



# Chapter Chats



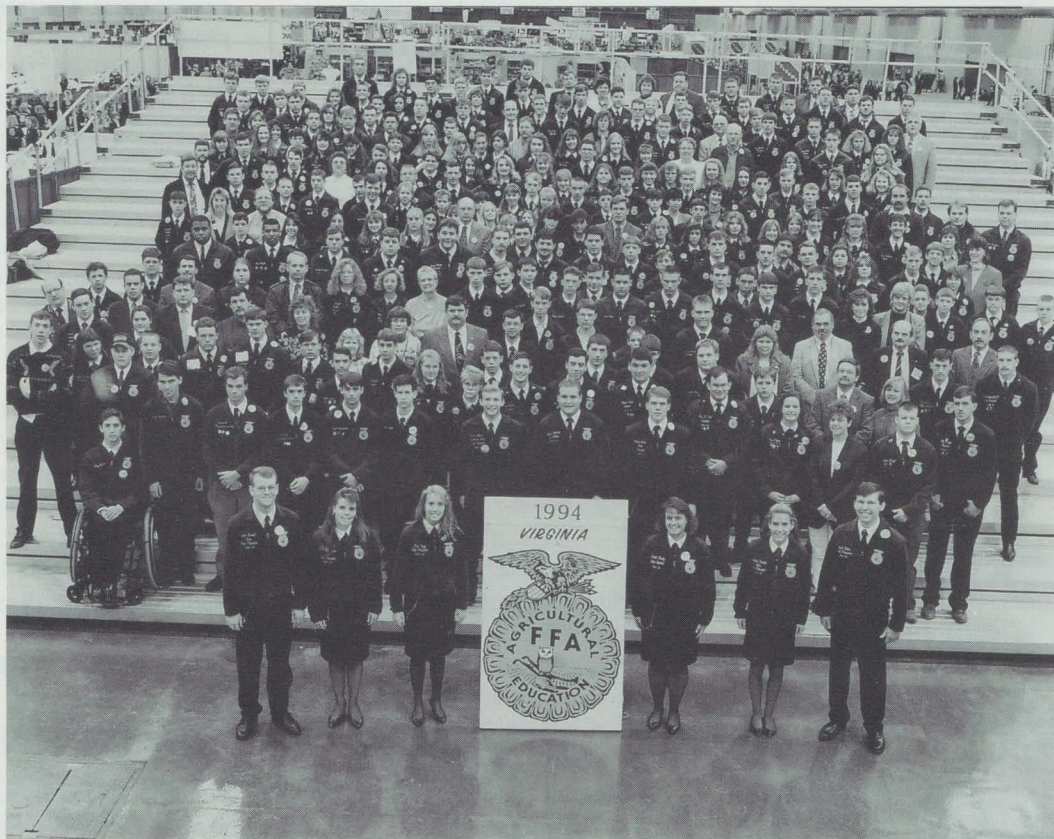
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## ***National FFA Convention Annual Report***



Virginia delegation to the 67th National FFA Convention

Chapter Chats  
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Virginia FFA Association, 282 Litton  
Reaves Hall, VA Tech, Blacksburg, VA  
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Cindy Fannon.....Editor

**1994-95 STATE OFFICERS  
VIRGINIA FFA ASSOCIATION**

**PRESIDENT**  
Tara Cupp  
RT. 1, Box 548  
Bridgewater, VA 22812  
(703) 828-3866

**VICE PRESIDENTS**  
Scottie Kiser  
P.O. Box 569  
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609  
(703) 963-9205

Stephanie Chick  
6725 New Britton Rd.  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
(804) 746-1364

Scott Mundie  
Rt. 1, Box 24  
Caret, VA 22436  
(804) 443-3184

Brandi Rudolph  
P.O. Box 206  
Stephens City, VA 22655  
(703) 869-1141

Scott Gunnell  
Rt. 5, Box 710  
Danville, VA 24540  
(804) 836-6806

**SECRETARY**  
Missy Purtlebaugh  
500 McDonald Rd.  
Winchester, VA 22602  
(703) 877-1032

**TREASURER**  
Scott Reiter  
7811 Halifax Rd.  
Petersburg, VA 23805  
(804) 733-0790

**REPORTER**  
Melessa Harvey  
Rt. 1, Box 473  
Charlotte C.H., VA 23923  
(804) 542-5207

**SENTINEL**  
Jamie Newby  
Rt. 6, Box 59C  
Chatham, VA 24531  
(804) 432-8852

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Chase Lowe  
Rt. 3, Box 31  
Floyd, VA 22091  
(703) 745-4636

## Meet Your 1994-95



**Tara Cupp  
President**

Tara is from the Turner Ashby FFA Chapter in the Northern Area. She has been involved in several activities during high school. She participated in various contests including Forestry, Parliamentary Procedure, Agricultural Sales, Public Speaking, and the Jr. Dairyman's Contest. Tara's Parliamentary Procedure team placed third in the state in 1993. Outside the FFA, Tara is very active in her Church Youth Group and the 4-H club. While in high school, she was a member of the French Club, Youth and Government Club, Challenge Club, the National Honor Society and SCA. After serving the VA FFA Association as President, Tara plans to enter VA Tech, majoring in Agricultural Education.



