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South FFA crops team keeps up its winning ways

Journal Review

The Southmont FFA senior crops judging team placed first at the State Crops Contest at Purdue on Dec. 9, giving the school its 34th state title in crops judging.

There were 52 teams and 187 individuals in the contest. First place team members are Cole Rhoads, Natalie Rhoads, Kylee Reeves and Kelsey Thompson. Southmont also had the third place team in the state. The third place team members are Trent Reeves, Lennon Woods, Ethan Smith and Caden Allen. Daniel Simpson, Kale Vaught and Madelyn Roberts made up the 19th place state team.

Each member of the first place team will receive a \$500 scholarship given by the Southmont FFA Chapter.

Southmont FFA had five members in the top eight at the contest. Cole Rhoads placed first with 631 points out of 700 points possible. Natalie Rhoads placed second, Kylee Reeves placed fifth, Kelsey Thompson placed sixth, Trent Reeves placed eighth and Lennon Woods placed 17th.

The senior team went undefeated this year placing 1st at all the competitions. Their first contest was at the Triton Invitational where they placed first and second; at the Purdue contest the teams placed first and third; at Indian Creek the teams placed first and second; and then at the area contest the teams placed first, second and fourth.

The Southmont FFA Junior High Crops team also won the state championship. There were a total of 17 junior teams and 63 individuals. Champion team members are Hunter Thompson, Cassidy Dittmer, Emily Simpson and Danika Ward. Individually, Hunter Thompson placed first, Cassidy Dittmer placed seventh, Emily Simpson placed ninth, Danika Ward placed 18th and Grant Reeves placed 24th.

The junior teams, placed third at the Triton contest; placed second and fourth at Purdue; placed first and third at Indian Creek; and place first and third at the area contest.

Crops judging requires participants



Front row, from left, Hunter Thompson, Grant Reeves, Natalie Rhoads, Kylee Reeves, Danika Ward, Emily Simpson, Lennon Woods and Cassidy Dittmer; and back row, Trent Reeves, Coach Gary Mosbaugh, Caden Allen, Daniel Simpson, Kelsey Thompson, Kale Vaught, Ethan Smith, Madelyn Roberts and Cole Rhoads.

to identify 25 crop and weed plant specimens out of a list of 68, 25 weed and crop seeds out of a list of 70 that are common in Indiana, 20 disease, damages and insects from a list of 41, and finally identify 10 types of machinery and equipment. They also learn to grade six grain samples according to the US grain grading standards and recognize grain diseases and damage factors that might lower grain quality and, therefore, market value. The final part of the contest consists of a multiple choice quiz over weed control, crop production practices and pesticide application techniques common in Indiana.

Members worked hard this year staying after school for more than 2 1/2 hours every day during the season. The senior teams won every contest this year continuing Southmont's winning tradition. During the last 45 years Southmont has won the state contest 34 times and placed second in the state 12 times.



Right: The State Champion Senior Team of Natalie Rhoads, Kylee Reeves, Kelsey Thompson and Cole Rhoads.

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North FFA Chapter stays busy year-round

For the Journal Review

County Ag Days

Every year the North Montgomery FFA Chapter joins in with other organizations to present to 4th graders about agriculture. We always enjoy doing this and getting to teach kids about agriculture. Many kids don't understand where their food or clothes come from and it is super important that this generation understands how it is produced. Kids should have the opportunity to learn about agriculture as we are surrounded by it in Montgomery County.

At the County Ag Days, we spend 20-30 minutes with each group of kids from North Montgomery, Crawfordville, and Southmont elementary schools. Our officers and officer candidates rotate through presentations during that time. We teach the kids about different agricultural careers. We teach the kids that you don't just have to be a farmer to be involved in agriculture. The kids get to interact with us and ask us questions about what different jobs they could do in agriculture.

We go through the cycle of farm to fork so they kids can really get a grasp on where they get the food that they eat. Kade Parks, one of the officer candidates said, "I loved seeing the kids faces light up and laugh." It is super cool to see the way the kids understand what we are talking about and to see the interaction that they have with us. We always enjoy getting to be apart of the County Ag Days and it is a great way for our chapter to give back to the community that always gives to us!

— Grace Moseley, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Secretary

Leadership Development Workshop

The LDW camp, or Leadership Development Workshop, is an FFA experience that the North Montgomery FFA Chapter officers always look forward to. It's a fun packed weekend full of leadership



and growth opportunities. This year our chapter was able to bring our entire officer team and three other FFA members. It was an opportunity to not only grow in ourselves, but also as an officer team.

We worked together to solve problems, plan things for our chapter, and to get through difficult challenges. We get to spend the weekend learning more about each other and becoming a better and more successful officer team. Not only do we get to be with each other, we also get to meet many other FFA members from all over Indiana. You get the opportunity to reach out and meet new people.

We spent the weekend in Trafalgar, Indiana at the Indiana FFA Leadership Center listening to the Indiana State FFA officers. They spent a lot of time teaching us how to work together and solve problems. We even got to attend a dance where we had a blast with all the FFA members. It was such a great experience to be able to go to the LDW camp this year!

The North Montgomery FFA officer team and a few other members get ready for a fun-filled weekend at the LDW camp.

— Grace Moseley, North Montgomery FFA Secretary

Chapter Retreat

The North Montgomery FFA chapter participates in many activities every year but the most anticipated by the members is chapter retreat. Chapter retreat is in mid-march at the FFA leadership center in Trafalgar. Middle school members, high school members and chapter officers pile into a bus for an hour-long bus ride. The retreat features multiple team building activities with the state officers but they also can go hiking, go out on the paddle boats, play games, or just hang out. The members sign up to help cook food and clean up after the meals.

