

VIRGINIA
STATE
FFA NEWS

CHAPTER
CHATS

Presented by the Virginia FFA Association,
the Student Organization of students
studying Agricultural Education in Virginia.

State FFA Convention *Highlights*



State Star Farmer, Chris Reamy, Park View
Pictured with parents



State Star in Agribusiness,
Rebecca Begoon, Spotswood
Pictured with Mr. Mike Wanger and
Mr. W.W. Cupp, Advisors

1998-99 State FFA Officers

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ben Grove
Virginia FFA
President

Well, school's back in, classes have started, and one more summer has faded into history. Is it me, or do they get shorter every year? For my fellow state officers and myself, this summer signified the beginning of our year of service to the Virginia FFA Association. After State Convention, Daniel and I attended the dedication of the new National FFA Center in Indianapolis, IN and spent a week in Washington DC, for State President's Conference. We had the chance to meet President

Clinton, have breakfast in the Capitol with congressmen from across the country, and meet other state officers from all fifty states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. As a team, we had our orientation and BLAST OFF training at Smithfield, hosted the National Leadership Conference for State Officers in Blacksburg, and have begun to plan our year of service to you and your chapters.

All ten of us are very excited about the year we are devoting to this great organization, and look forward to seeing many of you throughout the coming months. I encourage you to write or call us as the year progresses, as we are learning what it means to be a state officer, and would enjoy hearing from you. This is a landmark year for the National FFA Organization, as Kansas City will say good-bye to the National Convention in November, just as Indianapolis welcomed the Center in July. Virginia FFA will have a historical year this year as well, for each of you will write your own chapter in the story of our association. There are so many opportunities to take advantage of, people to meet, and experiences to be had, if only you take the initiative to get involved. Whether this is your first year in the FFA or your sixth, I wish you the best as you discover and enjoy all FFA has to offer, and I look forward to a great year for the Virginia FFA!

Take care, and God Bless.

Ben Grove
Virginia FFA President



CENTRAL GRADUATE MEETS PRESIDENT

Former Central High School graduate, Dana Fisher, of Maurertown met President William Clinton as well as Vice President Al Gore at the White House. Fisher was serving on a panel examining ways to discourage underage use of tobacco. Other participants included Gold Medallist Tara Lipinski, Sam Donaldson, and Jesse Jackson. Dana served in this capacity because of his office this year as National Vice President of the FFA.



Fisher has covered a lot of territory since taking over last November. This year he has traveled to Japan, Hawaii, Alaska, toured several business and industries including Pillsbury, Cargill, Dekalb, Caterpillar, Keystone Steel and National Rifle Association Headquarters. He has ventured to the Virgin Islands, California, Washington, and spoken at the Virginia FFA State Convention in June, just to name a few. Dana has taken a leave of absence from Virginia Tech and will resume his studies there following his year of service. Dana is the son of Jerry and Patricia Fisher of Maurertown, and maintains his membership in the Central FFA Chapter.

A Message from the State FFA Executive Secretary

Welcome to the second year of Chapter Chats included as an insert to New Horizons. I hope that you are enjoying this change and see it as a positive one for you and our association. We hope to continue to do this in the future but we need your help. If your chapter holds a meeting, sponsors an activity in school or the community, or takes a trip, we want to know about it. Wouldn't you like to see your name and picture in a publication that reaches over 10,000 people? All you have to do is simply send an article and photo to the state association office at the address on the inside cover of this publication and it will be included in a future issue. With your help we will be able to continue having this publication be a part of New Horizons. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

C. Fannon
State FFA Executive Secretary

1998 VIRGINIA FFA STATE CONVENTION CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Agricultural Issues

Turner Ashby HS Team Members: Natasha Shantz, Tiffany Simpson, Holly Bennett, Melissa Kenny, David McIntyre, and Coach Mr. C.C. Shiflet, Jr.