**Missy Purtlebaugh  
Secretary**

Missy Purtlebaugh, this year's State Secretary is from the James Wood FFA Chapter. During high school, she was actively involved in the FFA. Missy was chapter president, vice president and federation sentinel. She has participated in the Meats Evaluation Contest, Agricultural Sales, Parliamentary Procedure, Livestock, Creed speaking and the Jr. Stockman's Contest. In high school, Missy was a member of the National Honor Society, a member of the cheerleading squad, and served as class secretary. She is currently a freshman at VA Tech majoring in Agricultural Economics. Upon graduation Missy hopes to pursue a career in that field.

### Fun in the Sun



Start planning now to attend the FFA-FHA/HERO Educational and Recreational Center at Morgart's Beach in Smithfield, VA. If you enjoy leadership activities (public speaking, public relations, parliamentary procedure, etc.), volleyball, softball, swimming, talent/variety shows, a trip to Busch Gardens, and the opportunity to meet others from across the state, then you will want to include a week at the Center in your summer plans.

Recreational Camp will be held the week of July 17-22. High School Leadership Conferences (for both FFA and FHA members) will be held the weeks of July 24-28 and July 31-August 4. A Middle School Leadership Conference will be held August 7-11.

Your agriculture teacher has received information about registering for this summer's programs. To find out how you can attend, ask her or him about it!

# Virginia State FFA Officers



**Scott Reiter**  
Treasurer

A native of Dinwiddie County, Scott has lived on his family farm his entire life. Scott is a 1994 graduate of Dinwiddie Co. High School in the Eastern Area and has been active in the FFA for four years. He has held the chapter offices of secretary, vice president, and president. Scott has participated in the livestock judging contest and was named Star Chapter Farmer and received the Outstanding Senior Award. For three years he was a member of the National Honor Society.

While serving as the 1994-95 State FFA Treasurer, Scott is a freshman at VA Tech majoring in Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences and is minoring in Animal and Poultry Sciences. He is a member of the Agronomy Club and the Agricultural Education Society. Scott is also on the Dinwiddie Young Farmers Committee. Upon graduating from VA Tech, he plans to return to his farm.



**Melessa Harvey**  
Reporter

Melessa is serving as the 1994-95 State FFA Reporter. She is from Randolph-Henry H.S. in the Southside Area. Melessa, a 1994 Honors graduate of Randolph-Henry resides in Charlotte Co. She is currently a sophomore at VA Tech double majoring in Horticulture and Agricultural Education. In high school, Melessa was a member of the Ecology Team, Horticulture Demonstration Team, the marching and concert bands, and the Science Academic Challenge for Excellence Team. She served on the Jr. and Sr. Planning Boards and was an SCA Representative. Melessa was a member of the BETA Club and served as Secretary her senior year. An FFA member for four years, she served as chapter reporter and vice president. Melessa was also captain of the Floriculture team for three years and competed in several other contests. Melessa is active in the Horticulture Club and the Agricultural Education Society at VA Tech. Upon graduation, she plans on teaching agriculture for several years after which she would like to be involved in the landscape industry.



**Jamie Newby**  
Sentinel

Jamie Newby, serving as the 1994-95 State FFA Sentinel, began her FFA career as an eighth grader at Chatham H.S. in the Southside Area. During the past few years she has served as a chapter officer and has competed in various contests such as extemporaneous speaking, livestock judging, and parliamentary procedure. Jamie also enjoyed showing lambs and steers. Her activities earned her the honor of being Chatham's 1991-92 Star Chapter Farmer.

Jamie served her school by participating in many different clubs and activities. During her senior year, she was Senior Class President, Vice President of the BETA Club, and captain of the flag corps. She enjoyed judging at the Pittsylvania Co. 4-H Livestock Club. Jamie is currently a freshman at VA Tech majoring in Agricultural Education and is a member of the Agricultural Education Society. She plans to teach agriculture and serve as an FFA advisor, as well as operate her own beef cattle farm.

## Want Some Publicity?

Articles or even a short paragraph or two are needed from YOU in order for Chapter Chats to be continued. Have your chapter reporter send information on your chapter activities to the State Association office.

Ads can even be purchased by your chapter. This is a great way to let other chapters in the state know what a great chapter you have. Ask your advisor to contact the Association Office for more information.