One of the most notable parts of the retreat was pranking the state officers. Last year a group of high school and middle school boys snuck around the state officer house to the back patio and threw a barrage of acorns at the sliding door. It sounded like rain was blowing onto the door and it freaked out last year's officers. Everyone had a good laugh about it later. There was a day that it started snowing at the leadership center so everyone went out on the paddle boats since it was

so beautiful on the pond. We couldn't stay out forever though and eventually we were called back inside for another team building activity with the state officers.

With all the shenanigans that took place, all the jokes and playful pranks, our student advisor and ag teacher Mrs. Bell carefully watched over us, stepped in where needed and occasionally rolled her eyes at the goofiness taking place. Two such events that seemed to entertain the students and chaperons were the nightly gaga ball tournaments and the wrestling matches.

Though chapter retreat lasts a few days, it seems like only a split second that you're there. The whole trip was an ecstatic.

When most people think of the FFA leadership center they think it'll be boring leadership activities but the activities that we participated in were surprisingly fun. One of the activities we did was a four way tug of war, it was exceedingly difficult but everyone that did it had a fantastic time because of how competitive it was. Another activity is pictured above; members had to synchronize foot and arm movements to move forward, if anyone was off it became impossible.

— Israel Rose, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Sentinel

Cain's Conservation Days

The Cain family is an active part of the community and holds conservation days to educate fourth graders in the county about conservation and the environment at their farm. The children get to go on hay rides to and from each activity and get to participate in multiple labs. Different members of the Cain family assist in giving rides to the kids and teaching them at the stations. The path between each station is around the pond and through the lush forest which can give the kids a pleasing visual as well as a reference for what they learned. The kids enjoy the fresh august air and enjoy being out of

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the school for a day.

The North Montgomery FFA chapter helps the Cains teach the students and the kids were able to make bracelets at the NMHS station. The kids are each given a pipe cleaner at the beginning of their time at the station and as they go to different substations at the North Montgomery area they collect beads correlating to each substation; at the end of their time at the area they have colorful bracelets to take home. Once the children have been to all the substations that each FFA chapter officer teaches they can go back to their seats. Once everyone is seated the officers ask a question pertaining to the topic they taught. Many kids absorb the knowledge and spout back to the officers what they learned.

After all the children come through the stations and get on the buses to go home, it's time to clean up. The NMHS FFA chapter begins by cleaning up the officer's substations and stacking the hay bales for the Cains to come around with a trailer to pick up. Next the shelter needs to be taken down, once all this is done our chapter officers and student advisor go around and deconstruct each station with the Cains and their employees. At the end of the day us officers and the workers are tired but content with teaching the fourth graders and with the thoughtful lunch provided by the Cain family that gave us the energy to stay enthused and excited. Our chapter enjoys teaching the youth of Montgomery county and the Cain conservation days are a perfect opportunity to fulfill that.

— Israel Rose, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Sentinel

National FFA Week Activities

National FFA week at North Montgomery High school the FFA chapter does a lot of fun activities throughout the week. Such as age olympics, FFA kickball, kiss a goat or pig, And drive your tractor to school. The FFA chapter also does a fun week of dress up to try and get kids excited for FFA week. So I am here to tell you about all the fun activities.

The Ag Olympics are always a big hit

at the high school. The activities we do during lunch are a lasso contest, bolt boards, bucket carrying, straw bale stack, and trivial. This is a good way for people to compete with their friends and make good memories. All of the FFA officers work very hard to make sure that the ag olympics to make sure everyone has fun.

The next activity I am going to talk about is kissing a goat or pig. In many previous years we have kissed a goat but we wanted a change so this year is kissing a pig. Throughout the week people can put money in a bucket with a teacher's face on it. This activity is used to raise money for the chapter and many even see your least favorite teacher kiss a pig.

— Claire Grimes, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Co-Reporter

Kids Against Hunger

Kids Against Hunger is always our April meeting. During this meeting with pack meal packs for families who struggle. It is a great opportunity to help out people in need. While this meeting is a very important event for our chapter we still have lots of fun while you are packing meals with your friends and family. We also open this meeting up to other clubs, organizations, and the community around us that want to help with this event.

Member Ella McManomy said, "Kids against hunger is an amazing experience to learn and help people across the world. The meals that you make feed tons of people to make sure they are getting all the nutrients they need." Seeing how members love this event too just helps us want to continue to still do and that's how we know we are making an impact on the people around us not only by supporting those who need the food but it also impacts those who help pack the food. Another member, Hope Delp, said, "Kids against hunger has always been special to me ever since I was little. I love preparing the food that helps people across the world and in our community survive. It is an amazing feeling knowing that you are helping others plus I get to pack the food with my friends." Being able to hear the opinions of the other members lets



us know how we need this event as a meeting and every year might be the same motions as the year before but we are hopefully reaching new people and hopefully getting new and more helpers to make their impact on this event.

Having this event at the high school really helps encourage people to come and help us out. This is a great community outreach event and community service. This event is by far one of

our larger community service events. Our goal is to pack 50 boxes and to do this we ask for any and everyone to come help. Depending on the amount of people that come determinants how long it takes to pack that amount of boxes but we don't worry about the time we seize the opportunity to help those that need the boxes.

Seeing fellow members working together to pack this food is always a great sight for our chapter.



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Seeing the amount of people that come that aren't in our chapter but still come out to help with this event, also seeing the amount of boxes that we are able to pack in a small amount of time is great to show that we are able to come together for this great event.

— Krestyn Bradford, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Student Advisor

Indiana State FFA Convention

FFA State Convention is always of time of joy for all chapters in Indiana. Representatives from every chapter come together to recognize one another for the hard work and dedication that's been given over the last year. The event spans three days and takes place on Purdue's campus in June. Even though the convention is full of sweaty high school students walking around Purdue's campus in shoes not meant for walking, it's always a time to remember.