Agricultural Mechanics

George Wythe HS Team Members: Nate Akers, Bobby Simmerman, Josh Hancock, and Coach Mr. Tony Rudolph

Agricultural Sales

Fort Defiance HS Team Members: Ashlie Gutshall, Kara Michael, Beth Blackwell, Kenny Hyden, and Coach Mr. Andy Seibel

Agricultural Science and Mechanics

Appomattox HS Team Members: Jason Jamerson, Michael Cunningham, Dustin Reynolds, and Coach Mr. Albert Carter

Agriscience Technology Mechanics (Middle School)

Central MS Team Members: Adam Eggleston, Justin Layne, Daniel McCraw, Joey Carey, and Coach Mr. Jim Pugh

Companion and Small Animal (Middle School)

Stuarts Draft MS Team Members: Heather Hewitt, Michele Wiseman, Tanya Fitzgerald and Coach Mr. Garland King

Computer Applications

Bart Kite, Page Co. HS

Creed Speaking

Derek Ritenour, Peter Muhlenberg MS

Crops Judging

Central HS Team Members: Becky Heishman, Sarah George, Mark Brill, Hubbel French, and Coach Mr. George Bowers



Michael Faulk, Lakeland HS, State Winner in Oil Crop Production Placement accepts award from Virginia FFA Foundation Chair, Mrs. Billie Jean Elmer



Dairy Judging

Spotswood HS Team Members: Rebecca Begoon, Bryan Breeden, Alex Welsh, Meg Welsh, and Coach Mr. W.W. Cupp

Dairy Showmanship

Jack Hinton, Riverheads HS

Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Johnny Davis, Atlee HS

Farm Business Management

Carroll County HS Team Members: Michael Shockley, Barry Lineberry, Scott Russell, Richard Webb, and Coach Mr. Wayne Combs

Floriculture

Laurel Park HS Team Members: Dwayne Swanson, Mylinh Nguyen, Brian Fisher, and Coach Mrs. Deborah Barker

Food and Fiber (Middle School)

Robert E. Aylor MS Team Members: Shane Taylor, Kyle Hopkins, Jimmy Huffman, and Coach Mr. Mike Gochenour

Horse Judging

Tazewell HS Team Members: Carrie Cline, Katie Zier, Robin Corell, Seth Perry, and Coach Mr. Robert Moss

Livestock Judging

Fort Defiance HS Team Members: Wes Begoon, J.T. Begoon, Wes Marshall, Phillip Steiner, and Coach Mr. Dave Shiflett

Marketing Plan Project

Fort Defiance HS Team Members: Daniel Lauro, Josh Puffenbarger, Ashlie Kiracofe, and Coach Mr. Andy Seibel

DEVELOPMENT EVENT WINNERS



VIRGINIA STATE FFA CONVENTION

State Winning Floriculture team
from Laurel Park

Meats Judging

James Wood HS Team Members: Brad Hodgson, Jeremy Lauck, Josh Lauck, Karen Sutphin, and Coach Mr. Ken Smith

Nursery/Landscape

Laurel Park HS Team Members: Donna Kendrick, Amanda Meeks, Leslie Hall, and Coach Mrs. Deborah Barker

Plant and Seed Identification (Middle School)

Bluestone MS Members: John Jerone Revis, Ben Moss, Nathan Buttgen, Shalonda Grinan, and Coach Mr. Jeff Kackley

Poultry

Spotswood HS Team Members: Wes Deviers, Elizabeth Dofflemeyer, Jay Lucas, Clayton Morris, and Coach Mr. W.W. Cupp

Jr. Prepared Public Speaking

Jaelyn Roller, Strasburg

Sr. Prepared Public Speaking

Tara Sellers, Broadway HS

Quiz Bowl Written Test (Middle School)

Signal Knob MS Team Members: Casey Kenyon, Amy Neff, Jason Simmons, Maria Arellano, and Coach Mr. Jim Hisghman

Quiz Bowl Oral (Middle School)

North Fork MS Team Members: John Dellinger, Alison Nottingham, Emily Benson, Rebecca Crist, and Coaches Ms. Debbie Heishman and Ms. Tonja Cupp

Tractor Operators

Justin Shomo, Riverheads

Convention Award Recognitions

Agriscience Student of the Year (Middle School)

Ashley Tharrington, Park View MS

Agriscience Student of the Year (High School)

Nick Yopp, Christiansburg

National Chapter Award Winner - Overall

Central HS

Middle School

Signal Knob MS

Chapter Development Winner

Central HS

Chapter Forestry Winner

Fauquier

Chapter Wildlife Winner

Fauquier

Community Development

Park View HS

Computers in Agriculture - Sr. Division

Isaac Carey, Christiansburg;

Jr. Division

Matthew Elam, Park View MS

H.O. Sargent Award - Member Category

Trey Keyser, Page County

Non-Member Category

Dr. Jordan Hudson, Virginia State University

Jimmy & Donna Dean Scholarship

Tara Sellers, Broadway HS

State Star in Agribusiness

Rebecca Begoon, Spotswood

State Star Farmer

Chris Reamy, Park View

Student Development Winner

Stonewall Jackson



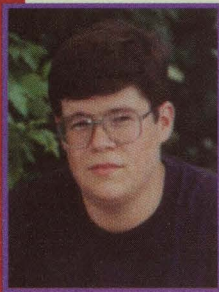
VIRGINIA STATE FFA CONVENTION

Mr. Ed Long, sponsor, congratulates
Derek Ritenour from Peter Muhlenberg
MS with the State
Winning Creed plaque.



