

Tiger Tracks

Welcome to TIGER TRACKS! This newsletter is designed to help keep the patrons of the Clinton County R-III School District informed of the happenings around the school. Hope you enjoy!

Superintendent's Report

March 2003

The state financial outlook for education for the remainder of this year and for the 2003-2004 school year is very discouraging. Reports continue to emanate from Jefferson City and DESE, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, with disturbing information of proposed cuts to public schools. Projected shortfalls continue to rise significantly from initial budget estimates with severe impacts for the Clinton County R-III School District. We have already received word this year that we will receive approximately \$62,000 less this year from our state foundation formula and can expect to lose significantly more finances for next year due to enrollment figures and decreased formula proration factors within state payment calculations.

The volatility of the financial factors makes it very difficult to prepare a budget for the 2003-2004 school year. Although this is the time of year we normally start preparing for the next year, we do not know within what financial parameters we will be operating next year, but we do know it appears very likely we will be dealing with significant deficits from what we have this year. We have deficit spent this school year and have been for the past few years. We have seen our fund balances decline to the point we now have to take corrective actions to remain on a sound financial basis.

With this in mind, the School Board, at our regular February meeting, voted to non-renew six teaching positions from our certificated staff, along with our decision to not continue with management school participation at Faucett, and eliminating some athletics. We have made every effort to provide the continued strong educational program at each building for all of our students. Athletics including coaching positions for golf, assistant high school track, assistant high school football, middle school wrestling, Crimson Girls, middle school assistant basketball, and middle school cheerleading have been eliminated. All of these deficit spending corrections will enable the district to continue to meet the needs of students while maintaining viable financial basis. We will also have to face increased operating costs and allow for our new building costs and maintenance needs. These corrective measures were recommended with reservation and received and acted upon after careful consideration and deliberation by the Board of Education. Hopefully the

financial picture for the future will brighten and a more positive outlook will be realized.

Please remember that Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for March 20. Be sure and schedule your conference appointment at the elementary school if you have received an invitation or if you feel there is a need to request a conference. Not every parent will receive an invitation, but we are always receptive to parent involvement. Parents at the high school and middle school are welcome from 2:00-8:00 p.m. This spring conference is scheduled for one day only as it has been in the past.

Please mark your calendars that we will be in session on April 21st to make-up a snow day. Spring vacation break will be Thursday, April 17th and Good Friday, April 18th. April 21st was chosen as the make-up day in order to prepare our students for forthcoming MAP testing.

BOARD NEWS

The Clinton County R-III School District Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 in the Middle School Library. After approval of Minutes of the January regular meeting and approval of February bills, Dr. Drummond reviewed the financial data for the month ending January 31, 2003 with the Board.

The building principals and the Special Education Director reported to the Board on attendance as well as the studies and activities occurring at each of the buildings.

In actions taken, the Board approved a school calendar for the 2003-2004 school year, approved additional substitute teachers for the District for the current school year, approved revised curriculum guides for Science, Communication Arts, Social Studies and Mathematics, and accepted the resignation of John Wilson, Middle School Counselor.

Following Executive Session, the Board voted to follow Dr. Drummond's recommendations for budget reductions for the 2003-2004 school year. These recommendations included the elimination of three elementary teaching positions, two MS/HS physical education/ISS positions, and the Middle School Counselor position. In addition, the District will not participate in Management School and will eliminate several extra-duty athletic positions.

The Board also voted to offer a one-year extension of their current two-year contracts to Ken Tongue, High School Principal; Gene Hay, Middle School Principal; and Albert Brugger, Elementary Principal. Stan Ingraham, Assistant High School Principal, and Melissa Wheeler, Director of Special Education, were both offered contracts for the 2003-2004 school year.

NOTES FROM THE DESK OF:

MR. BRUGGER, ELLIS PRINCIPAL

Spring is almost here and our students are working hard in all subjects. We are only two months away from taking the MAP and ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) tests in grades 1 through 5 and I am confident that our students will do a great job.