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**Scottie Kiser**  
**Vice President**  
**Appalachian Area**

Scottie Kiser is the 1994-95 Appalachian Area State Vice President from the Richlands FFA Chapter in Richlands, VA. He is 21 years old and has completed two years of college at Southwest Virginia Community College. In high school, Scottie served as Federation Sentinel, Chapter Vice President, and President for two years.

His SAE consists of Turf and Landscape Management, Poultry Management, and Agricultural Placement. Scottie is also a fire fighter with the Virginia Department of Forestry.

Scottie has competed in the following contests: Creed, Prepared Public Speaking, Parliamentary Procedure, Agricultural Mechanics, Poultry, and Forestry Judging. He also attended the 1990 National Institute on Cooperative Education in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has received honors such as the Deklab Award, Chapter Scholarship and the Chapter Leadership Award, Star Greenhand and Star Chapter Farmer.

Scottie received his American FFA Degree in November 1994. During that National Convention, he served on the National Officer Nominating Committee.

His high school activities included: American Legion Boys' State, Keep Virginia Green Crew, Who's Who Among American High School Students, DECA, football, and weight lifting.

Scottie would like to become an agriculture teacher.

### Support Agricultural Education



**Stephanie Chick**  
**Vice President**  
**Central Area**

This year's Central Area Vice President is Stephanie Marie Chick. Stephanie is from the Atlee FFA Chapter in Mechanicsville. She is currently a freshman in Animal and Poultry Science. While in high school, Stephanie was involved in numerous clubs and activities. She was a member of the Science Club, the Art Guild and the marching band. She played basketball and managed the volleyball and basketball teams.

As an FFA member, Stephanie participated in soils, livestock judging, creed speaking, parliamentary procedure, and forestry judging. She was also involved in the National Junior Horticulture Society, in which she competed in demonstration contests and public speaking. When Stephanie is at home, she works in a veterinary office. Her part time job at school is milking pigs. Upon graduation from VA Tech, she would like to continue her education and become a veterinarian.



**Scott Mundie**  
**Vice President**  
**Eastern Area**

The Eastern Area Vice President is Scott Mundie. He comes from a diversified crop farm in Essex County where he served in the Essex FFA Chapter. He is presently a sophomore at VA Tech majoring in Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences. While in high school, Scott was a member of the National Honor Society and was the captain of the varsity soccer team. He also has participated in many contests in his FFA Chapter. He was the 1992 Eastern Area Star Farmer and in 1993 his Feed Grain Proficiency Award application placed second in the nation. Scott has continued his participation at VA Tech. He is the Agricultural Club Council representative for the Agronomy Club, a member of the 1993 VA Tech Crops Judging Team, and a member of the Agricultural Education Society. Scott hopes to obtain a B.S. degree in CSES and attend graduate school. His plans after that are not set, however, it will be closely related to agriculture.

### Tractor Driving School?

By: Mr. Stephen T. Grant

It may not be a tractor driving school, but plans are underway for the development of a safety training course to help 14-18 year old FFA and 4-H students become certified in the operation of tractors and farm machinery/equipment.

Completion of the training course is necessary for 14-15 year old youth who will be operating equipment on farms, orchards, etc., not owned by their parents and as required by the July 13, 1994 Virginia Regulation Governing the Employment of Minors on Farms, in Gardens and in Orchards.

Plans are underway to raise the \$25,000 needed to develop the materials for the safety training course. FFA chapters wishing to make a donation should send a check made payable to the "Virginia FFA Foundation" to Stephen T. Grant, P.O. Box 2700, Winchester, VA 22604. For further information on the safety training materials to be developed, please contact Stephen T. Grant at (703) 662-3473 or Dr. John Hillison at (703) 231-6836.



**Brandi Rudolph**  
**Vice President**  
**Northern Area**

Brandi is the eighteen year old daughter of Rick and Deborah Rudolph of Strasburg and the late Vicki Porter Rudolph. She is a 1994 graduate of Strasburg H.S. in the Northern Area. During high school, she maintained a high academic average and membership in the National Honor Society as well as lettering in two sports. She participated in and conducted many projects in the FFA. A few of the activities include leadership workshops, and judging contests on the local, area, and state levels. Brandi has held several offices including president of the Strasburg chapter as well as president of her senior class.

She has attended the State Co-Op Seminar, Washington Leadership Conference, Made for Excellence, and two National FFA Conventions. She recently competed in the National Agricultural Mechanics Contest in Kansas City. Brandi currently attends Lord Fairfax Community College and plans to transfer to VA Tech where she will study to become an Agricultural Engineer. Her spare time is scarce, but she enjoys tennis, traveling, and spending time with friends.