BEN GROVE, PRESIDENT

Hello Virginia FFA! Just to let you know a little about who's behind the blue and gold jacket, I live outside of Churchville with my Mom and Dad, my older brothers Chris and Tim, and my younger sister, Laura. I graduated from Turner Ashby High School in 1997, and last year I attended Virginia Tech, majoring in Animal and Poultry Science. At Virginia Tech I am active in the Dairy Club and work for University Development. I've decided to take a year off from college, but I plan to resume classes in the fall of 1999. While in high school my SAE consisted of Market Hogs and Lambs, and a lawn care service. My favorite Career Development Events (CDEs) are Ag Sales, Parliamentary Procedure, and Public Speaking. Outside of FFA, I was a member of the Rockingham County 4H and attend Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren. As for the future, I would like to finish my degree at Virginia Tech and pursue a career in agriculture. I can't say how excited I am about the coming year, only that it will be an experience I will never forget!

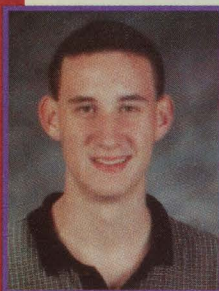


MICHAEL SHOCKLEY, APPALACHIAN VICE PRESIDENT

I am a man of few words, as my fellow officers will attest, yet what I lack in verbal communication I make up for in my actions. After all, a wise man once said, "What you are communicates so much more than what you say." My FFA career began in eighth grade, a time when my interest in this organization was very limited. I only competed in one career development event and I don't even remember going to the meetings. The following year my chapter's victory in the Forestry Field Day competition at the State Fair inspired me to attempt other FFA ventures, a decision that marked the beginning of the greatest experience I have ever known. By my junior year, I was elected to my first office as Chaplain, and the following year I was elected as Chapter President. From there I went on to achieve my current office of Appalachian Area Vice President.

During my tenure in the FFA I have experienced the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat, the glory of first place and the bittersweet melancholy of third. I know how the weight of the world bears heavy on your shoulders as you attempt your first public speaking event and I know the carefree aspirations of time spent with friends at the state convention. I have experienced all these situations and emotions, but that which I long to know most is all of you, the FFA members. I welcome any letters or phone calls, which will help me, get to know you better. If you ever need anyone to talk to for any reason, I'll be there for you.

I look forward to serving you as a state officer. As we are the last officer team before the turn of the century, we hope to end this millennium with a bang. Farewell and God bless you, each and everyone.

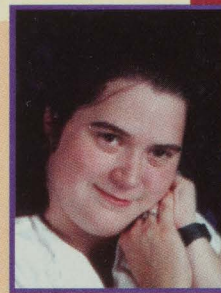


WARREN McLELLAN, SOUTHSIDE VICE PRESIDENT

A current senior at Park View High School, Warren is serving as the Southside Area Vice President. He has been very active in the FFA. He has participated in Soils, Forestry, Parliamentary Procedure and Public Speaking. He has served his chapter as Vice President and President. Warren's future plans include pursuing a degree in economics at a university. After college he hopes to work for an international corporation.

ELIZA BALDWIN, CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone, my name is Eliza Baldwin and I am the State FFA Vice President from the Central Area. I have been involved with the FFA for the past seven years. At first I was not interested in the FFA for the simple fact that I did not know what it was. I was inspired to join the FFA in the eighth grade by a state officer who was from our hometown. Although I joined the FFA, I was not interested in being active and was dared to try a competition in Crops, and fell in love with the FFA. Throughout the years as an FFA member, I have competed in many activities as well as help teams prepare for competition. I was the first at our chapter to be on two state winning teams, Crops Judging and Farm Business management, as well as many community activities that we did each year. Even while I attended Virginia Tech in Dairy Science I still went home on some weekends and helped park cars and other activities that our chapter participated in. The FFA was not the only activity in which I participated. I am currently a member of the Virginia Tech Dairy Club and the Rockfish Valley Volunteer Rescue Squad. I have set many goals for myself both as a person and as a state officer. I plan to finish my education at Virginia tech and attend vet school and serve you as an officer the best that I can. For you, I challenge you to do your best and never give up on your goals.