In addition to the academics that Ellis has to offer we also are having exciting field trips and performances next month. Our third graders will see a puppet show in Kansas City and the members of the fifth grade Book Club will attend the Literature Festival in Warrensburg. On March 5 we saw a performance about the life of Buffalo Bill and the history of the West.

Are you interested in being a volunteer at school? Ellis Elementary is currently looking for volunteers to help in different areas. Whether you can spare an hour a week or one day a month, you can support the education of our children. Volunteers work with children and school in many ways, including tutoring students, reading to children, assisting in the schoolyard, copying papers or helping teachers during special activities or experiments. Also, please let us know if you have a special talent or resource you can share. If you would like to sign up as a volunteer, please call our office.

MR. TONGUE, HS PRINCIPAL

As we complete the third quarter of the 2002-2003 school year, and look ahead towards the warmer months of March, April, and May many different activities for our students and parents appear on the school calendar. The end of March brings the third quarter to a close, and the opportunity for our parents to once again visit with their students' teachers. Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for March 20 from 2:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. and will be held in the same location as the Fall Conferences. The teachers will be taking a dinner break from 5:30 to 6:00 pm. April gives us the district band and choir music festival, 3.67 Honors Banquet, FFA state convention, sophomore & junior MAP tests, Junior & Senior Prom, and many other activities for both parents and students to enjoy. May closes out the school year with the state music festival, conference, district and state academic bowl and track, and commencement exercises for the graduating class of 2003.

However, with exciting activities, also come concerns. The two biggest events that stand out, and raise the level

of concern, are the Junior / Senior Prom and Graduation. Because we recognize these two events as concerns, we have tried to do our best to schedule them at the safest time and provide activities acting as deterrents to possible problems. As parents and educators, we can work together to help make these activities safe and accident free.

Becky Treichel, Nancy Hartzell, Judy Roberts, and many junior and senior parents have spent many hours organizing this year's "After Prom Party" that will be held in the high school gym, one hour after the conclusion of the Junior / Senior Prom held in Kansas City. This "After Prom Party", held at the school, gives your student the choice to have fun in an environment that is alcohol and drug free.

Many of our high school staff have volunteered to help with this project, either by donating their time in helping with the supervision duties and the running of the games, or by helping with the organization of the event. As parents, you can help too. Statistics show that the fatality rate of teenagers rises during the high school Prom and Graduation season. This rise of fatalities is believed to be due to the activities that go on after Prom, and the use of alcohol and drugs associated with these activities. As parents, we need to sit down with our student and talk about these activities and express our concerns. This can produce a positive result. We can also encourage them to attend the "After Prom Party" held at the school. Tell them you care and you don't want them in a situation where they are pressured to use alcohol or drugs to have fun. If your student is planning to attend a party held by another student, call the parent of the hosting student and ask questions. Is the party going to be supervised by an adult? Is there going to be alcohol allowed at this party? Will the kids be allowed to come and go freely from the party? You as the parent have the right to know. If you're not comfortable with the answers, then the "After Prom Party" held at the school is the safest place for your child.

If you would like to help with this event, make a donation, or would like more information about this event, please feel free to call the school and we will be happy to provide you with all the details of this great event. Let's help make Prom a safe event. Encourage your child to attend the "After Prom Party" at the high school.

MR. INGRAHAM, CURRICULUM

Up to this point we have looked at the Missouri Standards in the four core areas of math, language arts, science, and social studies. In addition to these areas, the Show-Me Standards also encompasses the areas of Health/Physical Education and Fine Arts.

