McLane Junior 826; Crystal Lake Jr. 824; Bethlemen 822; Bradford Senior 820; DeLand Senior and Auburndale Senior 818 (tie); Chumuckla and Lake Butler Junior 811 (tie); Zephyrhills Senior 810; Madison Gary 807;

Bonifay 804; North Marion Jr. 801; Bartow Junior 799; Bradford Junior 795; Lake Wales Senior 793; Coconut Creek High and Immokalee 792 (tie); Wildwood Junior 788; Sebring 786;

Altha and Brandon Senior 780 (tie); Interlachen 778; Venon and Branford 776 (tie); Lafayette 771; Pahokee 769; New Smyrna Junior 768; West Nassau 767; Serund Largo 766;

Eisenhower Junior High 764; D A Storms Jr. 753; Jay and Van Buren 749 (tie); Turkey Creek Jr 745; Fort Pierce 741; Live Oak 739; Largo 736; Bartow Senior 733; Hardee Junior 732;

DeSoto Senior 731; Horace Mann Jr. 728; Hamilton County Jr and Mulberry 727 (tie); Deerfield Beach 726; Crystal River 719; Seminole Pinellas 717; Barker 715; Dowdell Junior 706; Blountstown 691;

Lake Wales Junior 680; Crescent City 671; Clermont Lake 670; Columbia 660; Evans 658; Belle Glade 646; Havana 638; Greco Junior 631; North Marion Sr. 623; New Smyrna Senior 621;

DeSoto Middle 614; Gainesville Agri-Bu. 583; Bell 582; Buchanan 579; Leon 569; Hilliard Junior 568.

Careers Are FFA Product

The key to success in the search for tomorrow's career is a sound vocational education program. When combined with an active FFA chapter in which members learn by doing, the program unites youth with career opportunities in agriculture.

The vocational agriculture FFA program of career education strives to match the individual's skills and potentials with likely opportunities which the student may find interesting and relevant.

The expansion of career opportunities in the American agri-complex is not new. Many people are needed to do the millions of "jobs" necessary to keep the agri-complex moving. What is new is the emphasis being placed on the broad spectrum of careers in the total field of agribusiness.

Frequently members have the opportunity to put their classroom knowledge to use in an occupational experience program with an agribusiness firm, thus expanding the opportunities available to FFA members beyond the traditional production agriculture.

FFA provides its members an opportunity to develop their personal and career potentials, such as assuming responsibility, taking the lead, speaking out for what they believe, working with others and making decisions.

These and many other ways FFA unites youth with their opportunities.

State Fair Activity Less—but 1000 Compete There

There was no traditional FFA Day Program at the Florida State Fair again this year.

Approximately 1,000 FFA members attended the Fair, however, to take part in the Judging Contest held in the livestock area. though this was quite a contrast from the usual 6,000 in the past.

Judging activities were conducted on a local basis and the results had no bearing on future contest participation. The state judging contests were in Gainesville on March 1.

Results in the Livestock Judging Contest were: Baker County first with 509 points; Hardee County Junior, second with 496; Plant City Senior was third with 494.

Dairy Judging Contest winners were: Brandon first with 570; Miami Senior, second with 566; Plant City Senior, third with 533.

Poultry Contest winners were East Bay Senior, first with 593 points. Dade City Senior, second with 587 points.



Bruce Niceley of Lake City was one of 75 FFA members who exhibited beef and dairy cattle at the Florida State Fair in Tampa.

National Officers Of FFA

ALPHA E. TRIVETTE, a 20-year-old agribusinessman from Ladysmith, Va., is the 1974-75 National FFA President. Because of limited farming opportunities at home, Alpha decided as a sophomore to pursue an agribusiness related course of study which included placement for work experience in several local businesses. Since enrolling in the vocational agriculture program, Alpha worked as a clerk in the local farm cooperative, then as a clerk and maintenance man for an oil company. For the last three years he worked as a maintenance and repairman for a service center specializing in tune-up and repair of small gasoline engines.

An active leader in the FFA and in his high school, Alpha served as secretary, and president of the Ladysmith FFA Chapter. He was president of the Virginia FFA Association in 1973-74 and throughout his four year enrollment in vocational agriculture, Alpha participated in numerous FFA contests at the federation and state levels. For two years Alpha was captain of the Ladysmith baseball team, and in 1973 he was co-captain of the basketball team. He was a delegate to Virginia Boys State and served from 1970-74 at the state level on the Keep Virginia Green Committee. He was an honor graduate from Ladysmith High School in 1973.

Alpha plans to enter college and major in agricultural education after the completion of his year in office.

D. SCOTT McKAIN, a 20 year old agribusiness student from Crothersville, Indiana, is the National FFA Secretary. During the four years he was enrolled in vocational agriculture, Scott maintained a small beef herd but his main agriculture related experience has been in radio broadcasting. Since 1969 Scott has been employed by radio station WMPI first as an announcer then as farm director and more recently as both program director and farm director. As farm director for the station, Scott has become well known throughout the agricultural community as the voice of local agriculture.

