

Kansas 4-H Journal

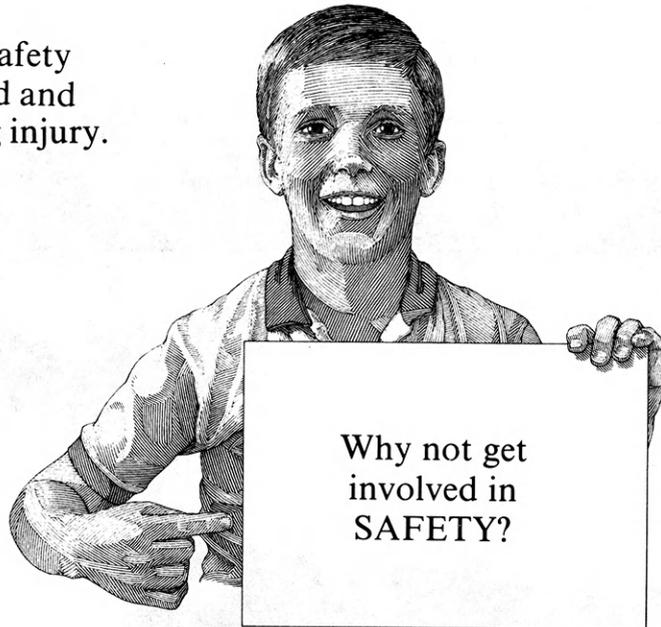
The Family Magazine

September 1987



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Kansas Farm Bureau
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Manhattan, Kansas 66502
(913) 537-2261, Ext. 148

Kansas 4-H Journal

VOLUME XXXIII, NO. 8
September 1987

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 116 Umberger Hall, KSU
 Manhattan, Kansas 66506
 Phone (913) 532-5881

Single subscriptions are \$4 per year.
 Group subscriptions are available upon
 request.

Kansas 4-H Journal is published
 10 times a year by
KANSAS 4-H FOUNDATION, INC.

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 gress (10 USC 797).

In This Issue

On Belay in Kansas	4-5
Project Clubs — An Innovative Club Format	6-7
Harvey County Organizes a Sheep Mini-Fair	8-9
\$86,614.50 to Kansas 4-H for New Program, Projects	10
Kansas National Charity Horse Show	15

Advertisers' Index

Farm Bureau	2
GRO	11
4-H Essay Contest — American Beekeeping Federation, Inc.	11
Collingwood Grain	12
Consolidated Printing	12
Capitol Federal Savings	12
Sangamon Mills, Inc.	12
Kansas Savings and Loan	12
Kansas Wildlife Federation	12
J Bar J Trailers	14
Anchor Savings	14
Farm Bureau	14
Kansas Shorthorn Association	15

On Belay In Kansas

By: Kirk A. Astroth and Jeffrey L. Davidson

Twenty-five feet above the ground, clinging to some slippery rocks made even slicker by an early morning rain, was not where I wanted to come face-to-face with a 6-inch, bright orange centipede. If only it hadn't been so large and if only I hadn't been trying to instruct a group of 4-H'ers on the finer points of rock climbing. I suddenly wondered what I was doing rock climbing in the prairie state.

When you think about recreational opportunities in Kansas, one that probably doesn't immediately leap to mind is rock climbing. The common image of Kansas — especially to those unfamiliar with the state — is of a flat wasteland without relief. Yet, for the hard-rock, vertical fanatic, Kansas surprisingly offers some nice variety and easy access for the avid climber.

And that's how it came to pass that I was confronted with an extremely large centipede on a cliff overlooking Elk City Reservoir in southeast Kansas. Jeff Davidson, Greenwood County Agricultural Agent, knew that Kirk Astroth, Southeast Area 4-H Specialist, used to teach rock climbing in Arizona and had asked him to

teach a group of his 4-H junior leaders how to climb this past summer. So, one steamy morning, Joel Snyder, Troy Richardson, J.R. Pugh, and Tracy Elliott arrived with Jeff, ready to conquer their fears and their dreams and to find out what technical rock climbing was all about.