This month we will look at the standards included in the Health/Physical Education areas. Missouri has listed seven Health/PE standards for students to master. These include:

1. Structures of, functions of, and relationships among the human body systems
2. Principles and practices of physical and mental health (such as personal habits, nutrition, stress management)
3. Diseases and methods for prevention, treatment and control
4. Principles of movement and physical fitness
5. Methods used to assess health, reduce risk factors, and avoid high-risk behaviors (such as violence, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use)
6. Consumer health issues (such as effects of mass media and technologies on safety and health)
7. Responses to emergency situations

SENIOR CITIZEN BANQUET

Clinton County R-III School District hosted the first senior citizen banquet on Valentine's Day, February 14. A wonderful combination of youth and seniors made for an enjoyable time for all. The cafeteria was quickly changed into a banquet setting with placemats colored by the Ellis art students of Mrs. Dudley, centerpieces and hanging decorations by Helen and Arthur Zeck, and valentine placecards made by the FCCLA. The PHS Student Council members and Girl Scout Troop 48 then served the seniors.

The OPAA kitchen staff prepared a full roast beef dinner. The maintenance staff under Mike Russell was there to help get ready and clean up. While the seniors were enjoying their meal, members of the high school choir entertained them, and Roger King had several drawings for giveaways. With all the wonderful teamwork, the banquet was a great success and enjoyed by over 100 seniors.

ELLIS ELEMENTARY

KINDERGARTEN

Most of the students are reading well. We are working toward counting and writing to 100. We had a great 100th day celebration.

FIRST GRADE

The first graders have been very busy learning more vocabulary and reading harder stories in class. In Math, we have been telling time and counting money as well as practicing our math facts. We celebrated the 100th day of school with a variety of activities all relating to the number 100. We have been talking about being a friend in conjunction with our celebration of Valentine's Day. Since February was National Heart Month, we discussed how to have a healthy heart. We have also talked about good nutrition and the food pyramid.

SECOND GRADE

In second grade we have just finished up a fun science unit on solids, liquids, and gases. In math, we have introduced basic subtraction facts and addition with regrouping! February was packed full of different activities for Black History Month and Valentine's Day! We have also started back in our Social Studies book, where we have discussed the differences between needs and wants! (This is sometimes hard to distinguish for second graders!)

THIRD GRADE

Third graders will be studying the sun, moon, and the earth. Third graders are expected to know the movement of these bodies and how that movement effects the seasons. February was Black History Month, so third graders will be studying historical events as well as individual people who made contributions in the field of science, education, sports, and civil rights. Other topics covered in Social Studies were the Chinese New Year, George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln. Students are using graphic organizers when writing paragraphs. They are also using words like first, next, then, finally, and last to give order to their writing.

FOURTH GRADE

We have just finished a journey on the Oregon Trail in social studies. Each student made a covered wagon, filled out a supply list, and wrote in a journal about their 2,000 mile journey. We will be talking about Missouri's statehood and how the Civil War affected Missouri. In Science we are having a shocking experience with static and current electricity. In math, we are really dividing things up with some double digit division. We are also looking forward to some nice warm weather this spring.

FIFTH GRADE

The fifth grade has continued to successfully master new lessons from the Saxon Math textbook. They have been learning how to calculate the perimeter of polygons, dividing by multiples of 10, multiplying by three-digit numbers, and dividing and writing quotients with fractions. In science, fifth graders just finished the last chapter on Earth science on Electrical Energy. They conducted two interactive science experiments with their peers. They tested electrical conductivity and made a dimmer switch. These experiments were exciting learning experiences. We are starting our unit on The Revolutionary War in social studies. Students will be researching specific people and dates of that time period. They will be putting together booklets and presenting them to the class. They are looking forward to the upcoming event.

ADVENTURES

Adventures 7th and 8th graders recently finished up their unit on immigration with projects on individual countries including a research paper and display. These were presented along with a play entitled "First Stop, Ellis Island" and an international potluck dinner for their families on our "We Are America Night." Interesting food (even escargot) was enjoyed by all. They are now studying National Parks. Sixth graders continue their study of Japan with our upcoming guest speaker, Melissa Wheeler. Fifth graders are learning about Alaska and recently enjoyed guest speakers Mr. and Mrs. Bier (Keaton's grandparents). Third and fourth graders are working on reading assignments and a Native American legend project to present to their class. First and second graders are studying about Mexico, deserts and are learning some Spanish.