Since enrolling in the vocational agriculture program, service to the FFA has been one of Scott's major goals. He was district sentinel and

July 4 Will Be FFA Day at Kissimmee Rodeo

Future Farmers are invited to attend the Friday, July 4, 1975, performance of the 32d Silver Spurs Independence Day Rodeo, where FFA will be especially recognized, according to Davis Bateman, Osceola Senior High School FFA Advisor, and this year's Silver Spurs Big Boss or president.

FFA members attending are urged to wear clothing with Future

Farmer emblems visible. Admission charges are \$2, \$3, \$4 or \$5, and groups may make an advance phone call to 305/847-5118, or write Silver Spurs, P.O. Box 1909, Kissimmee, Fla., 32741, to have seats saved in any one of the price sections until 30 minutes before show time. FFA members will be seated together if advance reservations are made in this manner.

vice president, and was vice president, secretary, and president of the Crothersville FFA Chapter. In 1973-74 Scott was president of the Indiana FFA Association. He was a member of the chapter parliamentary procedure team and participated in numerous public speaking contests. A member and officer in the National Honor Society, Scott was a class officer for three years. He was a member of the school debate club and in 1972 he participated in Indiana Boys State where he was runner-up for Governor.

Scott is majoring in pre-law at Franklin College in Indiana with a goal of becoming involved in agricultural politics. He has taken a leave of absence from his college studies for the next year to devote full time to his duties as National FFA Secretary.

GARY W. KELLY, 20 of Ripley, W. Va., is the North Atlantic Region Vice President. Gary lives on a crop and livestock farm and maintains a cattle and crop farming operation in partnership with his parents. He is a graduate of Ripley High School.

At the present time Gary has 50 percent ownership in 53 head of beef cattle, 40 acres of corn and 50 acres of hay. He has built his interest in the farming operation from one calf and a small swine project to his current share in the 350 acre family farming operation.

An active FFA member, Gary served first as secretary and later as president of the Ripley Chapter. In 1972 he was secretary of the West Virginia FFA Association, and in 1973 he was elected president of the Association. As a participant in the FFA Public Speaking Contest, Gary won the State FFA Public Speaking Contest in 1972 and placed second in the regional eliminations for the National FFA Public Speaking Contest. He also participated in the livestock, land judging, and parliamentary procedure contests at the local, district, and state levels. In other high school activities Gary was

Rotary Student of the Month, and was on the track team. He recently served on the West Virginia Hall of Fame Committee and was on the Rural Economic/Environmental Committee.

Prior to his election as National Vice President, Gary was enrolled in West Virginia University where his major was agricultural economics. He plans a career in agribusiness following graduation.

PETER D. GIACOMINI, a 19 year old dairy farmer from Ferndale, Calif., is the Pacific Region Vice President. Peter began his dairy project ten years ago with the gift of a registered Guernsey calf from his father. Since enrolling in the high school vocational agricultural program as a freshman, he has built his dairy herd from six head to thirty-six heifers and cows. Peter houses and cares for his herd on his parent's Clover Jack Farm, providing labor in return for the use of facilities and equipment.

In the FFA, Peter has a background of leadership and service to local and California FFA members. He served as chapter president in 1971-72, was area president in 1972-73, and was state president in 1973-74. A member of the chapter parliamentary procedure team, Peter participated in the public speaking contest and was on the California Dairy Cattle Judging Team that represented the state at the 1972 National FFA Convention.

BART BRASHEARS, 20, of Alex, Oklahoma, is the Southern Region Vice President. An experienced FFA leader, Bart has a small beef operation and has worked extensively in local and regional agribusiness firms. In addition to his production projects Bart has been involved in the family custom harvest and trucking business. He has also had extensive business experience off the farm in local agribusiness firms working first

Continued on Page 8



What we found in this Florida peanut field wasn't peanuts.

Up until 1970, Jay was a small, peaceful city on the Florida Panhandle where peanuts, soybeans and cotton were grown.

Visit Jay today and you'd still see a small, peaceful city on the Florida Panhandle where peanuts, soybeans and cotton are grown. Plus some new things which you wouldn't see unless you searched for them. Oil wells.

The Jay Field, which extends into southern Alabama, is the biggest oil discovery on the U.S. mainland in more than ten years. And it's now good for more than a billion gallons of oil a year.

The important story about Jay is not just the oil field. It's how an oil



field can fit into a quiet farming community without turning it upside down.

Before the field became operational, Exxon and other oil companies commissioned an extensive study of the existing environment around Jay. The quality of the water,

the land and the air were all measured and evaluated. Today, Exxon uses these measurements as a guideline in the operation of all their Jay facilities.

We think this is a good example of how the oil industry can coexist with a rural environment. Because the oil from this field is needed to help meet the energy needs in America. And we're proving we can get it without messing up a way of life in Jay.