This past year, the North Montgomery FFA chapter had 7 members attend over the span of three days. Our chapter was recognized as 2nd in the state for Safety Initiatives, 3rd for Community Initiatives, and as both a Superior Chapter and a Gold Emblem Chapter. Three members, Brent Runyan, Sophia Morris, and Mady Bush, received their Hoosier Degrees as well. Overall the convention was a huge success for our chapter and allowed our members numerous networking opportunities.

According to Grace Moseley (Secretary), "The Indiana FFA State Convention was a really fun time this past year. I enjoyed meeting people from all over Indiana." This wonderful annual event is the highlight of every FFA chapter's summer. The recognition for all the dedication put in and the camaraderie established within a new officer team is unbeatable.

— Sophia Morris, North Montgomery FFA Vice President

Spring & Fall Fundraisers

Every year, our FFA chapter hosts two fundraisers, one in the fall and another in the spring. Our first fundraiser is our fruit and poinsettia sale. The FFA



members sell boxes of fruit and home-grown poinsettias to support the chapter throughout the year. The next fundraiser is hosted in the spring. This time, we sell the actual plants. Everything from vegetables to spider plants can be found at this fundraiser. All of the plants in both fundraisers are cared for by Mrs. Bell and her Landscaping classes.

In addition, the members who sell over a certain threshold get a reward. An all-expenses-paid trip to Holiday World in June. As if helping the chapter wasn't enough, our charter pays for a 2-day trip to a theme park! This experience establishes firmer connections between all members in attendance. Eli Moseley says, "It's really great to help out the chapter like this." "When everyone does just a little bit to help fund the chapter, members and supporters alike, it's amazing how much we accomplish," Eva Rose commented.

Everyone in the chapter goes out of their way to help fund the numerous events we host throughout the year. Even the teachers at our school love to help. It's amazing to walk around and see all of the plants that suddenly pop up in classrooms around the school. The support that we see in our community is unmatched and we are forever grateful for that.

— Sophia Morris, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Vice President

Riley Blankets

The North Montgomery FFA chapter often tries to positively impact the community by volunteering and donating to different charities in our community. Usually, this is by donating time or labor, but one of the largest ways we incorporate both is by making and donating no-sew tie blankets to the Riley Foundation.

The Riley Foundation was created in 1921 as a nonprofit foundation designed to build a children's hospital that would strive to help kids live as normal lives as possible. It was finally built in 1924 and has since been providing children with the best healthcare professionals possible. With over 50 locations across the state, it is Indiana's largest pediatric system.

The North Montgomery FFA has been making tie blankets for 14 years and collaborates with the school's Key Club and National Honor Society, Student Council, to help accomplish this task of making 60 blankets in roughly two hours. This is one of the FFA's biggest donations to the community. We do this to help promote leadership within the chapter as you must work together with at team to make the blankets, and make them correctly.

— Caden Ireland, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Treasurer/President

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Needy Family Shopping

Every December, the North Montgomery FFA chapter goes shopping for a holiday meal for families in need. We went to Kroger after school on December 20 with a turnout of 11 people. This year, we sponsored two families, so chapter members split up into two groups with one for each family. The groups planned a shopping list according to each family's unique needs.

Food consisted of both refrigerated goods, including milk, butter, and a Christmas ham, and non-refrigerated goods, such as instant mashed potatoes and apples. The groups did their best to cover every aspect of a holiday meal including side dishes, drinks, entrees, and dessert.

The food items were stored in boxes to be sent to the families the next day after the group returned to the school. Following the event, Kade Parks said "I enjoy helping families in need because you never know how much that meal could mean to them." Other members of both groups also enjoyed finding a way to help benefit their communities and doing an activity with friends (and getting ice cream afterwards!). Needy Family shopping is a great way to get our FFA chapter involved in the community.

— Maggie Ireland, North Montgomery FFA Chapter Co-Reporter

National FFA Convention

The North Montgomery FFA chapter attended the 96th annual National FFA convention From November 2nd to the 4th. Within these days of attending the convention our chapter participated in the "National Day of Service" where we helped a park by clearing out invasive plants, and cleaning up the landscaping. Our chapter also met with many representatives of brands such as John Deere, Case IH, Corteva, Bayer, and many more at the National FFA trade show. We were able to see some of the latest technology in farming, and discuss potential jobs with these companies. Our Chapter also had the opportunity to travel to a dairy cattle operation, where we experienced

the bottling of milk, and we checked out their facility. And to cap it all off we attended the National FFA rodeo, where we witnessed bull riding, bareback, and saddle bronc riding. All in all we had a good time and learned a lot to take back to our chapters and operations.