"Rock climbing fits naturally into a hands-on, learning-by-doing program like 4-H," claims Davidson. "Climbing, for example, offers the individual a personal challenge. Each climber competes against only his/her own mental or physical barriers. Success is individually defined and progress is usually immediate. All these attributes help build self-confidence and self-esteem."

At the same time, it might sound like a contradiction to say that rock climbing is also a team sport. Yet, team work is essential to a successful climbing experience. At least two people must be involved in climbing at all times — the climber and a belayer (the person who can stop a person should they fall). Together, these two determine a goal, then they evaluate their particular challenge, and finally they

decide which route they will take to reach the top. As one person climbs, the belayer keeps tension on the rope that serves only as a safety in case the climber falls. Good clear communication is obviously critical — one word calls like "falling" can help your belayer immensely, especially if the two do not have visual contact. "Through climbing, participants learn to depend on each other and gain a better understanding of their importance to each other," Jeff observes.

Climbing, though, is only half the experience. Once a climber has attained the top of a cliff, he then becomes the belayer who provides protection for the next person to climb. Each climber is tied into the rope, but does not use it to climb. The rope is merely for safety; climbing is done by using one's hands and feet to exploit cracks and fissures in the rock as holds. Climbers anxiously search for "jams", "smears", "wedges", and "knobs" to help them during their ascent up a shear rock cliff.

Once everyone in the group has climbed a particular cliff, everyone must now "rappel" to

get down. Rappelling is simply a means of sliding down the rope, using friction devices to control one's descent. The same rope that was used for climbing is tied off to a solid object, and using rappelling devices like break bars or figure-eights, each person walks backwards over a cliff. "The hardest part is getting started," said Tracy Elliott, who showed a little nervousness as he backed over a 45-foot cliff. "Are you sure this will work?" Troy Richardson wanted to know before he backed over the edge. Walking backwards over a cliff certainly is not the most natural sensation and everyone's first experience at rappelling is filled with anxiety. Once over the edge, though, people usually relax and find it easier the more they rappel.

By the end of the day, everyone had been able to make several climbs and rappelled as many times. "By participating in an outdoor sport such as rock climbing", said Jeff Davidson, "youth gain a greater appreciation for our natural surroundings and learn a challenging outdoor experience that can be accomplished right in their own home state."

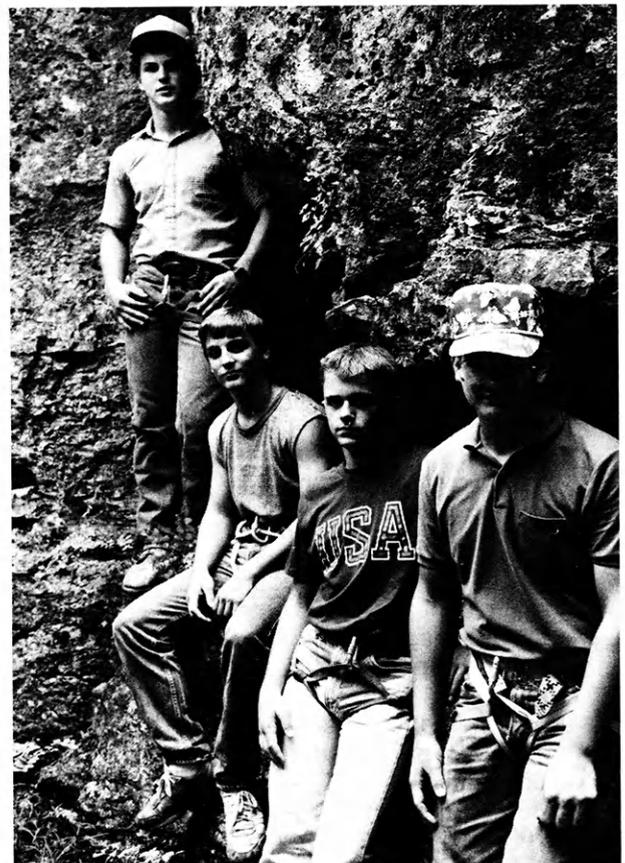
"The best part is that it challenges each individual in different ways. Rock climbing will never be a 'rah-rah' spectator sport where only one person can win and someone has to lose," Astroth asserts.