COUNSELING NEWS

School-wide we are focusing on making healthy choices, which incorporates nutrition, poison safety for the primary grades and drug education for the upper grades. The students are having the opportunity to do interactive lessons to learn the effects of poor nutrition and drugs can have on the body.

A Parent Workshop was held on Thursday, February 20, in the Ellis Elementary Library. The topic was how to foster respect in the family. Dinner was served at 6:30 with the workshop following.

ART

Fifth grade students will be exhibiting their artwork along with the Music Program. Kindergarten and first grade students have been diving into the world of painting. Students have been exploring color theory and various painting techniques. Students are currently using water color paints and will shift to tempera. Sixth grade students have been studying the difficult technique of shading and value scale. Students have been using graphite to add 3 dimensional qualities to their drawings. 7th grade students have been exploring Asian art. Students first began the unit by exploring the Asian Opera. They will quickly move on to the role dragons have played in the history of art. Students will end this unit with the creation of a dragon kite.

COMPUTER LAB

Kindergarten and first grade students are learning to use the Internet to access many fun learning activities. Second grade students are using the Internet to research the animals from Jan Brett's book, The Mitten. Third grade will be using the Internet and Hyperstudio to create a photo album with facts about famous black Americans. In fourth grade, we are learning about the Iditarod dog sled race across Alaska. Students will research rules, maps, and

interesting facts about mushers and their dogs. Fifth grade students are continuing to use the word processing program to create a newsletter about themselves.

ELLIS MUSIC NEWS

The second grade music students have begun work on their program. The performance will be Tuesday, March 25, 7 pm at Ellis Elementary.

The special fourth and fifth grade choir, Ellis Pride, performed for the Rotary Club in the Clinton County Courthouse on March 3. March is Music in Our Schools Month.

CLINTON CO. MIDDLE SCHOOL

LIBRARY

- ★ 6TH grade skills classes constructed questions about impending war with Iraq, did research on their chosen topic, and will take part in a Socratic Seminar over a three-week period.
- ★ Teachers in our District who are currently taking graduate courses are encouraging students to try web quests. Using the internet, students answer various related questions. It looks very successful and keeps students' attention.
- ★ Reminder: Accelerated Reader quiz lists and equivalent point values may be found on the District website: 183 new titles have recently been added. The address: <http://ccr3.k12.mo.us>
- ★ A sizeable LP collection of classic composers, along with a stereo, was donated to the middle/high school library by Gloria Friesen. From Bach to Beethoven, anyone interested may check out a kit.
- ★ The Middle School Reading Club headed to the 2003 Children's Literature Festival on the campus of CMSU on March 11. A camp-out read-in was held in the library to read the book, Wild Timothy by festival guest author, Gary Blackwood, prior to attending the festival.
- ★ Bob Ficke made a nice donation of books to the library. Included in the collection are short historical pieces ranging from Mark Twain's west to the rush for gold in the Klondike.

PLATTSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

BOOSTER CLUB

Booster Club has had a busy year and we appreciate all the support that everyone has given to the organization, that helps our kids.

Our latest endeavor was a benefit dinner for the Kelley-Tyes Family, who lost their mother to a lengthy illness earlier this year. Booster Club would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and participation with this dinner. The dinner was very

successful and we were able to help the family with some of their major expenses.

Booster Club is now ready to move onto a new money making project. On Saturday, March 8, 2003, Middle School and High School Students participated in the Annual Lift-A-Thon. The money from last year's and this year's lift-a-thon will go towards the new weight room that is being built in our new addition at the high school. We estimate that to equip the new weight room could cost up to \$25,000. There will be a program and demonstrations during the lift-a-thon. We hope that everyone will support the athletes with pledges, as well as attending the lift-a-thon on March 8th. Ask any Middle School and or High School Athlete for details. Once again, thanks to all our patrons for your support.