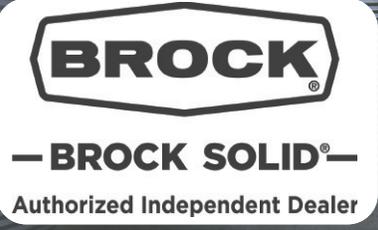
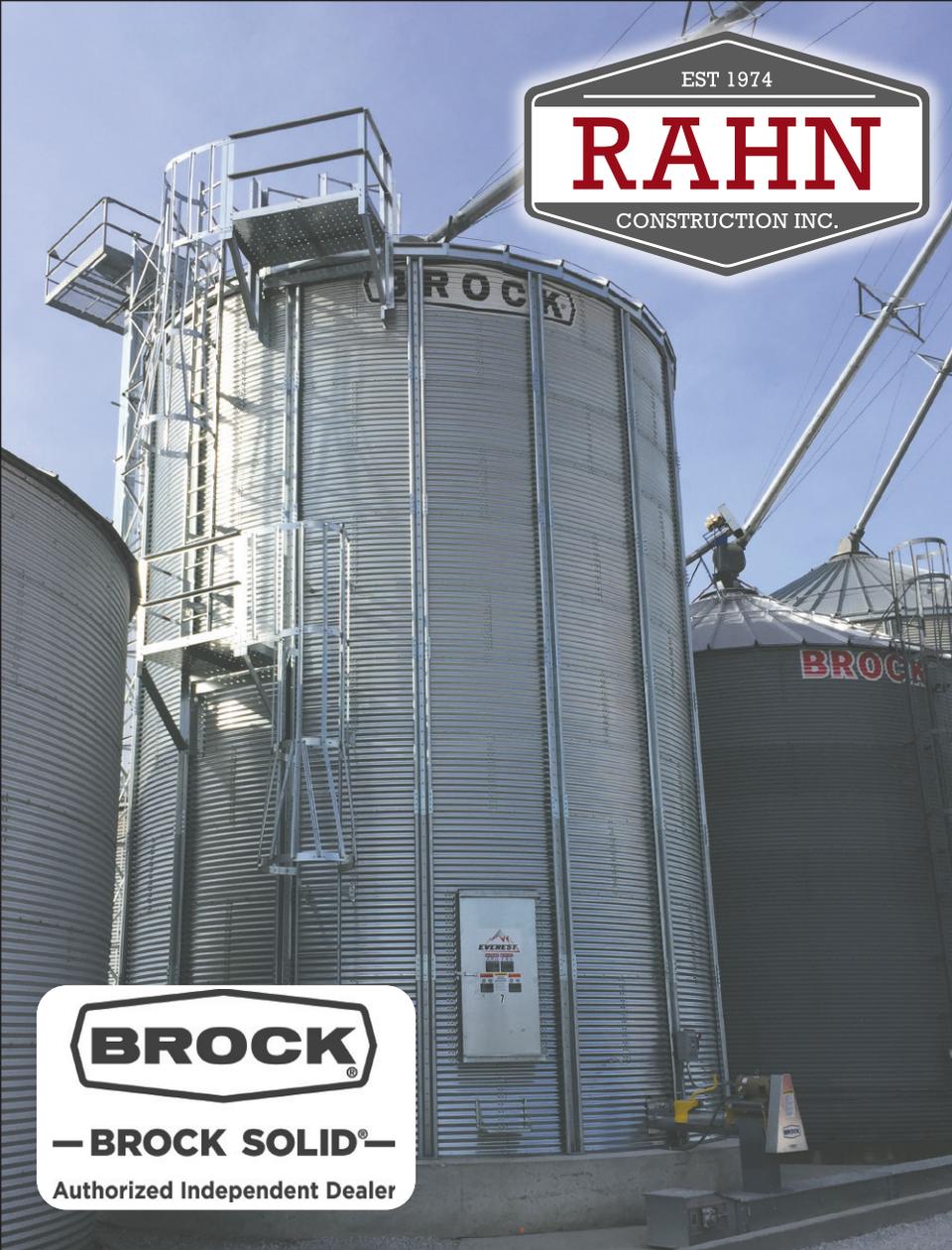
— Brent Runyan, North Montgomery FFA Chapter President

North Montgomery FFA Farm Safety Day

The North Montgomery FFA chapter is preparing to host our FFA Farm Safety Day on March 20th, 2024. Our chapter arranges several different stations ranging from PTO safety, grain safety, fire safety and more. There will be 128 5th graders from our school corporation that will be in attendance and learn about these farm safety practices. Our goal is to ensure that the local kids stay safe around the farm. We have many different partners in this program ranging from WCI Family Farms, Coal Creek Fire and Rescue, Perry Equipment and many more partners that are helping us with the day's activities. Our Chapter truly enjoys doing this and we hope that it will impact our community in a positive way.

— Brent Runyan, North Montgomery FFA Chapter President





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Parke Heritage FFA



The Parke Heritage FFA chapters attended the National FFA Convention held in Indianapolis. The members attended the general sessions, visited the trade show and assisted with service projects. Attending the FFA National Convention were, from left, front row, Noelle Blake, Cohen Berry, Whitney Swaim, Alisa McMullen, Brooklynn McMullen, Ella Norman, Stormi Swaim, Grace Goldner, Skyley Cloncs, Madison Coleman, Carson Rolison, Wesley Pratt, Hallie Jones and Karsyn Zenor; and back row, Colton McMullen, Brayton Myers, Hunter McDaniel, Paige Bishop, Kennedy Mitchell, Bradley McElheny, Ryan Mathis, Treyton Burgess and Cade Runyan.

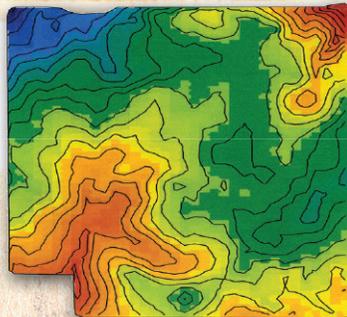


Four Parke Heritage FFA members won High Team Honors at the Livestock Judging Contest held at the Hoosier Beef Congress in Indianapolis. The team of Cohen Berry, Whitney Swaim, Brooklynn McMullen and Kamden Shields were the High Team in the Junior Division. Shields was the High Individual and Berry was Third High Individual. Stormi Swaim was Fourth High Individual for the senior division. There were 55 teams and 155 individuals competing in the contest. Also participating in the Junior Division contest were Emmylou Rader, Kennedy Mitchell and Landon Berry. Pictured, from left, are Cohen Berry, Whitney Swaim, Brooklynn McMullen and Kamden Shields.