The Greenwood County 4-H experience with rock climbing is only the start. Plans have already been made to take another group in the fall as another leadership experience. Joel asks, "What cliffs can we climb next?" "Could we write a climbing guide for Kansas?" J.R. wants to know.

"Rock climbing, despite its erroneous reputation for being dangerous, is actually much safer than high school football if done with a competent instructor and with the right equipment," says Jeff. "It's certainly not as dangerous as kids sitting around and getting bored."



A beginning rock climber on his way up.



Top to bottom: Joel Snyder, J.R. Pugh, Tracy Elliott, Troy Richardson.

Project Clubs — An Innovative Club Format

Want to generate a little excitement? Put some fun in your county 4-H program? Why not try project clubs?

Younger boys and girls love to do something specific — and see the results right away. Project clubs let youngsters do and see, without months of waiting.

Project clubs also bring together families with common interests.

It's a value-added program. Without replacing the tried-and-true community clubs, it brings in new members, using an approach that has been tested and proved successful.

Q. What do project clubs have in common with community clubs?

A. Many things. Project leaders and junior leaders, parents' committees, regular meetings, special club and community activities, a unique name, short business meetings, participation in county activities such as club days and county fair.

Q. A project club sounds just like a community club. What are the differences?

A. The only real difference is that the educational part of the project club is centered around learn-by-doing activities in one project or project area.

Q. Do you have to be a community club member to become a member of a project club?

A. No. A member may want to join a project club if resources for a particular project are not available in the community club.

Q. Is a member of a project club entitled to all the rights and privileges that community club members enjoy?

A. Yes. A project club member is a full-fledged 4-H'er in every respect and therefore is eligible for all activities, awards, recognition, etc.

Q. Can members of a 4-H project club enroll in more than just the one project?

A. Yes. As with members in a community club, they may sign up for another project club. Or a project leader or the project club may expand to include other projects.

Q. Do some project clubs eventually become community clubs?

A. Whether or not a club wants to add other projects and activities is entirely up to the club. Some project clubs — such as livestock, natural science or home economics clubs — either began with a group of projects or added projects over a period of time.

Q. What is the difference between a project club and a community club's project group?

A. The project club operates independently, whereas a project group is a part of the community club. In addition, the project club emphasizes subject matter training and leadership, while the project group focuses on subject matter skills and knowledge.

Can You Summarize the Characteristics of Both Types of Clubs?

COMMUNITY CLUB

Members

5 or more members — usually 25-30.

Leaders

Usually Organization Leader, Parents' Committee and Project Leaders. May include New Family Coordinator, Project Leader Trainer, Officer Advisers, Demonstration Leader, and Records and Awards Leader.

Meetings

Usually held once a month during the entire year. Include group-building, business, educational program, recreation (optional) and refreshments.

Officers

Usually president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter, historian, recreation leader and song leader.

Projects

A wide variety of projects offered at times other than monthly club meetings. Often a Project Fair is held to acquaint member families with projects currently available and to help 4-H'ers enroll in projects they want.

Activities

Usually will be included in all events, such as camps, club days, fairs and community service.

PROJECT CLUB

Members

5 or more members — usually 10-20.

Leaders

Usually an Organizational Leader, Parents Committee and project leaders. May include New Family Coordinator, Project Leader Trainer, Officer Advisers, Demonstration Leader, and Records and Awards Leader.

Meetings

Held weekly or monthly 9 to 12 months. May include group-building, business, project work,

recreation, refreshments.

Officers

Usually president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter, historian.

Projects

The club is centered around one project, such as photography, swine and photography, or a group of projects, such as home living, combining cooking, clothing, health care, etc. Projects are learned at regular meeting times and provide the program.

Activities

Usually are included in all events such as camps, club days, fairs, community service, etc.

Parents

Assist with project work, organizing events, providing transportation, serving on committees and helping with records where needed, etc.

**Project Clubs — An Option for
Kansas Young People**

Harvey County Organizes ...

Sheep Mini-Fair

The Hesston 4-H sheep project members organized and participated in a sheep mini-fair on July 10-11. With many new members in the sheep project, it was necessary to educate members in sheep handling and grooming.