**Scott Gunnell**  
**Vice President**  
**Southside Area**

Scott Gunnell, the current Southside Area Vice President is a resident of Danville, VA. He was born in Rota, Spain, then moved to Davis, CA before settling in Virginia. Scott first joined the FFA in 8th grade at Blairs Middle and was elected chapter president. He held the chapter offices at Tunstall H.S. of secretary and president. He competed in the Agricultural Mechanics contest at both the Jr. and Sr. levels. He was a member of the winning state parliamentary procedure team in 1993 that went on to place 5th in the nation. His senior year in high school, he served as the student advisor.

Scott is currently a student at VA Tech majoring in Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences in the Biotechnology option. He is a member in the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. Scott plans to obtain his masters degree and work for a seed or pesticide company. He hopes to run for National FFA Office.

## Park View Middle Home of National Finalists

Scott Hudson of South Hill was named a national finalist in the FFA Agriscience Student Recognition Program. Sponsored by the Agricultural Group of Monsanto Co., this program recognizes students who are studying the application of scientific principles and emerging technologies in an agricultural enterprise. Hudson's study was on the effect of various pollutants on the ability of plants to photosynthesize.

Janel Dalton of South Hill was selected as a national finalist in the Building Our American Communities Achievement in Volunteerism award program. Dalton was instrumental in organizing the Park View Middle FFA Chapter's BOAC project to develop an environmental center for the community which includes a nature trail and outdoor classroom. This award program is sponsored by RJR Nabisco Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Brad Bryant, agricultural education instructor at Park View Middle, was named a national finalist in the FFA Agriscience Teacher of the Year Program. Co-sponsored by the Ford Motor Co. Fund and PCS Sales, this program recognizes outstanding agricultural educators who emphasize scientific concepts, principles and application in their curriculum. Mr. Bryant has encouraged middle school students to use "the hydroponics farm" in the school greenhouse as their own research location.

### Strasburg Chapter Well on its Way to Successful Year

The summer found members of the Strasburg FFA Chapter attending the Washington Conference Program and the State FFA Leadership Camp. Members also attended the Massanutten Federation Workshop and the annual AES-FFA Leadership Conference at Virginia Tech.

Over 28 chapter members conducted a Food For America Program to the 5th graders at Signal Knob Middle School. Additional fall activities included:

- ⇒ 12 students participated in K. V. G. training
- ⇒ A team competed in the State Forestry Field Day at State Fair
- ⇒ 12 students exhibited Agricultural Mechanics at the State Fair
- ⇒ Members have competed in Forestry, Soils, and the Dairy contest at the federation level

A highlight for the chapter has been the election of former chapter president, Brandi Rudolph, to the office of State Vice President.

## Virginia FFA Members Receive National Recognition

More than 34,000 FFA members, teachers, and guests met in Kansas City for the 67th National FFA Convention, Nov. 10-12. This record number of attendees promoted the convention theme, "FFA - The Leadership Advantage," with a cross-section of speakers who challenged members to further enhance their leadership skills, build bright futures in the science, business and technology of agriculture, and continue community involvement in their home towns.

The National Agricultural Career Show was the first ever to fill the recently completed expansion of the Kansas City Conference Center. This expansion to 62,000 square feet of show space accommodated 284 exhibitors including 25 displays in the hall of states, a special exhibit from NASA, an 18-store shopping mall, the FFA Food Court, and a stage that included live entertainment, speakers, and audiovisuals.

During the opening reflections program, Florence and Al Joyner, both Olympic gold medalists, kicked off the convention. During other sessions, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy and Mary Fisher, founder of the Family AIDS Network, Inc. addressed the audience.

Other distinguished speakers included Miss America Heather Whitestone, Vietnam Veteran Dave Roever, Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture L.H. "Cotton" Ivy, and Guy Kawasaki, author and former Director of Software Product Management for Apple Computer, Inc.

The following were participants from Virginia:

### National Nominating Committee

Scottie Kiser, State Vice President

### Official Delegates

Tara Cupp, State President  
 Scott Gunnell, State Vice President  
 Scott Reiter, State Vice President  
 Stehahn Chick, State Vice President  
 Jamie Newby, State Sentinel  
 Chase Lowe, Past State President  
 John Bowman, Past State Vice Pres.

### American FFA Degrees

John Bowman, Turner Ashby  
 Walter R. Bracy, Jr., Lakeland  
 Becky Brizendine, Essex