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Parke Heritage High School and Parke Heritage Middle School FFA members participated in the Area 5 Livestock Skillathon at Clay County Fairgrounds on Sept. 13. They were tested on livestock breeds, feedstuffs, equipment, meat cuts, general industry knowledge, and took a quality assurance quiz. The PHHS FFA Gold Team was the sixth overall senior team. Treyton Burgess was the 13th high individual. Other team members were Stormi Swaim, Hayden Holcomb and Kailey Seay. For the PHMS chapter, the Gold Team was fifth overall junior team and the FFA Blue Team was 14th overall junior team. Whitney Swaim was ninth high individual and Kamden Shields was 13th high individual for the junior division. Pictured are, from left, front row, Ryder Smith, Max Jeffries, Eli Seay, Krede Shields, Emmylou Rader, Whitney Swaim, Brooklynn McMullen, Kenleigh Berry, Alisa McMullen, Cohen Berry and McKenna Mager; middle row, Kolten Myers, Lydia Jeffries, Kailey Seay, Kamden Shields and Stormi Swaim; and back row, Bradley McElhane, Klayton Burgess, Treyton Burgess, Landon Berry, Mary Stevenson, Hayden Holcomb, Kennedy Mitchell, Mason Woody, Wesley Pratt and Evie Lund.



Parke Heritage FFA members competed in the District VII Chapter Meeting Contest held Dec. 11 at South Putnam High School. This contest involves the chapter members conducting a meeting. Students participating in the Parliamentary Procedure Leadership Development Event are evaluated on their ability to conduct an orderly and efficient meeting using parliamentary procedure. The PHHS novice team placed first, making them eligible to compete at the section contest in January. Team members are Stormi Swaim, Julia Carroll, Lydia Jeffries, Destinee Stevenson, Ella Norman, Anesa Veseli, Bradley McElhany, Lane Helderman and Klayton Burgess. The senior team earned third place in their division. Members of this team are Raegan Ramsay, Madison Coleman, Carson Rolison, Treyton Burgess, Paige Bishop, Emma Simpson, Grace Goldner, Kim Koren and Brooke Mace. Pictured, are, front row, Julia Carroll, Stormi Swaim, Destinee Stevenson, Kim Koren and Grace Goldner; middle row, Anesa Veseli, Paige Bishop, Ella Norman, Madison Coleman and Lane Helderman; and back row, Lydia Jeffries, Brooke Mace, Raegan Ramsay, Emma Simpson, Carson Rolison, Treyton Burgess, Klayton Burgess and Bradley McElhany.

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Applications & Scholarships

Hoosier and American Degrees

The Hoosier and American FFA Degrees are tremendous accomplishments for an FFA member. These degrees document that the member has achieved success at a high level in their Supervised Agriculture Experience program, leadership development, and community service. These degrees recognize what FFA members strive for in their careers.

STATE STAR PROGRAM

The Stars over Indiana award program recognizes FFA members that have excelled in the Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs. Members compete in 1 of 4 different Star Award Areas: Agribusiness, Agriculture, Farmer, and Placement.

PROFICIENCIES

Proficiency areas recognize members for their advancement and expertise in their Supervised Agri-

culture Experience (SAE) programs. With a wide range of placement and ownership categories, these work experience areas serve to develop skills in our members that can only be learned through “hands on” efforts outside the classroom. Indiana FFA serves as an economic development engine by promoting career skills in its members.

HONORARY HOOSIER DEGREE, DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND VIP AWARD

The Honorary Hoosier Degree, Distinguished Service and the VIP Awards are presented by the Indiana FFA at the annual State FFA Convention. Nominations may be made by any FFA chapter representative in the state of Indiana. Nominations may also be made by members of the Indiana FFA Executive Committee, State FFA Officers and State Staff.

NATIONAL CHAPTER AWARD

The National Chapter Awards program seeks to recognize the finest FFA chapters in Indiana and the nation. Chapters have the opportunity to showcase their top activities. The application is available on ffa.org.

LIVING TO SERVE (COMMUNITY AND SAFETY)

Community Initiative: Servant Leadership is not a catch phrase. It is indeed a lifestyle and one that blesses the giver and recipient in ways that can be hard to measure. This awards area will recognize those chapters who have made serving their community an important part of their FFA Chapter’s program.

Safety Initiative: Agriculture remains one of the most dangerous occupational fields in America. This program will recognize those chapters who have made a special effort

to make their agriculture community a safer place through education and service programs.

INDIANA STATE FAIR SCHOLARSHIP

The Indiana FFA offers an annual scholarship in the amount of \$500 to a student who has benefited themselves and the Indiana FFA by contributing to the Indiana FFA Pavilion and/or Country Market and its activities at the State Fair. See the “Resources” section to download scholarship application.

WASHINGTON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Washington Leadership Conference is an opportunity for FFA members across the country to learn skills to become better leaders. Held in Washington D.C. annually, the five-day conference features workshops and speakers that teach attendees to “know their purpose, value people, take action and serve others.”

Conferences & Conventions

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

District Conventions will run March-April. Please check the inffa.org calendar on the home page for dates and locations.

STATE CONVENTION

The 2024 State Convention will be held on June 17-20 at Purdue University.

DISTRICT KICK-OFFS

Engaging members, encouraging involvement, and fostering cooperation among chapters; all this and more are the focus of the 12 District Kickoff

Meetings. Members from around each district will come together in the fall (check calendar for details) for a great time of meeting district and state officers as they expound on all the great opportunities Indiana FFA has to offer and how the members can be more involved. District business is often conducted at this time and the district dates are set. This is a great chance to enjoy FFA at the district and state level close to home.

INDIANA STATE FAIR

Join us for the greatest showcase of the Past, Present & Future of Hoosier Agriculture. We will honor and gratefully introduce those who have com-

mitted their lives to producing food, fiber & fuel through the innovation of their Farms, our Future and our Communities.

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION & EXPO

This October, Indiana FFA members will join over 60,000 attendees from across the country at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. Members experiencing this convention will fill educational sessions, attend workshops and make lifelong friends! Click here for more information.

STATE CONFERENCES/CAMPS

Indiana FFA offers several opportu-

nities for members to develop leadership skills through camps and conferences such as Premier Leadership Training, SOAR, FIRE and the Leadership Development Workshop.

WASHINGTON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Washington Leadership Conference is an opportunity for FFA members across the country to learn skills to become better leaders. Held in Washington D.C. annually, the five-day conference features workshops and speakers that teach attendees to “know their purpose, value people, take action and serve others.”