Richard Gillmore, Moundridge, is a noted sheep handler and judge, and he demonstrated how to prepare sheep for show and the finer points of sheep showmanship. Pat Gillmore, the sheep project leader, organized the event with the help of sheep project members; Renee and Derek Roth, Zachary Marks and Jon and Jimmy Gillmore.

Members arrived at the Gillmore farm on the evening of July 10 with their sheep. All sheep were washed and bedded down for the night in preparation of the next day's events.

The day's work started early at 8 a.m. The sheep project members came wearing old clothes for a day of sheep grooming. Four grooming tables were set up while Richard gave individual instruction to each 4-H'er through all the steps of sheep grooming. Each member was able to completely groom one of their animals.

After the grooming lesson, Richard gave a demonstration of sheep handling and showmanship. He stressed that Kansas showmanship rules hold that sheep are never to be shown from the right side of the sheep. They should be shown from the left side and the front only. Each member was encouraged as well as criticized by Richard.

The Roth family provided a

sandwich lunch while the project members discussed how to organize for the county fair herdsmanship award. Laura Marks, the sheep junior leader, volunteered to chair the group for the herdsmanship. She will be in charge of setting up pen decorations and assigning each member to a time for keeping the pen area clean. After the lunch and meeting, the 4-H'ers went to the



Richard rinses, while Andrew and Laura Marks watch.

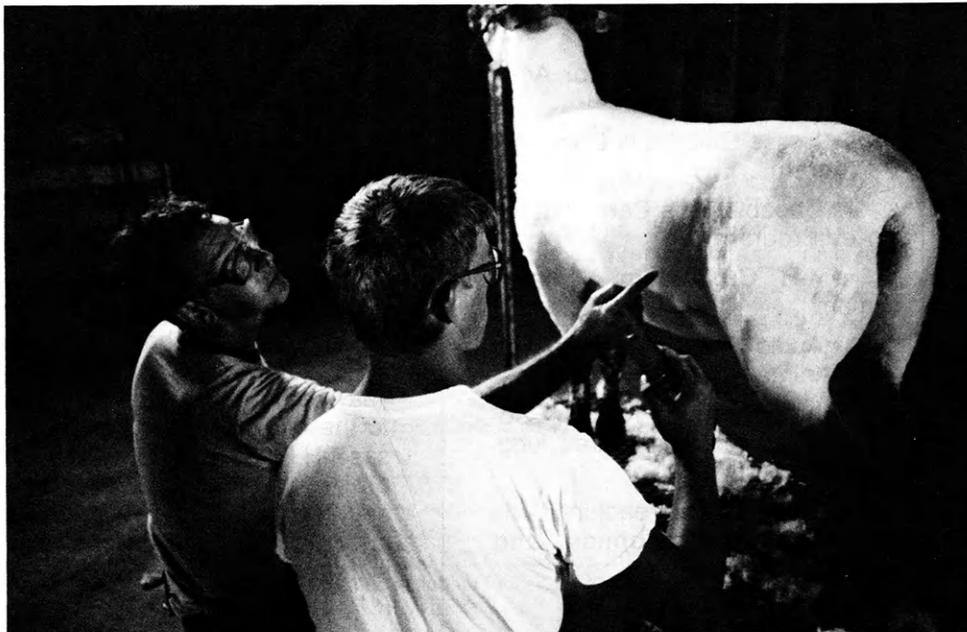
Roth home for a well-earned rest around their swimming pool.

Jon and Jimmy Gillmore were hosts to a hot dog supper served at 5 p.m. at the Gillmore farm. Special guests were Virgil and Faye McClure. Virgil served as the judge of the show which followed the hot dog supper.

Breeding and market classes were judged using the Danish system. Showmanship followed with Zack Marks winning the senior division and Renee Roth was second. Jon Gillmore won the intermediate division with Amy Marks following in second. The junior division was won by Andrew Marks and Derek Roth was second. Grand champion market lamb was exhibited by Zack Marks and reserve by Amy Marks. Harvey County Sheep and Wool Association provided ribbons for the evening activities.

*Jon Gillmore
Jr. Reporter
Hesston 4-H Club*

Editor's Note: The Hesston 4-H Sheep member's "sheep mini-fair" is an example of an activity which could be used in either a community club or project club. The Hesston 4-H club reporter has outlined the activities involved to provide instruction and group participation in a single 4-H project area.