David Caricofe, Buffalo Gap  
 Brian Carpenter, Spotswood  
 Ryan A. Clouse, James Wood  
 Tammy E. Cole, Grayson Co.  
 Kathy S. Cook, Central  
 Smith D. Cooley, James Wood  
 Timothy S. Hahn, James Wood  
 Mark Hawkins, Broadway  
 James J. Hedge, Jr., Pulaski  
 Timothy D. Hopson, Turner Ashby  
 Charles G. Johnson, Nelson Co.  
 Theresa L. Kidd, Amelia  
 Karen A. Kirby, Lee Davis  
 Scottie R. Kiser, Richlands  
 Adam C. Lowe, Floyd Co.  
 Phillip L. McCroskey, Jr., John S. Battle  
 Mitzi G. McDougle, Lee Davis  
 Jason S. Milburn, James Wood  
 Cindy Palmer, Pulaski  
 James Puckett, Jr., William Campbell  
 Robert Ray, Northumberland  
 Michael R. Ryan, Stonewall Jackson  
 Brett S. Seal, Spotswood  
 Darrell I. Short, Page Co.  
 Victor W. Simmons, Park View  
 Jill Simmons, Fort Defiance  
 David S. Smith, Spotswood  
 Shannon C. Tignor, Caroline  
 James T. Walters, Stonewall Jackson  
 John L. Welsh, Spotswood  
 A.J. Williams, James Wood  
 Scott B. Pugh, James Wood

### Honorary American FFA Degrees

Mr. E.C. Conner, Park View Sr.  
 Mr. Bill Shumate, Tunstall

### National Officer Candidate

Brian Carpenter, Past State Sentinel,  
 Spotswood FFA Chapter

### Proficiency Award Finalists

Oil Crop Production  
 Mark Warren, Park View Sr.

Outdoor Recreation  
 Jason Ellis, Park View Sr.

Placement in Agricultural Production  
 Chad Springer, Park View Sr.

**Agriscience Teacher of the Yr. Finalist**  
 Mr. Brad Bryant, Park View Middle

**Agriscience Student of the Yr. Finalist**  
 Scott Hudson, Park View Middle

**Achievement in Volunteerism Finalist**  
 Janel Dalton, Park View Middle

### Contest Participants

#### Agricultural Mechanics

Strasburg  
 R.G. Bauserman  
 Brandi Rudolph  
 Timothy Ketterman  
 P.M. Fravel, Coach

#### Agricultural Sales

Turner Ashby  
 Mike O'Malley  
 Tara Cupp  
 Ben Grove  
 Eric Fitzgerald, Coach

#### Dairy Cattle

Spotswood  
 Matthew Welsh  
 Stephen Welsh  
 Monte Heatwole  
 Wayne Cupp, Coach

#### Dairy Foods

Fort Defiance  
 Mark Cline  
 Melvin Heatwole  
 Adam Hatton  
 Randy Mohler  
 Andy Seibel, Coach

#### Dairy Showmanship

Lauie Davis, Wilson Memorial  
 Laurel Chapmen,  
 Taby Baker, Stonewall Jackson

#### Farm Business Management

Carroll Co.  
 Chris Nobili  
 Shane Russell  
 Roland Hall  
 Blake Horton  
 Wayne Combs, Coach

#### Floriculture

Laurel Park  
 Patrick Francisco  
 Ricky Compton  
 Seth Robertson  
 Deborah Barker, Coach

**Forestry**

Carroll Co.  
 Alan Banks  
 Randy Dalton  
 Ray Briggs  
 Gary Cockram, Coach

**Horse Judging**

James Wood  
 Stefanie Everts  
 Eric McLaughlin  
 Leigh Ann Berg  
 Amanda Shade  
 Ruth McCall, Coach

**Livestock Judging**

Fort Defiance  
 Willie Morris  
 Kate Morris  
 Jason Shiflett  
 Ashley Craun  
 David Shiflett, Coach

**Meats**

Park View Sr.  
 George Smelley  
 Thomas Young  
 Paul Lett  
 Barner Jones  
 Ronnie Thomas, Coach

**Nursery/Landscape**

Laurel Park  
 Melanie Williams  
 Vickie Hall  
 Charlotte Hamlin  
 Deborah Barker, Coach

**Parliamentary Procedure**

Tunstall  
 Curtis Cassell  
 Russell Minter  
 James Warner  
 David Stowe  
 Cliff Fuqua  
 Clay Lawson  
 Bill Shumate, Coach

**Poultry**

Grayson Co. Voc.  
 Paul Byrd II  
 Jonathan Halsey  
 Mark Osborne  
 Lucas Austin  
 James Cole, Coach

**Public Speaking - Extemporaneous**

Lisa Ratcliffe, Buffalo Gap

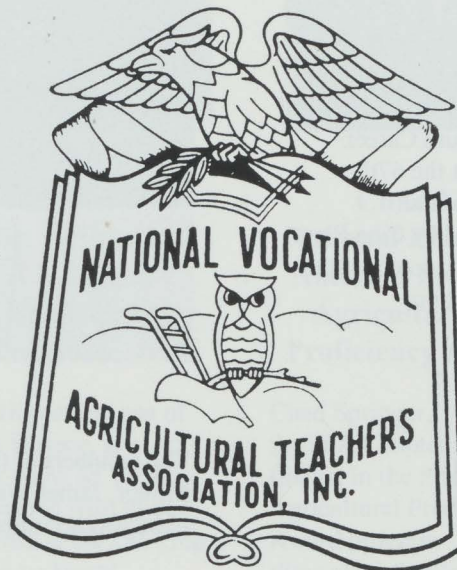
**Public Speaking - Prepared**

Julie Mies, Turner Ashby

Continued on page 11

## VIRGINIA VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

## TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION

**THE FFA - STORIES TO BE TOLD**

by Chad Craun

Member

Beverly Manor Middle School

Staunton, VA

Sally L. Weaver, Advisor

The FFA has many stories to be told...