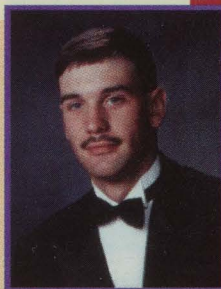
CHRIS BIELMYER, EASTERN VICE PRESIDENT

My name is Christopher Bielmyer and I am serving as the Virginia Eastern Area Vice President for the 1998-1999 year. I live in Wilson, Virginia, with my parents, Ervin and Janice Bielmyer and my sister, Carrie.

I'm a member of the 1998 graduating class of Dinwiddie County High School and I'm attending Richard Bland College. I plan to attend Virginia Tech in the future to major in Feed Nutrition for Beef and Dairy Cattle.

I work on a nearby dairy farm where I have been employed for the past four years and enjoy my work there. On my free time, I enjoy hunting, fishing, going out with friends, building things and training my hunting dogs.

I hope to meet many new people this year and visit FFA chapters across my area and the state. Hope to see you!



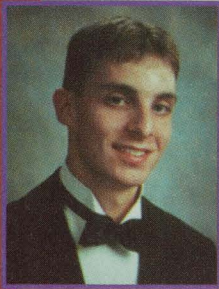
TARINDA SHOWMAN, NORTHERN VICE PRESIDENT

Hi, I'm Tarinda Showman, serving as your 1998-1999 Virginia Sate FFA Northern Area Vice president. I live and work on our family dairy farm in Conicville, which is just outside of Mt. Jackson. Along with the farm, I work at Shenandoah Telephone Company as an operator and also as a waitress at a seasonal job at Shrine Mont Hotel.

This past year, I graduated from Stonewall Jackson High School and am currently attending Lord Fairfax Community College. While in high school, I was a member or the Stonewall Jackson FFA Chapter. I served as our chapter president as well as the Massanutten Federation President during my senior year. I participated in numerous events throughout my four years in high school. Among my favorites were Public Speaking, Dairy Judging, and Parliamentary Procedure. Several Leadership conferences I attended include: Made for Excellence, Washington Leadership Conference and federation leadership workshops. I plan to attend Lord Fairfax Community College for the next two years, then transfer to Virginia Tech. At Virginia Tech I hope to fulfill my life time goal of becoming a teacher (I will be majoring in Agricultural Education). Upon graduation, I hope to settle back in the Shenandoah Valley and teach at a local high school.

I am excited about meeting fellow members across the state and nation this year. I hope to meet many of you throughout my year in office. I am looking foreword to serving the Virginia FFA Association.



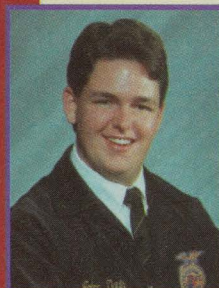
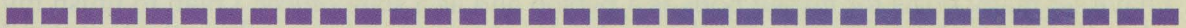


DANIEL LAURO, SECRETARY

Hello, Virginia FFA. I am Daniel Lauro and I will be serving as State Secretary for the year.

I am a graduate of Fort Defiance HS where I was involved with many of my chapter's activities. I participated on numerous teams including Ag Sales, Marketing, and Soils. My SAE's are Ag Processing and Home and Community Development. I was also a member of many other organizations in my school such as SCA, Drama Club, Spanish Club, and many others.

My family, my Italian heritage, and my faith are very important to me. I love rodeo, music, and the sport of boxing. I will be taking a few classes at a community college this year and plan to go to Virginia Tech next year to become a Corporate/Agricultural lawyer. I would also like to get involved in politics and own a small ranch. One of my favorite things to do is meet people, so I can't wait to meet and get to know all of you!



JOHNNY DAVIS, TREASURER

I'm Johnny Davis, the State Treasurer, and it is my pleasure to give you all a little background of my background.

I am one of three kids, one brother and one sister, and I call Hanover County home. In June I graduated from Atlee High School, where I served as a two term Chapter President. During my FFA career, I have tried many Career Development Events including Extemporaneous and Prepared Public Speaking, Parliamentary Procedure, Forestry, Soils, Nursery Landscape and a couple of others. My SAE project included Beef Cattle and Home and Community Development. The one thing that I enjoyed the most was the conferences and conventions, because I got to meet so many people and learn of

great places outside of Central Virginia.