▲ Zachary Marks holds a Hampshire wether while Rich Gillmore shears the back leaving the hindquarters.

◀ Richard points out the fine points of sheep trimming to Zach.



\$86,614.50 to Kansas 4-H for New Programs, Projects

The Kansas 4-H Foundation serves as a partner to the Kansas 4-H and Youth Program by providing support from the private sector. The most visible projects of the Foundation include: Rock Springs 4-H Center, Clovia Houses at Kansas State University and Fort Hays State University, a 4-H supply service and publishing the Kansas 4-H Journal.

The Foundation, however, funds many Kansas 4-H programs and projects that aren't as visible to the 4-H public. The 1987-88 project year will be supported by \$86,614.50 generated from contributions to the Kansas 4-H Foundation. The projects selected to receive support are prioritized by a committee of County Extension Personnel. Once the submitted proposals are reviewed and prioritized, the Foundation reviews the list and makes grants accordingly.

The Kansas 4-H Foundation is providing \$86,614.50 divided among the following 1987-88 projects:

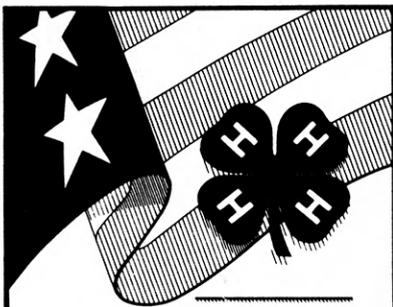
- Innovative County Grants

- "Get Set" Substance Abuse Training for Agents
- Project Selection Guide and 4-H Awards Summary for the Kansas 4-H Journal
- Kansas 4-H Page Day
- Planning Committee - North Central Regional Leaders Forum
- Expansion Incentives for 4-H Club Enrollments
- "Blue Sky Below My Feet"
- 75th Celebration of the Kansas State Fair
- Electronics Clinic for Adult Leaders
- Horse Quiz Bowl Computer Program
- Capable Kids Can: A Latch Key Program
- 4-H Curriculum Management
- Audio Visual Instruction Aids for Animal Science Projects
- Intermediate Home Economics State Fair and Area Judging Contests
- Audio Visual Teaching Aids for Home Economics and Agriculture

- Halloween Specialty Breads
- International IFYE/LABO Stipend Volunteers
- Heritage Encounter of Kansas
- Organizational Leaders Training
- Teen Leader College
- Multi-State Shooting Sports Workshop
- Expanding 4-H
- Creating "Centers of Excellence" in Youth Programming
- Meals for Entomology School Enrichment Trainings
- South Central Multi-County 4-H Family/Leader Workshop

Along with these projects, the Foundation will also give awards and scholarships to many Kansas 4-H'ers throughout the year.

In the 1986-87, the past 4-H year, over \$82,000 was provided to the 4-H program by the Kansas 4-H Foundation for prioritized projects and needs. As you can see, the Kansas 4-H Foundation is at work for you and at work with you.



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Get involved in this exciting
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Find out how in the October issue
of the *Kansas 4-H Journal.*



1984 4-H Essay Contest
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Gainesville, FL 32606
★ AWARDS ★
\$250.00 cash prize to the winning essayist
\$100.00 cash prize to the 2nd place winner
\$50.00 cash prize to the 3rd Place winner
A copy of an appropriate book about honey bees and/or beekeeping
will be presented to the other state winners.

TOPIC: The topic for the 1988 Essay Contest is "The Talking Honey Bees". Of course honey bees don't "talk" as we think of "talking" but they do communicate with each other in many different ways. For example, although there may be many thousands of individuals in a colony, everyone of them can be told in a few seconds if their colony is threatened! Even more amazing is their ability to communicate about food. Not only can they tell other bees that a food source is available but they can pass on information about its direction, distance and even how much there is and how good it is! Truly, they are great communicators!