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FFA Membership FAQ

What is active membership?

Active membership within the National FFA Organization is for middle and high school students engaged in Agricultural Education courses and actively participate in FFA activities. Requirements for membership are outlined below.

Who counts as a member?

- Any middle school or high school student (Grades 7-12) enrolled in agricultural education courses.
- Graduated students may retain active membership until Nov. 30, following the fourth National FFA Convention after graduation from high school. (National FFA Constitution & Bylaws)
- Traditionally only those members pursuing higher degrees or awards desire to retain active membership. (e.g. Members pursuing their American Degree)

What are the dues fees with active membership?

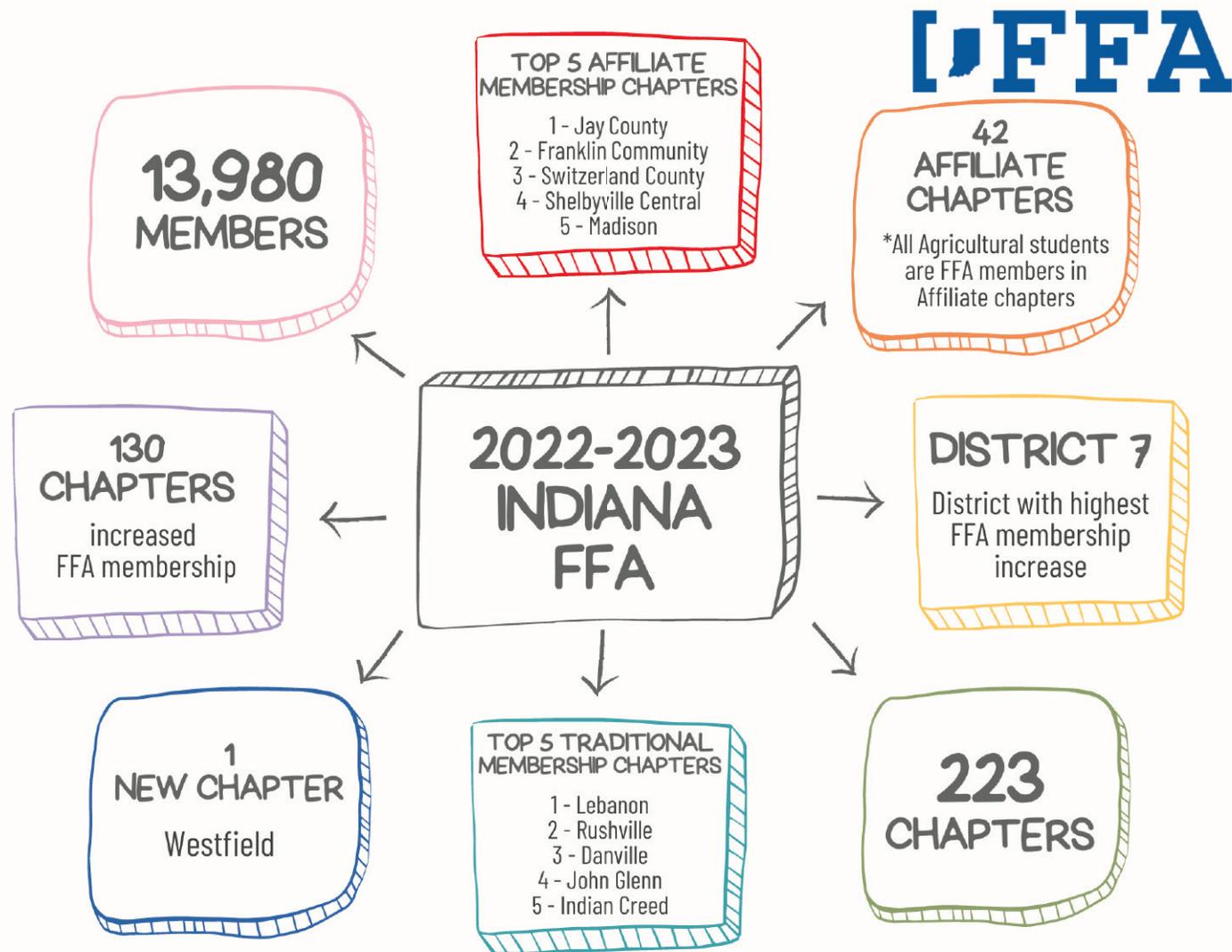
Dues paid to the Indiana FFA Association are \$14 per active member per year, and include national, state, and district dues. Local dues shall be established by a majority vote of the local chapter.

How is the membership roster completed?

Everything about submitting students on the membership roster is completed on the Indiana FFA website, www.inffa.org. Once approved, members will have access to all features on the National FFA website, www.ffa.org. Students may be added through the system on Indiana's website and then submitted for state approval. Students can be added throughout the year if transfers/move-ins occur.

When must everything be completed?

- Student Roster – completed on www.inffa.org by Oct. 15
- Dues Paid – 60 days after invoice is created on inffa.org.



- See the PDF “Roster Instructions” for more detailed dates and instructions.

What defines a member as being “In Good Standing” with Indiana and National FFA?

Taken from the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws.

- Be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year.
- Attend meetings, strive for degrees of membership, and participate in other organized activities of the chapter.
- Pay all current state and national dues.

- Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

How can a home school student join the local FFA chapter?

Home school students are still required to be enrolled in an Agricultural Education course, this can include SAE such as Summer SAE. This course would be offered through the local high school and must show up on their official transcript. The local high school administration also needs to sign off and approve the home school student as a member of the course and the FFA chapter.

How can an online high school student join the local FFA chapter?

The same guidelines for home school students would apply for online students joining the local chapter. There are 2 virtual schools that offer ag courses and have FFA chapters.

Is there an FFA chapter for online students in Indiana?