In high school I was involved in the Student Organization for Developing Attitudes, NHS, Beta, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, as well as serving on the Vocational/Technical/Alternative Education Committee for the county. My current job is one that takes the stress off and helps me relax. I am the announcer at Richmond Dragway, a 1/4 mile dragstrip in Richmond and I also assist my cousin, Scott Weis, on his Sherwin-Williams Top Alcohol Funny Car. Our entire family is involved in one way or another with dragracing.

I am very excited about the opportunity that I have been given to serve with the other nine officers to help you, the members. I have already enjoyed meeting with many of you this year and cannot wait for the trend to continue.

I leave you with a thought (courtesy of Ben's personality profile-that's another story in itself) "Nothing Ventured, Nothing Gained." Take a chance this year and try something new, you never know what will happen.

Best wishes and Good luck!



REBECCA BEGOON, REPORTER

Hi, VA FFA! I am Rebecca Begoon and I am serving as your 1998-99 State FFA Reporter. I am the daughter of Jimmy and Barbara Begoon of Grottoes, VA. I have one older brother, Tommy, and two older sisters, Lisa and Tammy. I am a 1998 graduate of Spotswood High School and I am now taking classes at Blue Ridge Community College.

I became a member of the FFA in seventh grade and have loved every minute since then. I have participated in various events including creed speaking, parliamentary procedure, stockman's, and dairyman's. I have been on three state winning Career Development Teams, which are Live-stock, Meats and Dairy. I was named as the 1998 Star in Agribusiness for VA. My SAE projects included Market Steers, Market Hogs and working at Grottoes Pallet Company. I am very proud of my FFA accomplishments and that I am serving as your State FFA Reporter. During high school I was a member of FBLA, 4-H, Ruritans, and SCA. I also participated in volleyball and softball.



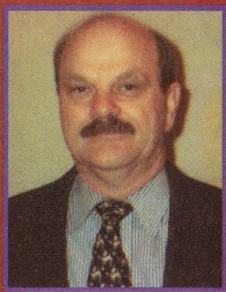
ELIZABETH RAMSEY, SENTINEL

Greetings, Virginia FFA! I am Elizabeth Ramsey and I am proud to be serving as the 1998-99 Virginia FFA Association Sentinel.

I am the 19-year-old daughter of Gary and Rosa Ramsey of Fort Valley, Virginia. I am one of a set of triplets and have two brothers, Brad and Mark who are sophomores at Virginia Tech. My family owns a beef farm that has approximately 30 head of purebred Red Angus and about 60 head of commercial animals. I am a 1997 graduate of Strasburg High School where I served my FFA chapter as Reporter and Secretary under the guidance of Mr. Ron Roller and Mr. Smith Cooley.

Along with my responsibilities as a state officer, I am serving as Secretary of my FFA Alumni group. I also attend Lord Fairfax Community College in the General Studies Program. I plan on transferring to Hagerstown Community College and earn a degree in Paralegal Studies.

I look forward to serving you this year.



DR. GLENN ANDERSON
ADVISOR



MS. CINDY FANNON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1998 State FFA De

APPALACHIAN

Abingdon

Angela M. Childress
Amanda M. Cullop
Jason Gamble
Aaron Johnson
Christina Y. Kiser
Julie Renee Martin
Kevin McCall
Amanda Gale Phelps

Bland

Jim Bob Penley

Carroll Co.

Anthony Allison
Jason P. Bullins
Adam Lee Carico
Rea Hylton
Michael David Shockley

Christiansburg

Amanda Nicole Swafford
Nicholas B. Yopp

Floyd

Jack Akers
Christopher L. Hill
George Wythe

Nathan Aker

Melinda Davis
Sarah Edwards
Jon Russell Fisher
Dorinda Layne
Robert Litton
Andrew Midkiff

Grayson Co.