RULES:

1. Essays will be judged on (a) accuracy, (2) creativity and (3) conciseness and logical development of the argument.
2. All factual statements must be referenced; failure to do so will result in disqualification.
3. Contest is open to active 4-H members only.
4. Essays must be 750 to 1000 words long on the designated subject only. (This limit does not include references or biography).
5. Essays may be typed or handwritten and MUST include a BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH of the writer, including COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER.
6. Essays should be submitted to the 4-H Club Office by the deadline date.
7. EACH STATE MAY SUBMIT ONLY ONE ENTRY.
8. Final judging and selection of the National winner will be made by the American Beekeeping Federation's Essay Committee.
9. All entries become the property of the American Beekeeping Federation and may be published or used as it sees fit. NO ESSAY, SUBMITTED TO THE JUDGES, WILL BE RETURNED.
10. The winner will be announced by June 1, 1988.



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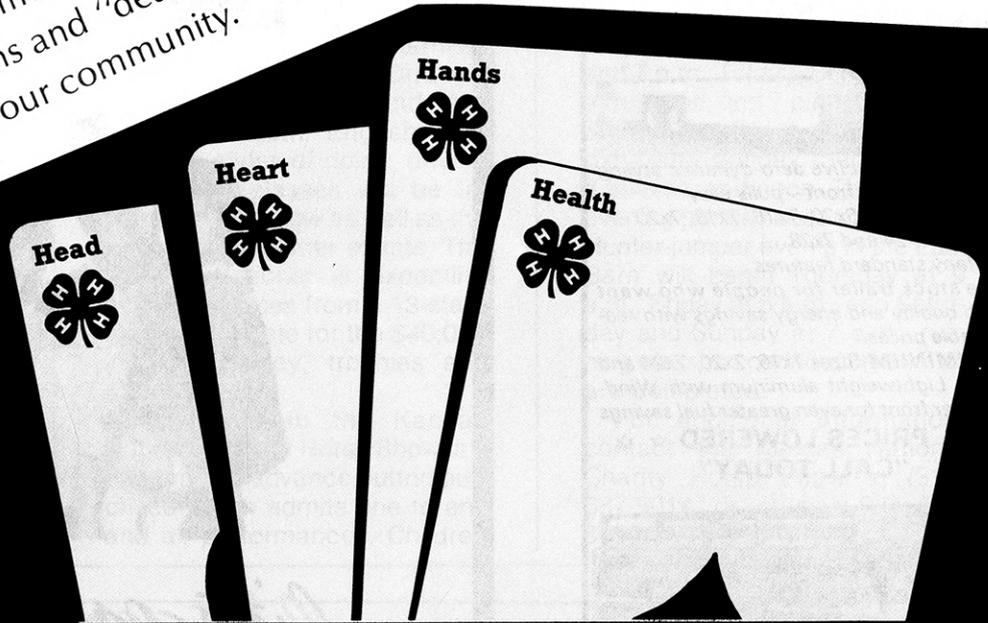
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KANSAS WILDLIFE FEDERATION

- 1. Eligibility:** The Wildlife Poster Contest is open to all Kansas students in grades 1 through 6 (Junior Division - grades 1-4; Intermediate Division - grades 5 and 6). Each school may submit one entry from each division to their respective regional contest.
- 2. Subject:** The subject matter of the posters shall be related to the wildlife resources of Kansas and/or their habitats. Special emphasis should be placed on this year's theme, "Forests: More Than Just Trees."
- 3. Entries:** NO MORE THAN ONE ENTRY PER DIVISION FOR EACH SCHOOL SHOULD BE SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL COLLECTION POINT. *ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1, 1988.* FOR IDENTIFICATION, A 3 x 5 CARD MUST BE TAPED TO THE BACK OF THE POSTER IN THE LOWER LEFTHAND CORNER. INFORMATION ON THE 3 x 5 ENTRY CARD IS AS FOLLOWS: Student's Name; Student's Grade; Home Address; Parent's Names; Teacher's Name; School Address; and Title of Poster.
- 4. Awards and Exhibits:** Regional winners will receive a certificate from the Kansas Wildlife Federation, a wildlife t-shirt, and have their posters displayed at the Wichita Wildlife Art Show in September and in the State Capital by the Kansas Wildlife Federation in March. The Intermediate Division state wide winner will receive a full scholarship to KATS Summer Science Camp. Additionally, each statewide winner will be invited along with his/her parents and teacher to the KWF annual Conservation Achievement Program awards banquet in October.
- 5. Poster Rules:** a) Posters shall be on suitable paper, 12 x 18 inches. Posters shall not be mounted on other background materials. b) Posters may be in pencil, pen and ink, paint, watercolor, crayon, cut paper, etc. c) Please wrap posters between cardboard and do no roll or fold for mailing.
- 6. Judging:** Judges will select winners according to the following criteria: a) 30% Conservation Theme: "Forests: More Than Just Trees." b) 30% Clarity of Message. c) 20% Originality. d) 20% Neatness and Appearance.
- 7. Regional Contest Poster Collection Points:** Please refer to the accompanying letter sent to your school for the correct mailing address or contact Emily Kling at 201. Umberger Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506 (913) 532-5800.