There are two online ag programs that have FFA chapters for their online students. These two online schools include Indiana Ag & Tech and Indiana Digital School.

FFA students to compete

Journal Review

Indiana has 100 students from across the state competing at the National FFA Convention next week in a variety of Career Development Events and Leadership Development Events.

“I am incredibly proud of these hardworking students,” said Lt. Gov. Crouch, Indiana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. “Being able to showcase their talents and skills at the 96th National FFA Convention right here in their home state is extraordinary and I know they will make our Hoosier hearts proud.”

Students will be competing in career leadership events such as Environment and Natural Resources, Forestry, Veterinary Science and Floriculture. Others will be competing in leadership development events such as Extemporaneous Public Speaking, Agricultural Issues Forum and Creed Speaking.

“I know how stressful these events can be and how much preparation goes into making it to the national level- I am so proud of each of these

students,” said Don Lamb, Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director. “I also want to highlight each FFA advisor, mentor and parent that helped these students along the way; I also know how hard you work as well and how much you deeply care for these students, thank you.”

The following area students will be competing at the 96th National FFA Convention:

- From Fountain Central FFA: Jaylin Payne, Jessie Frazee, Erin Sillery and Anothony Lopez, all in agronomy.

- From Lebanon FFA: Lauren Argotte, Ava Susong, Breanna Stratton, Thomas Thompson, all in agricultural communications, and Aaliyah Carlisle, employment skills.

- From North Putnam FFA: Heath Livingston, James Thomas, Atticus South, Sydney Williams, Allison Skirvin, Gavin Simonson and Chase Abdon, all conduct of chapter meetings, and Jayden Simpson, beef production entrepreneurship.

- From South Putnam FFA: Megan Arnold and Madison Newby, agriculture power, structure and technical systems, division 6.



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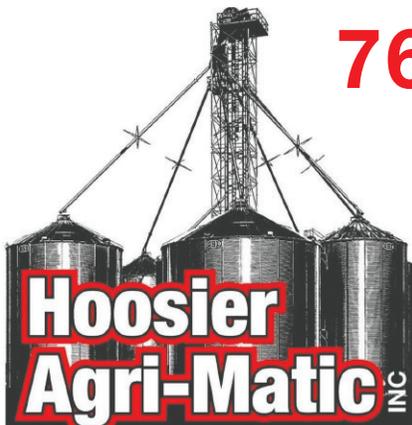
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Students across country to celebrate agriculture

Mike Jones

INDIANAPOLIS — This month, FFA members across the country, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands will celebrate agriculture and FFA. It's all part of National FFA Week.

National FFA Week is a time for FFA members to raise awareness about the National FFA Organization's role in developing future leaders in agriculture and the importance of agricultural education.

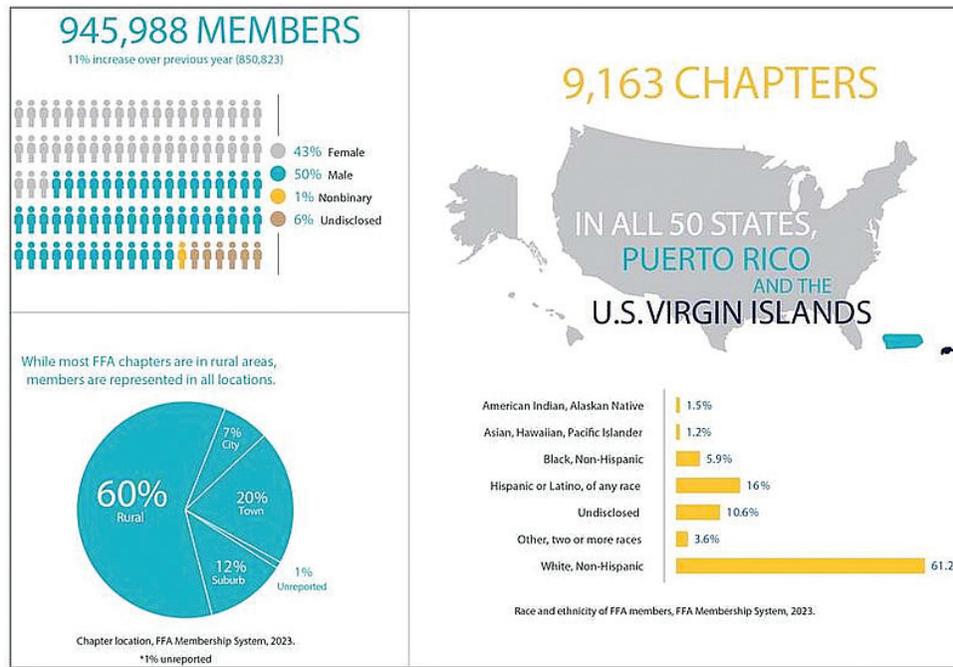
FFA provides the next generation of leaders who will change the world. As the nation's top school-based youth leadership development organization, FFA helps young people meet new agricultural challenges by encouraging members to develop their unique talents and explore their interests in various career

pathways. FFA members are future leaders, food suppliers, innovators and more.

National FFA Week runs from Saturday to Saturday, encompassing Feb. 22, George Washington's birthday. This year, the week kicks off Feb. 17 and culminates Feb. 24.

The National FFA Board of Directors designated the weeklong tradition, which began in 1948, to recognize Washington's legacy as an agriculturist and farmer. A group of young farmers founded FFA in 1928, and the organization has been influencing generations to believe that agriculture is planting and harvesting — and involves science, business and more.

"National FFA Week is a meaningful week for members across our country as we celebrate an organization that is welcoming to all and crucial to developing the next generation of leaders and those who will fill the ever-grow-



ing need in the talent pipeline," said National FFA Advisor Dr. Travis Park. "Not only is it an opportunity to share our message with a broader audience, but it's also an opportunity for our FFA chapters and members to celebrate agriculture and agricultural education while thanking their supporters — their local alumni and supporters chapters, agriculture teachers, or local businesses."