Wheel-Chair Basketball is back on Friday Night, March 28th! Last year the Paralyzed Veterans came to our school to challenge our faculty and students to a Wheel-Chair Basketball Game. If you have never been to this event, it is something to see. Come see our faculty roll out of their chairs and star athletes challenged to the max. This evening is guaranteed to be full of laughs and humor. Come support our veterans, as well as have fun. Look for details around town or call the high school office at 539-2184.

AFTER PROM PARTY

A few years ago, parents of the junior class at the high school formed a committee to provide an After Prom Party for juniors, seniors and their dates. The party is traditionally held at the high school from 11:00 PM to 3:00 AM after the students Prom Night.

Again, this year we are keeping with tradition. Junior parents have been busy fund raising with help from senior parents and community members. We are by no means finished raising funds, but wanted to extend a big thanks to everyone that helped with the After Prom Chili, Baked Potato dinner. The dinner was held the same night as the high school's Courtwarming and was very successful. The dinner, with other donations, raised over \$1,700.00 for the After Prom Party Night. Again, thanks to all who made this success possible.

If you are interested in contributing money or gift items to the After Prom, please contact the high school office. Or, if you know of a business or company that would be interested in helping with this project call the high school office at 539-2184 and we would be glad to contact the company by phone, mail or in person.

SPANISH

Spanish I - Students are finishing a unit on noun/adjective agreement and are now able to describe themselves and others. They can also state what they do and do not like.

Spanish II - Students have just finished chapter 4 in their books in which they learned to conjugate more complex verbs. They learned vocabulary for the house and objects in the kitchen. After the chapter test, students will begin a unit on Spanish culture.

Spanish III/IV - I am so proud of the progress that these students have made this year! Students have just finished a unit on a past tense called "Imperfect" that does not exist in English. Students have written some very complex sentences and have really exercised their minds in determining when to use the imperfect as opposed to the other past tense they know.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Winter Sports activities had to be postponed until Wednesday, February 12, because the flu epidemic caused us to close school on the original date. Underclass attendants are: Freshmen—Lauren Milby and Andrew Tudorowski; sophomores—Ashley Weller and Aaron Gudde; juniors—Bonnie Treichel and Micheal Howard. King and Queen candidates are Tiffany Zimmerman and Brice Wade; Kate Bybee and Corey Stallard; Liz Elliott and J. R. Graham; Andrea Cabral and Travis Verdi; Kelsey McFarland and Cole Henry. Coronation ceremonies were held between games at the Plattsburg vs. Lawson basketball game. Mylee Greene, daughter of Shari and Kelly Greene, and Collin Aebersold, son of Cami and Tyler Aebersold, served as the crown bearers. Brice Wade and Kelsey McFarland were named prince and princess while J.R. Graham and Andrea Cabral reigned as king and queen.

Winter Sports Dance—For the first time ever, the Winter Sports Dance was held prior to coronation because of scheduling conflicts. Another change included the location. Jennifer Turley and Julie Moore of JJ's donated their restaurant for a night of semi-formal dancing. Not only did they provide a festive atmosphere, but they also provided free pop for the dancers. Tiffany Zimmerman and Molly Pipes co-chaired the dance committee.

January Sunday Dinner—Again JJ's Restaurant assisted Student Council, this time by sponsoring a Sunday buffet. Student Council members served as waitresses with all the tips going to Student Council. JJ's also made a significant monetary donation, raising the total raised to \$357. This event was also co-chaired by Tiffany Zimmerman and Molly Pipes.

Kindness Week was held Feb. 10-14 with emphasis placed on being kind to one another. During the week, students received smiley face stickers, made Valentines for the nursing homes, and received kindness coins.