of its official colors - national blue and corn gold,  
 of a faith and belief of agricultural deeds,  
 of serving for the public's needs,  
 of producing the product of our labor,  
 of marketing it for our neighbor,  
 of trying to make better our community,  
 of bringing together all states in unity,  
 of progress and a new day in agriculture - represented by the rising sun,  
 of the plows tillage of the soil - the labor to be done,  
 of unity where corn is grown,  
 in all fifty states it's commonly known,  
 of the financial records that George Washington kept,  
 he was a great farm leader, this we accept,  
 of the U.S. flag; the national symbol for which it stands,  
 of the friendship symbol, the clasp of the hands,  
 of the owl's knowledge and of its being wise,  
 of the ability and willingness to help and advise,  
 of developing agricultural leadership, citizenship, and cooperation,

### Tunstall places 4th in National Parliamentary Procedure Career Development Event

Members of the Virginia State FFA Parliamentary Procedure team were one of 44 participating in the National Parliamentary Procedure Career Development Event at the 67th National FFA Convention. The event is sponsored by Ciba Plant Protection as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



The members of the team (from left to right) are: Curtis Cassell, Russell Minter, James Wagner, David Stowe, Cliff Fuqua, and Clay Lawson. The team was accompanied by their advisor/coach, Mr. Bill Shumate.

### Laurel Park Floriculture Team places 8th

The Floriculture team from Laurel Park High School received a gold rating and placed 8th in the National Floriculture Career Development Event at the National FFA Convention this past November. The event is sponsored by American Floral Endowment, George J. Ball, Inc., and The Solaris Group, as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



The members of the team (from left to right) are: Ricky Compton, Patrick Francisco, and Seth Robertson. The team was accompanied by their advisor/coach, Mrs. Deborah Barker (not pictured).

**Jason E. Ellis**  
**National Finalist in the 1994**  
**National FFA Outdoor**  
**Recreation Proficiency Award**

Jason E. Ellis, 18, of the Park View Sr. FFA Chapter, competed as a finalist with three other national finalists in the Outdoor Recreation Proficiency Award Program. The competition took place at this year's 67th National FFA Convention in Kansas City, MO for the title of National Winner. He is the son of Edward and Patsy Ellis.

Jason has always been interested in shooting sports. Once he started hunting, his father helped him to improve his shooting accuracy. Jason uses his skills to participate in skeet shooting contests. He reloads his own ammunition to save on costs. He is also dedicated to practicing good safety and attends seminars and safety courses on shooting sports. Once he purchased his gun that is designed especially for skeet shooting, his accuracy improved by 25%. Jason plans to continue to improve and become a professional in shooting sports.

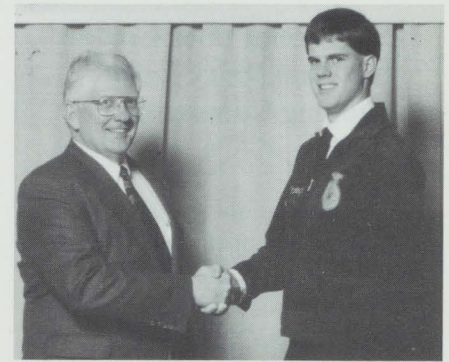
The Outdoor Recreation Proficiency Award is sponsored by CHEVY TRUCKS; O.F. Mossburg and Sons, Inc.; and Schrade Cutlery as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



**Mark B. Warren**  
**National Finalist in the 1994**  
**National FFA Oil Crop**  
**Production Proficiency**  
**Award Program**

Mark Warren, the 18 year old son of Johnny and Brenda Warren, is a member of the Park View Sr. FFA Chapter. Mark competed with three other national finalists in the Oil Crop Production Proficiency Award program at the 67th National FFA Convention.

Mark has expanded his soybean acreage from 165 acres to now include 365 acres. He owns one-half of his family's soybean enterprise. In order to take advantage of higher market prices, Mark stores his soybeans on his uncle's adjoining farm. He uses the Date Transmission Network in his school's agriculture department to keep track of market prices. Mark then sells his soybeans when he feels the price is right and the rate of return will be the greatest. He plans to continue to work on his family's operation and eventually take over more of the total farming operation. The Oil Crop Proficiency Award Program is sponsored by Chicago Board of Trade; and FMC Corporation, Agricultural Chemicals Group, as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



**Chad E. Springer**  
**National Finalist in the 1994**  
**National FFA Placement in**  
**Agricultural Production**  
**Proficiency Award Program**

Chad Springer, 18, of the Park View Sr. FFA Chapter was a national finalist in the Placement in Agricultural Production Proficiency Award program. He competed with three other finalists at the 67th National FFA Convention.