National FFA Week is a time for FFA members to share agriculture with their fellow students and communities. During the week, chapters also give back to their communities through various service projects.

The six National FFA Officers will connect with chapters nationwide throughout the week delivering keynotes, greetings, workshops and more.

President Amara Jackson will visit with FFA members in Texas and Ar-

kansas. Western Region Vice President Emily Gossett will see FFA members in Florida and Georgia. Eastern Region Vice President Morgan Anderson will visit with FFA members in Iowa and Colorado. Central Region Vice President Kanyon Huntington will visit with FFA members in Kentucky and Virginia. Southern Region Vice President Carter Howell will visit with FFA members in Connecticut and Maryland. Secretary Grant Norfleet will visit with FFA members in Idaho and Alaska.

ABOUT AGRICULTURE FUTURE OF AMERICA

AFA builds bridges for young leaders to foster engagement and innovation in food and agriculture through premier leader and career development experiences. With program participation increasing 28% in the last five years, AFA has provided 26,000 leader

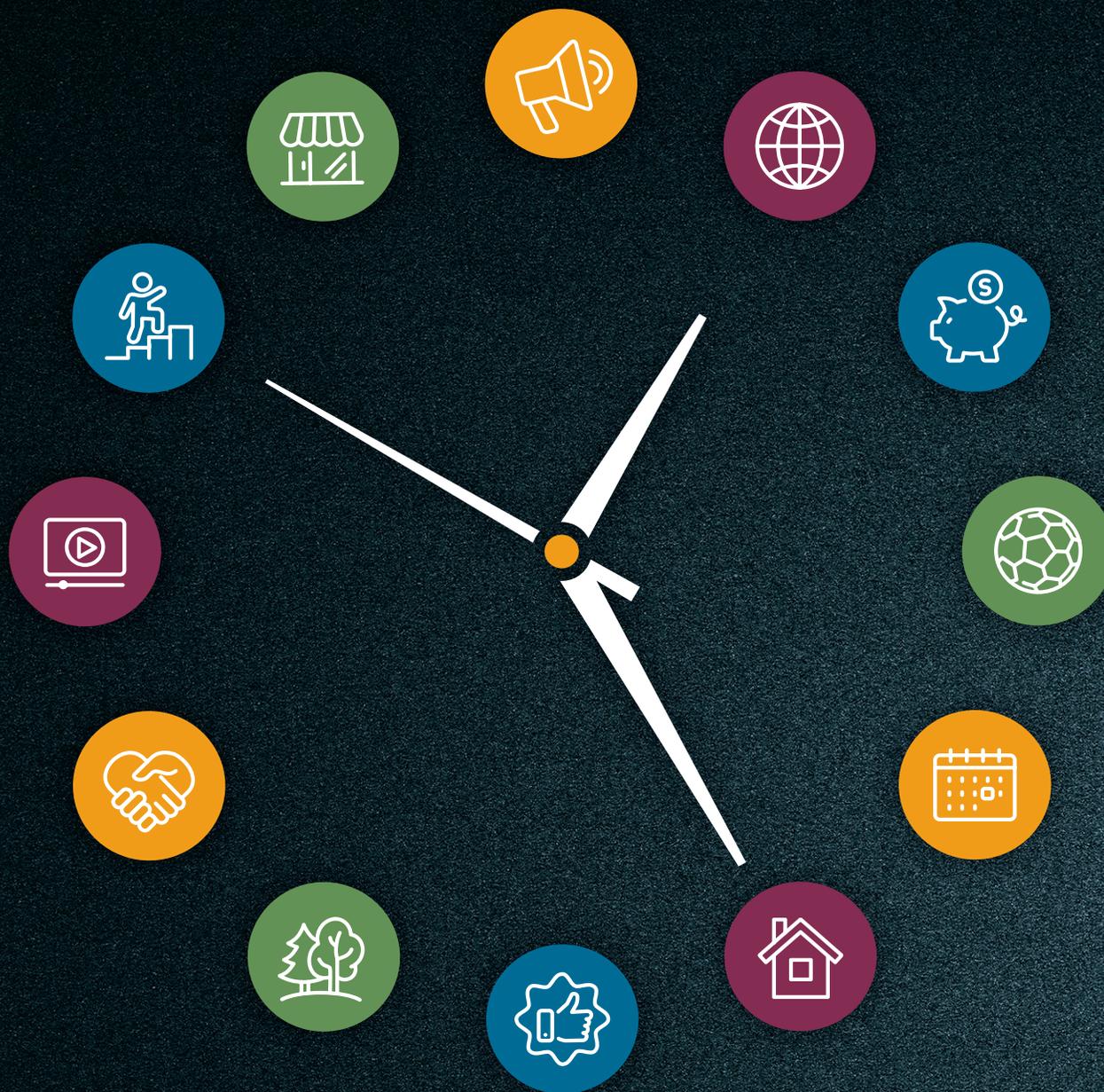
development experiences to college leaders and young professionals from more than 200 colleges and universities throughout 43 states since its inception in 1996. AFA has awarded more than \$11.5 million in academic and leader development scholarships. For more information about AFA, visit ffafuture.org.

ABOUT NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 945,000 student members as part of 9,163 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. For more, visit the National FFA Organization online at ffa.org and on Facebook and Twitter.

ABOUT NATIONAL FFA FOUNDATION

The National FFA Foundation builds partnerships with industry, education, government, other foundations, and individuals to secure financial resources that recognize FFA member achievements, develop student leaders, and support the future of agricultural education. Governed by a 19-member board of trustees composed of educators, business leaders, individual donors and FFA Alumni, the foundation is a separately registered nonprofit organization. About 82 percent of every dollar received by the foundation supports FFA members and agricultural education opportunities. For more, visit ffa.org/Give.



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