Student Council elections for the 2003-2004 school year were held on Tuesday, February 4. Bonnie Treichel ran unopposed for the president's position. Amber Brinker and Jenny Courter ran an extremely close race for vice president with Amber Brinker the winner. Other

cabinet positions will be filled after looking at the applications.

Bonnie Treichel, Amber Brinker, Jenny Courter, Clint Hall, Joey Haug, and Ryan Patrico will be representing PHS at the State Student Council Convention March 13-15 at Liberty High School. Bonnie Treichel and Amber Brinker will also present one of the thirty workshops for the high school participants. In June, if approved, they will take their workshop on the road and present at the National Student Council Convention, which will be held in Buffalo, New York.

Also, while at the State Convention, Plattsburg will be campaigning for the office of vice-president for the 2004 convention.

Teacher of the Month--Tammy Adam, business teacher and computer technology director, was chosen by Student Council as January's Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Adam, who has taught at the high school for the past seven years, is a valuable member of the PHS staff. Outside the classroom, she serves as one of the senior sponsors, chairperson of the Renaissance committee, a member of both the Principal's Advisory Committee and the Superintendent's Advisory Committee, member of Career Ladder Committee, FBLA Adviser, and the editor of Tiger Tracks. Tammy and her husband Scott, also a teacher at PHS, have four children: Bailey, Britney, Brooklyn, and Brayde.

Student of the Month--Staff members chose Amanda Buthman as January's Student of the Month. Amanda was recognized for her willingness to go above and beyond what is expected of her. Although she is known for volunteering to help others, another strength is her ability to organize, a task that she often uses to help teachers and the office staff. Amanda plans to attend Hillyard Technical School so that she can pursue a career in nursing.

Community Service--Representative from Student Council helped to serve the senior citizens' luncheon and the Kelley/Tyes benefit luncheon.

LANGUAGE ARTS WITH MS. ADEN

LA I:

The students are studying Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* both by listening to an audio tape of it and by listening to classmates recite the lines. We are working slowly through the meaning of the lines but enjoying Shakespeare's beautiful language. The AR point goal is 32 for third quarter and will be 38 for fourth. The students have been reminded to bring \$10 for freshmen prom points by March 14.

Contemporary Lit:

We have read short stories under unit headings such as "point of view" and "setting" the past two weeks. Each student made a diorama of a setting from a story for assessment. Recently, we have taken a fictional story and applied an analysis from both an educator's and a

sociologist's perspective. The students typed and presented their reports through one of the perspectives.

Creative Writing:

The creative writers will be assembling a portfolio of their work for the poetry unit next week. We will then move on to writing short stories.

Haiku written by the students:

Desert Thirst

Stephanie Gaddis

In the dry starving
The wind blows blinding sand storms
For water so pure

Lolita Murphy

She did something wrong
They wouldn't listen to her cries
now she pays the price

Confusion

Erin Parsons

Standing next to Him
I feel so small and helpless.
How can I feel loved?

Christine Talley

Frozen until spring
the concrete creeks ache with the
anticipation

Rainbow

Danielle Wright

An arch of colors
reaches across the rainy
sky. There will be sun.

JoAnna Wyatt

Watching the sunset
My life is perfect for now
but another day.

ENGLISH WITH MR. HANEY

LAII read Shakespeare's *Othello* in part with Black History Month. The students are doing a great job in applying the play to their world. I am also impressed with their willingness to understand Shakespeare and look for the genius in the writing.

Drama students read *A Raisin in the Sun* for Black History Month. It is so encouraging to hear the students respond to the treatment of African Americans and housing during the 1950s. Many students are outraged and amazed at the history of housing in Chicago in 1959 in regards to race relations.

FBLA

On March 4, forty Plattsburg FBLA members traveled to Maryville to compete in the District 1 FBLA Contests. Even though the day's events were cut short due to bad weather, all of the events were completed. Our students

made a very good showing with 26 placings in the top 6. The results are listed below. Those in bold are state qualifiers. They will proceed to state competition in Columbia on April 13-15.