Chad began his work experience in agriculture by working on his uncle's farm. He learned a great deal about the day to day operation of a farm. Eventually he was allowed to grow his own wheat crop. In addition to working at his uncle's farm, Chad also worked for Callahan Farms. The diversity of their operation has allowed him to expand his knowledge of an overall farming operation even further. Chad has used his skills in record keeping and business management, that he learned in his agriculture class at Park View, to add to his success. He also assisted the Callahans in incorporating a computer record system into their operation. Chad wants to continue to work for the Callahans and eventually save enough money to buy his own farm.

Chad is the son of Robert and Sue Springer.

The Placement in Agricultural Production Proficiency Award program is sponsored by Mallinckodt Veterinary, Inc.; and National Crop Insurance Services as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



### Spotswood rates Gold in National Dairy Cattle Judging Competition

Members of the Spotswood FFA Chapter competed and placed 11th in the National Dairy Cattle Event at the 67th National FFA Convention. This event is sponsored by Associated Milk Producers, Inc., San Antonio, TX, and Babson Brothers Co./SURGE, Naperville, IL, as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. The event was held at the American Royal Livestock and Horse Show, Kansas City, MO.



The members of the team (from left to right) are: Matt Welsh, Monte Heatwole, and Stephen Welsh. The team was accompanied by their advisor/coach, Mr. W.W. Cupp of Penn Laird, VA.

### Laurel Park's Nursery/Landscape team receives gold rating

The Nursery/Landscape team from Laurel Park placed 11th overall in the National Competition held this past November. The event, held at Swope Park Municipal Greenhouse Complex in Kansas City, MO, was sponsored by CHIPCO® Specialty Products, Rohne-Poulanc Ag Co.; Kubota Tractor Corp.; Valent U.S.A. Corp.; the American Association of Nurserymen, Inc.; and Wholesale Nursery Growers of America.



Team members (from left to right) are: Vickie Hall, Charlotte Hamlin, and Melanie Williams. The team was accompanied by their advisor/coach, Mrs. Deborah Barker (not pictured) of Martinsville, VA.

## Where Does FFA Alumni Fit Into the Picture?

By: James Shiflet, Virginia FFA  
Alumni President

How many of you knew that for the last 23 years there has been an adult organization made up of individuals of all walks of life and backgrounds who believe in the value of agriculture and have been promoting it at both the state and local levels? What organization could exist composed of volunteers who promote agricultural education without receiving compensation? This organization and individuals call themselves the VIRGINIA FFA ALUMNI!

For years local FFA Alumni Affiliates have been diligently raising funds to assist local FFA Chapters in a variety of ways: promoting FFA Week, attending state and national conventions, providing scholarships to graduating seniors, and sponsoring students to the Washington Leadership Conference. As a result of these efforts, FFA members have grown into leaders that the whole community is proud to call their own. But, FFA Alumni members do more than fundraising. Alumni members also serve as resource persons in local agriculture departments lending their expertise to agriculture instructors. They provide transportation for students and provide moral support to their local FFA chapter. At the state level, the Virginia FFA Alumni is alive, strong, and growing. The Virginia FFA Alumni provides many of the same opportunities to FFA members in Virginia including a \$350 and \$200 scholarship to the Washington Leadership Conference; two \$100 scholarships to deserving individuals in the Agricultural Education departments at both Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, backstage assistance with the Virginia FFA Convention in Blacksburg in June, assist the Virginia FFA Foundation in soliciting funds for award sponsorships and much more.

Although many activities occur at the state level, the real work of the FFA

Alumni is done at the local affiliates. That's where you can become involved. First, if you're a senior and will be graduating soon and don't want to leave the great experience FFA has provided to you, you don't have to. Join your FFA Alumni Affiliate and if you don't have one, you can join as an at-large member to the Virginia FFA Alumni. But, seniors are not the only ones who can become involved in the FFA Alumni. FFA members can work to receive the Legion of Merit Citation from the FFA Alumni. This Citation is presented to individuals who have assisted with membership development and solicited either 15 new or renewal annual members or 5 life members. Members who receive this award are given the opportunity to travel to the National FFA Alumni and National FFA Conventions in Kansas City in November to receive their award. This is a great once in a lifetime experience! Also, you may want to apply for one of the scholarships to the Washington Leadership Conference that the Virginia FFA Alumni provides. Ask your advisor for the application form, it will be in the agricultural education departments by March 15th. The list could go on and on about the FFA Alumni, but space is short. The Virginia FFA Alumni Executive Committee hopes that you have learned a little about the FFA Alumni and as FFA members, will take the time to check us out and join us in our activities to promote the FFA in Virginia.