Angela Marie Blevins
Melinda Dawn Cornett
Amanda VerVoort
Linda Mae Wiggins

Holston

Joshua Zane Blevins
Stephen Brian Blevins
Edward Lee Reedy

John S. Battle

Adam Wesley Barker
Christopher Dean Brooks
Candace H. Caudill
Jason Fields
Luke S. Heyman
Chris McCarter
Jeremiah McCroskey
Michael Kevin Smith
Terry Stinson
Jessica C. Wilson

Richlands

MacArthur R. Ferguson
Nick Johnson
Michael Glenn McBride
James Ward Shannon
Coy Dean Witt, II

CENTRAL AREA

Atlee

Rob Brown
John E. Davis, Jr.
Matthew C. Fields
Johanna Marie Kocsis
Charles Martin

Degree Recipients

Melissa Anne Matson
Dora Dell Pierce
Jason T. Weakley

Culpeper

Natalie A. Finneyfrock
Tony Hernandez
Julie Huff
Kiley A. Johnson
Cynthia Joanne
Strickland
Jason Umberger

Fauquier

Jeffrey Allen Bailey
Nathan Frazier
Justin Grimsley
Conor O'Neill

Louisa

Terry F. Hoffman
James Howard
Patterson, III
Ian Thomas

Northumberland

Shawn Collins
Forrest Dameron
Tim Myers
Joey Newsome
Ron Rock

Patrick Henry

Phillip Kersey

Spotsylvania

Larry W. Christopher, Jr.
Steve Maslock, Jr.
Sherry B. Williams

EASTERN AREA

Dinwiddie
Christopher E. Bielmyer
Brian P. Reiter

NORTHERN AREA

Broadway

Ashlee W. Mundy
Gary Lee Siler, Jr.

Buffalo Gap

Billy Joe Brumit-Brown
Josh Burtner
Troy Lawson
Clint Lyle
Joseph Sipe
Whit Sours

Central

Ashley Hausenfluck
Becky Ann Heishman

Clarke Co.

Thomas A. Carper
Jonathan B. Hornbaker
Laurie Houck
Nicole Elizabeth Long
Emily Stowe
Carroll Wayne Swartz

Fort Defiance

James T. Begoon, III
Wes Breeden
Jason Hatton
Adam King
Ashlie Karacofe
Daniel Lauro



1998 State FFA De

Derek Mangun
Jason Massie
Jeremy McCray
Kara Renee Michael
Ben Miller
Josh Puffenbarger
Israel Stickley
Jason Via
David Wenger
Douglas H. Wrenn

James Wood

Rachelle' Rae Carter
Laura Daniels
Mary Kathleen Fravel
Amber Magel
Ronald H. "Chip"
Manuel
Jason Douglas Messick
Jennifer Lynn Pugh

Lord Botetourt

Joseph R. Surface

Loudoun Co.

Bernard R. Boteler

Loudoun Valley

William T. Hoff
Jessica B. Potts
Clayton M. Wieben

Page Co.

Michael Dovel
Jeremiah J. Good
Brandon Pence
Garrett Turner

Riverheads

Carrie Heizer
Colby W. Irvine
Megan Catherine
McIlwee
Justin Hunter Shomo

Rockbridge

Travis C. Black
James C. Campbell, Jr.
Julie Anne Hall
Amanda N. Huffman
Matthew H. Mohler
Susanne A. Potter

Spotswood

Rebecca Lynn Begoon
Bryan Craig Breeden
Kenneth A. Hammer, Jr.
Jack Andrew Hutchison
Winston I. (Bo) Knight
Sara Marks

Stonewall Jackson

Daniel Davis
Kenna Phil-Patrick Ryan
Tarinda Showman
Chris Wilkins

Strasburg

Leslie Ellen Funkhouser
Neil Walker

Stuarts Draft

Timothy W. Curry
Briana Leigh Flowers
Kenneth R. Hoysradt

Degree Recipients

Turner Ashby

Ryan S. Blosser
Joshua William

Coceano

Melissa Anne Kenney
Alise Kerrine Maloney
Gloria Beth Rhodes
William Lewin Walther

Wilson Memorial

Jeremy Bruker
Richard T. Harvey
Gregory Joseph
Holsinger
Andrew Wymer

SOUTHSIDE AREA

Amelia

Michael Ray Edwards
Barry Jones
Jason William Moore
Donald James Shreffler,
III
Stanlee Smith
Wesley Wayne
Townsend

Appomattox

Toby Solberg

Bluestone

Jeramey Dewayne Beck
Jonathan M. Billings
Joseph C. Johnson

Chatham

Thomas Swanson, Jr.

Franklin Co.