- Accounting I Andrew McKown, 6th
- Banking & Financial Systems Kameron Foster, 3rd
Amy DeShon, 6th
- Business Calculations Ryan Patrico, 5th
- Business Communications Ashley Hartzell, 6th
- Business Law **Andy Schauer, 2nd**
- Computer Applications **J.E. Sletto, 2nd**
Tiffany Zimmerman, 4th
- Computer Concepts **Matt Hawkins, 1st**
- Networking Concepts **Joey Terry, 1st**
Matt Hawkins, 2nd
- Technology Concepts **Ryan Patrico, 1st**
Kris Tudorowski, 5th
- Website Development **Joe Terry and Ryan Patrico, 1st**
- Economics **Andy Schauer, 1st**
Courtney Mericle, 3rd
- Entrepreneurship Team Clint Hall, Andrew McKown,
Kelly Flores, 6th
- Impromptu Speaking Bonnie Treichel, 3rd
- International Business Jenny Courter, 6th
- Introduction to Business Danielle Wright, 5th
Chandler VanSickle, 6th
- Intro. to Business Communications Danielle Wright, 5th
- Job Interview Alan Buckrucker, 6th
- Marketing **Kelsey McFarland, 1st**
Amy DeShon, 2nd
Jessica Dyer, 6th

FFA

Wade Earns State Degree

Brice Wade, son of Greg and Vickie Wade, will receive the State FFA Degree, the highest degree members can receive at the state level.

He is one of approximately 632 degree recipients receiving the honor during the State Degree Ceremony at the 75th Annual FFA Convention. The convention is scheduled for April 24-25 at the Hearn Center, Columbia.

Awarding of the degree is based upon a member's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program in agribusiness or production agriculture, and leadership ability as demonstrated through involvement in FFA, school and community activities.

The State Degree award charms are sponsored by the MFA Inc., Columbia.

Concerning MFA's support of FFA, MFA Incorporated President Don Copenhaver said, "These young men and women are the future of agriculture. They have an infectious optimism and it makes me feel good just to be around them."

State FFA Executive Secretary Steve Brown noted that the number of State Degree Recipients is up this year.

"We are pleased that the number of recipients is up (about 14 over last year). As a state association we are allowed to present up to 3 percent of our membership with this coveted honor. To me this means schools, community and youth are recognizing the valuable leadership opportunities available through the FFA program," said Brown.

FFA at 75 One Mission: Student Success is the theme for this year's state FFA Convention. Over 6500 youth are expected to attend.

The Missouri FFA has over 21,000 members representing 290 chapters. The national organization has nearly 461,000 members representing more than 7000 chapters, throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

FFA's 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.

Updike's to Sing

The Missouri FFA Association has selected Taylor and Tysa Updike as 2003 State FFA Choir members. They are two of 184 individuals chosen for the FFA All State Choir. Students rehearse and perform at the State FFA Convention in Columbia, Missouri held April 24-25, 2003. FFA members have the opportunity to share their musical talent in front of a crowd of over 6,500 FFA members and guests on Friday afternoon and evening April 25.

FFA members are selected based upon their musical ability through an application process for the All-State FFA choir. Beth Dampf, choral director, California High School and Cathie Lowrey, choral director, Princeton High School, direct the All-State FFA Choir and are accompanied by Mary Ann Gelven from Jefferson City.

The Missouri FFA Association is a youth organization of over 21,000 student members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture with 290 local chapters. FFA strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agriculture education.

FFA BBQ
April 11 (Prior to the school play - Lil Abner)
5:30 - 7:30 pm
(Play begins at 7:30)
Booster Club Building

Advance tickets will be sold (3/24 to 4/10)
Walk-ins are welcome
Carryouts also available
Greenhouse will be open for plant sales.