### National Convention Report - continued from page 7

#### BOAC Award

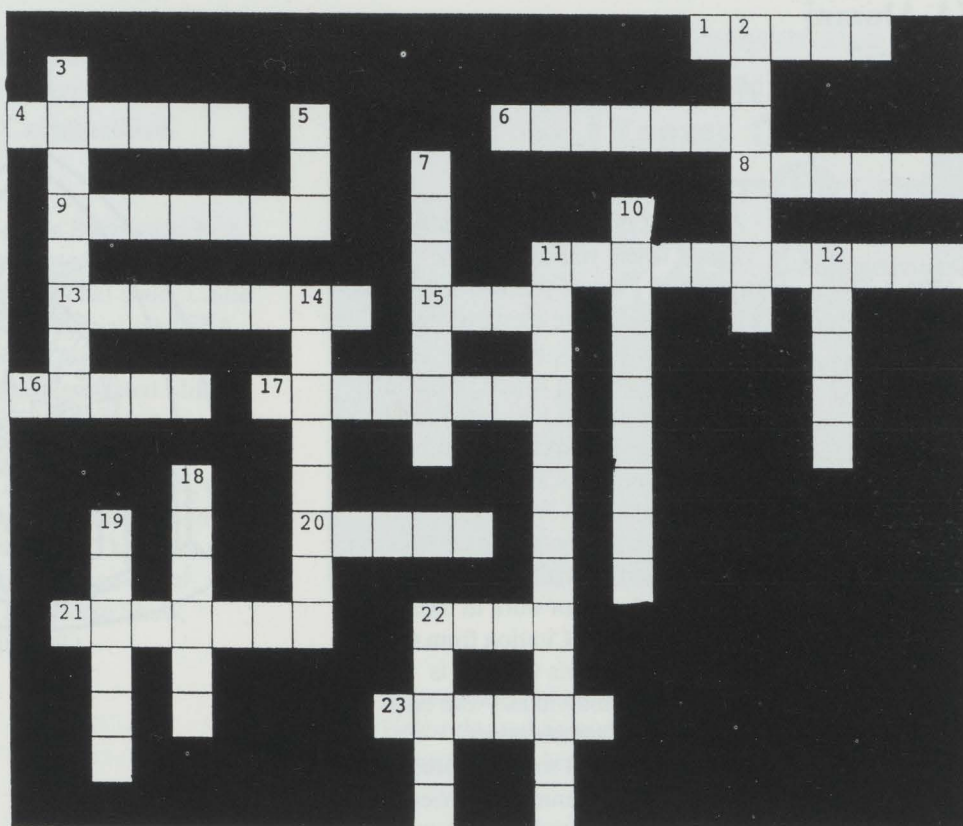
Central H.S.  
James Wood  
Park View Middle  
Park View Sr.  
Turner Ashby

#### National Chapter Safety

Beverly Manor Middle  
Park View Middle  
Park View Sr.  
Stonewall Jackson  
Turner Ashby

#### National Chapter Award

Broadway  
Central  
Fauquier  
Fort Defiance  
Park View Middle  
Park View Sr.  
Robert E. Aylor Middle  
Strasburg  
Stuarts Draft



## ACROSS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Mundie is the Eastern Area Vice President
4. The President is stationed beneath the \_\_\_\_\_ sun.
6. The state reporter is \_\_\_\_\_ Harvey.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Allegiance is the official FFA salute.
9. Scott \_\_\_\_\_ is the state vice president from the Southside Area.
11. Missy \_\_\_\_\_ is the state FFA secretary.
13. The official FFA colors are \_\_\_\_\_ blue and corn gold.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Cupp is the State FFA President.
16. The State Sentinel is \_\_\_\_\_ Newby.
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ is stationed by the door.
20. The FFA \_\_\_\_\_ was written by E.M. Tiffany.
21. Virginia is in the \_\_\_\_\_ region.
22. The secretary is stationed by the ear of \_\_\_\_\_.
23. The National FFA Convention is held in \_\_\_\_\_ City, Missouri.

## DOWN

2. FFA members make up a local \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The first association to receive a charter.
5. The symbol at the advisor's station.
7. The Appalachian Area Vice President is \_\_\_\_\_ Kiser.
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ Degree is the first degree of membership.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ procedure is used to conduct meetings.
12. Stephanie Chick is from the \_\_\_\_\_ FFA Chapter.
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ degree is the highest degree of membership.
18. Scott \_\_\_\_\_ is from the Dinwiddie FFA Chapter.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Rudolph is the Northern Area Vice President.
22. Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ is the official state publication.