Terry Wayne Brubaker

Gretna

Crystal Gayle Bandy
Wilbur Dwayne Gibson
James W. "Billy"
Robertson
Judy Carol Shotwell

Laurel Park

Kimberly Michelle
Hatcher
Travis Madrid Walker

Liberty

Philip J. Davis
John T. Divers

Park View

Brent Bowers
Janel Dalton
Brad Evans
Warren McLellan
Chris Reamy

Randolph-Henry

Elizabeth Ann Barksdale

Smith Mountain

Eric James Ferron
Terry L. Findley
Walter Eugene Foster
Neil Davis Gardner

Tunstall

Ryan Martin Allen
Jonathan W. Austin

Central FFA Reports on Busy Year

By: Sarah George, Renee Sine, Chapter Reporters

On January 19, 1998 the Central FFA held the chapter level Public Speaking Event. The five senior members participating were Andy Wakeman, Abbi Copp, Sarah George, Bridget Sine, and Becky Heishman. First place went to Becky Heishman, second Sarah George, and third, Abbi Copp.

The two junior members that competed were Angelina Mosley, and Renee Sine. First place went to Angelina Mosley and second went to Renee Sine.

On February 2, Becky and Angelina participated in the federation event. Becky placed third in the senior division, while Angelina placed second in the junior division.

Two teams participated in the Federation Parliamentary Procedure Event at James Wood High School on February 24. The senior team, coached by Mrs. Sherry Heishman, consisted of Leah Clark, Mark Brill, Jennifer Stultz, Becky Heishman, Sarah George, and Bridget Sine. The alternate was Andy Wakeman. The senior team placed second.

The junior team, coached by Mr. George Bowers, consisted of Vicki Heishman, Renee Sine, Jeremy Kibler, Angelina Mosley, Noah Schmidt, Justin Holler, Webb Sharp, and Jaris Sperry. The junior team placed first.

On the same day, the Central chapter sponsored an orientation for the seventh and eighth graders. The eighth graders came in the morning and the seventh graders in the afternoon. They visited the Business, FFA and FHA department as well as the eighth graders taking a tour of the new section.

On February 26, eleven senior officers visited Richmond as part of their FFA Week celebrations. Richmond was full of blue corduroy jackets including the State FFA Officer team and both the Eastern and Southern Region National Vice Presidents.

They first visited the General Assembly building for a meeting with Delegate Weatherholtz and his assistant. After this they went to the Capitol building where they were formally recognized on the House floor by Delegate Weatherholtz. That afternoon they visited State Commissioner of Agriculture, Carlton Courter.

A tour was taken of the Capitol building, the Governor's Suite, and the Governor's Mansion. While there, they had the opportunity to meet Governor Jim Gilmore. Delegate Weatherholtz, Commissioner Courter and Senator Potts were all presented with the chapter-designed T-shirt.

On March 5, the Junior Parliamentary Procedure team went to the area event. They placed second, which is the best finish ever for a Central team.

Two teams attended the Block and Bridle Meats Judging event on March 20 and 21. The first team consisted of Becky Heishman, Ashley Hausenfluck, Alesia Hovatter, and Vicki Heishman. The second team consisted of Jennifer Stultz, Justin Whightman, Mark Brill, and Nathan Gochenour. Team A placed first. Becky Heishman won the federation event and was third high individual in Block and Bridle. Team B placed sixth out of 19 teams. Nathan Gochenour placed fourth in the federation and seventh in Block and Bridle.

The chapter also competed in the Small Engines Event. Placing fifth through first in the chapter were Mark Brill, Jay Swartz, Dustin Davis, Andy Wakemen, and Russel Winner. The junior participants in order of fourth to first were Jarris Sperry, Travis Mumaw, Dagan Stephens, and Jeremy Kibler. Russel placed fourth in the federation.

Central HS FFA has also begun to participate in the VA FFA Foundation's \$200 to 2000 campaign, a project to encourage chapters to donate \$200 each year through the year 2000 in order to build foundation funds. The VA FFA Foundation funds state teams to the National Convention, proficiency awards, etc.

On April 2, the Central HS FFA sent a junior and senior team to the federation Crops Judging Event at Luray HS. The junior team of Vicki Heishman, Hubbel French, and Renee Sine placed first. The senior team of Becky Heishman, Bridgett Sine, Sarah George, Keith Steele, and Mark Brill placed second. The alternates for the senior team were Andy Wakeman, Jay Swartz, Marty Lansberry, Brandon Coffey, and Jennifer Fletcher. Individual winners were: Vicki Heishman, first in the Jr. division, Hubbel French, third in Jr. division, and Becky Heishman, first in the Sr. division.

Virginia FFA Foundation News

Cathy Hughes, Executive Director

WOW!

It seems almost impossible that a full year and a few months have passed since we redirected the efforts of the Virginia FFA Foundation to make more of a positive impact on Virginia FFA members. At the State Convention, it was our pleasure to distribute more than \$45,000.00 in awards and travel scholarships to deserving students and teams. We congratulate all the winners and participants in recent state activities, and we wish you much success as you work hard through the 1998-99 school year.