OFFICERS

Continued from Page 6

as a trainee for the U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Service, then for the First National Bank and Trust Company of Chickasha, Oklahoma, and most recently for Farmland Industries, Inc., of Kansas City, Mo.

Bart was president of the Alex FFA Chapter for two years from 1970-72. He served the Oklahoma FFA Association as secretary in 1972-73 and as president in 1973-74. In public speaking competition Bart won contests at the chapter, district, and state levels. He also participated on the chapter parliamentary procedure team.

A member of the Oklahoma honor society for three years, Bart was editor of his school newspaper, was on the high school football and track teams, and was selected for Boys State. At Oklahoma State University where he recently began his junior year, Bart is a member of the Farm House and Alpha Zeta fraternities. He was named one of OSU's top ten freshmen, serves on the President's Council, and was on the Dean's Honor Roll.

Although he is currently on a leave of absence from Oklahoma State University to serve as a National FFA Officer, Bart plans to continue his education in agricultural economics.

GERRIT DeBRUIN, a 20-year-old dairyman from Monroe, Wis., is the Central Region Vice President. Gerrit began his supervised experience program as a freshman in vocational agriculture with three Brown Swiss cows, a sow and litter. Although he discontinued the swine operation, Gerrit has continued to build his dairy herd to a total of 12 animals at the present time. He maintains his herd with the family dairy herd and works closely with his father and other family members in the total farming operation.

An immediate past president of the Wisconsin FFA Association, Gerrit has been an active FFA member throughout his four years in vocational agriculture. He served the Juda FFA Chapter as secretary in 1970-71 and as president in 1971-72 prior to being elected vice president of the Wisconsin FFA Association in 1972-73. He participated in farm management, dairy cattle and land judging contests at the district and state levels.

Alvarez Convention Talk Reported

by Jimmy Alvarez
National FFA Vice President
1973-74 Pres., Florida FFA

Retiring Address, Nat'l Convention

It's with a bit of uncertainty that I make my final remarks as an FFA officer. Should it be my farewell to the organization and the people that have become so much a part of me? Certainly, I want that to be a part of it, but there are some other thoughts I'd like to share with you.

This year has been full of much excitement and new acquaintances. I feel very fortunate to have had such an opportunity. I owe my deepest thanks to all of you who have been a part of this year, but most of all to the five other officers who have shared every part of this year with me.

This year, more than any other year in our lives, has been a chance for us to grow and mature. That's one of the reasons we've chosen "A Chance For Growth" as the theme for next year. But it's not only a chance for growth to national officers or state officers. It's a chance for growth to every FFA member who's willing to take advantage of it.

This year more than anything else has given me a chance to get to know people, and to know about people. So many things have changed in the past few years. Such great transitions have taken place in so many areas that we've become convinced that people have changed just as much. But this year I've come to realize that people are still just people, everywhere you go. They have the same basic needs and dreams that people have had for generations past. They still need to be part of what's going on. They dream of enjoying life and making an even better one for those who follow. They hope to make some kind of contribution to this world, to leave it a better place than it was when they entered it. But, because of some of the same problems that have faced peoples of all times, lack of self-confidence and drive, they sometimes fall short of the goal.

Everyone wants to excel, but few can give themselves that extra push they need. Few believe they can excel. We spend half of our time wishing for things that we could have, if we didn't spend half our time wishing. Dreams are fine, but it takes action to make those dreams a reality.

So far you might notice I haven't

made any definite points. But there are two ideas I've had in mind. First of all, we're all just people. Each person is an individual having their own problems and talents, but we're still just people. And being like everyone else makes you just as good, just as valuable as anyone else. Don't ever think you have to fit yourself into a pattern that someone else has made. Be who and what you are and let that be your pattern.

And my final challenge to you is to be a mover of people. Multitudes are out there longing to be inspired. That's not too hard to do because people want to be inspired, they want to be excited. But it takes a little more effort to move, to motivate those people into action.

Too many people have stopped moving forward, they've become stagnant and they need help to get going again. Where will help come from? Someone has to do it. That someone could be you. You might say "Why should I spend my time helping those other people? Why is it my responsibility? Why should I be a mover of people?"

To those questions, as I've done so many times before, I will answer simply "Why not?" You can move people but there's a good chance you never will. You ask me why? I answer, "Why not?"

Stage Band Planned For Convention

Any FFA member who is qualified to play in a stage band and would like to play in the state conventions first FFA Stage Band, please write the FFA Executive Secretary for an application. The band will assemble and play at the State FFA Convention this June 9-13 in Orlando.

Kissimmee Site of High School Finals

The 1975 Florida High School Rodeo Finals will again be held in the 12,000 seat Silver Spurs Stadium, located between Kissimmee and St. Cloud on U.S. 192-441 near Turnpike Exit 65.

Shows will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 13-14-15, and the winners will be sent to the national finals being held this year in Gallup, N. Mex.