Please remember however, that this award money did not "magically" appear. This money is given by generous individuals, organizations, and companies who believe in the future of the industry of agriculture and who want to "Build the Future" for

today's youth. It is very important that we say "Thank You" to these people for putting faith in your efforts - both locally and at the state level. Your Foundation Board of Directors is committed to improving the funds available for awards and activities, and we look forward to another successful year.

Our 1998-99 campaign is in full swing. We hope to continue to reach individuals and companies and ask for their support. We also will look to the increased participation of FFA Chapters, Alumni members, and Young Farmers in helping us meet the needs of Virginia FFA. As always - if you need any information, or the foundation office can be of any assistance to you, please contact us at (540) 896-9689. Have a super year!

Wampler Elected President of Rockingham Federation

Adam Wampler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Wampler of Timberville has been elected president of the Rockingham FFA Federation for the 1998-99 school term. Wampler is a senior at Broadway High School and has been actively involved in FFA activities the past four years.

Others elected were: Natashia Shantz, vice-president, and Jessica Auville, secretary, both from Turner Ashby; Danny Dove, treasurer, from Broadway; and Ben Hutchinson, reporter, and Megan Welsh, sentinel, both from Spotswood.

The Rockingham FFA Federation is composed of the county's three high school and middle school FFA Chapters. Middle school chapters will each select two directors in the fall to serve on the federation executive committee. The federation plans and conducts a number of judging events, a leadership workshop, an awards banquet, and a number of educational trips during the year.

National Chapter Awards State Gold Chapters

(Listed according to state ranking)

Central HS
Park View HS
Turner Ashby
Stonewall Jackson HS
Abingdon
Fort Defiance
James Wood HS
Signal Knob MS
Louisa HS
Strasburg
Bluestone HS
North Fork MS
Dinwiddie
Christiansburg HS
Northumberland
Fauquier
Atlee

STATE PROFICIENCY AWARD WINNERS

Agricultural Communications	William Mader	Stonewall Jackson
Agricultural Mechanical Technical Systems- Entrepreneurship	Sherry Williams	Spotsylvania
Agricultural Mechanical Technical Systems- Placement	Brent Bowers	Park View
Agricultural Processing	Nathan Brewbaker	Christiansburg
Agricultural Sales and/or Service	Cam Michael	Fort Defiance
Beef Production-Entrepreneurship	J.T. Begoon	Fort Defiance
Beef Production-Placement	George Hawkins	Central HS
Cereal Grain Production	Samuel Terry IV	Dan River
Dairy Production-Entrepreneurship	Susan Umberger	George Wythe
Dairy Production-Placement	Ryan Blosser	Turner Ashby
Diversified Crop Production-Placement	Wes Marshall	Fort Defiance
Diversified Livestock Production- Entrepreneurship	Troy Lawson	Buffalo Gap
Diversified Livestock Production-Placement	Harold Morris	Fort Defiance
Emerging Agricultural Technology	Jonathan O'Neill	Fauquier
Environmental Science	Melissa Kenny	Turner Ashby
Equine Science	Doug Britt	Buffalo Gap
Floriculture	Warren McLellan	Park View
Food Science & Technology	Gregory Jones	Northumberland
Forage Production	David Wenger	Fort Defiance
Forest Management	Trey Keyser	Page County
Fruit and/or Vegetable Production	Adam Barker	John S. Battle
Home and/or Community Development	Tarinda Showman	Stonewall Jackson
Landscape Management	Travis Echols	Christiansburg
Nursery Operations	Ian Thomas	Louisa
Oil Crop Production-Entrepreneurship	Rick Puryear	Park View
Oil Crop Production-Placement	Michael Faulk	Lakeland
Outdoor Recreation	Robert Smith	Stonewall Jackson
Poultry Production	Dixie Stoutameyer	Buffalo Gap
Sheep Production	Chris Craddock	Chatham
Small Animal Care	Stefanie Everts	James wood
Specialty Animal Production	Catherine Knight	Buffalo Gap
Specialty Crop Production	Chris Reamy	Park View
Swine Production-Entrepreneurship	Chris McNichols	Dan River
Swine Production-Placement	Travis Baker	Stonewall Jackson
Turf Grass Management	Jon Fisher	George Wythe
Wildlife Management-Entrepreneurship	Wes Breeden	Fort Defiance