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Don't let this winning "four-of-a-kind" get lost in the shuffle of other community activities. Buy 4-H Journal subscriptions for doctor and dentist offices', businesses, Chamber of Commerce office, public and school libraries, friends and family. Complete the card below, enclose \$4 per subscription, and we'll take care of the rest.

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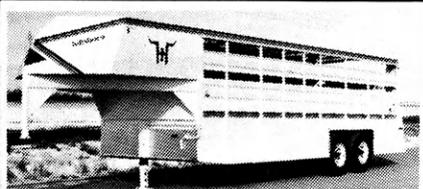
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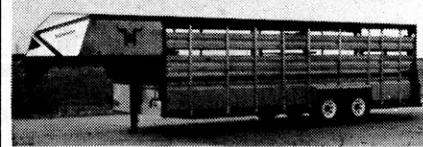


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Kansas National Charity Horse Show

The finishing touches are being feadied for the upcoming Kansas National Charity Horse Show, September 10-13, at the Kansas Coliseum in Wichita.

"We're looking forward to a very exciting show and we hope to see many 4-H families at the show," said Marcia Solomon, horse show co-chair.

Proceeds from the show will benefit the Kansas 4-H Programs, as a part of the A STEP AHEAD campaign. "The Kansas National, in addition to other dedicated donors, will help build a secure financial future for Kansas 4-H," said Solomon.

Besides the many different breeds of horses, styles of riding, the spectator will be treated to the thrilling \$10,000 Open Jumper Stake. Competitors will race against the clock for the best times and no faults over high and challenging fences.

Saturday evening will conclude with this exciting event. Jumping events will also lead off Thursday, Friday evening's, and Sunday afternoon's performances. Some of the different breeds to be showcased are the American Saddlebred, Morgans, Arabians, Hackney and Harness ponies, Roadsters, Quarter Horses, Palominos and Appaloosas. Both English and Western styles of riding, driving and halter classes will be included in the show as well as the jumping and hunter events. The Kansas National is expecting over 500 horses from a 13-state area to compete for the \$40,000 in prize money, trophies and ribbons.

Admission to the Kansas National Charity Horse Show is a one-time \$1 advance button purchase which admits one to any and all performances. Children

under six will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Admission at the gate is \$2. Official outlets in Sedgwick County are Sheplers and all Spangles restaurants.

Performance times are as follows: In Britt Brown Arena, on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Friday, Sept. 11, at 9 a.m., noon, and 7 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 12, at 9 a.m., noon, and 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 13, at 8:30 a.m. and noon. There is no evening performance on Sunday. Hunter-jumper events in the East Barn will begin Thursday at 9 a.m., Friday at 8 a.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 7 a.m., running classes continuously until all are completed.

For additional information, contact the Kansas National Charity Horse Show at (316) 687-5014, or write to P.O. Box 8691, Wichita, Kansas 67208.

KANSAS SHORTHORN ASSOCIATION Steer and Heifer Futurity Sale

Sunday, September 27, 1987 • Kansas Coliseum, Wichita, Kansas

**The Shorthorn entries will be judged separately
Selling the top 15 steers and 10 heifers**

The sale will be held
in conjunction with the
**1987 Kansas
Junior Livestock
Club Calf
Show and Sale**

The show will be held
in conjunction with the
**1988 Kansas Junior
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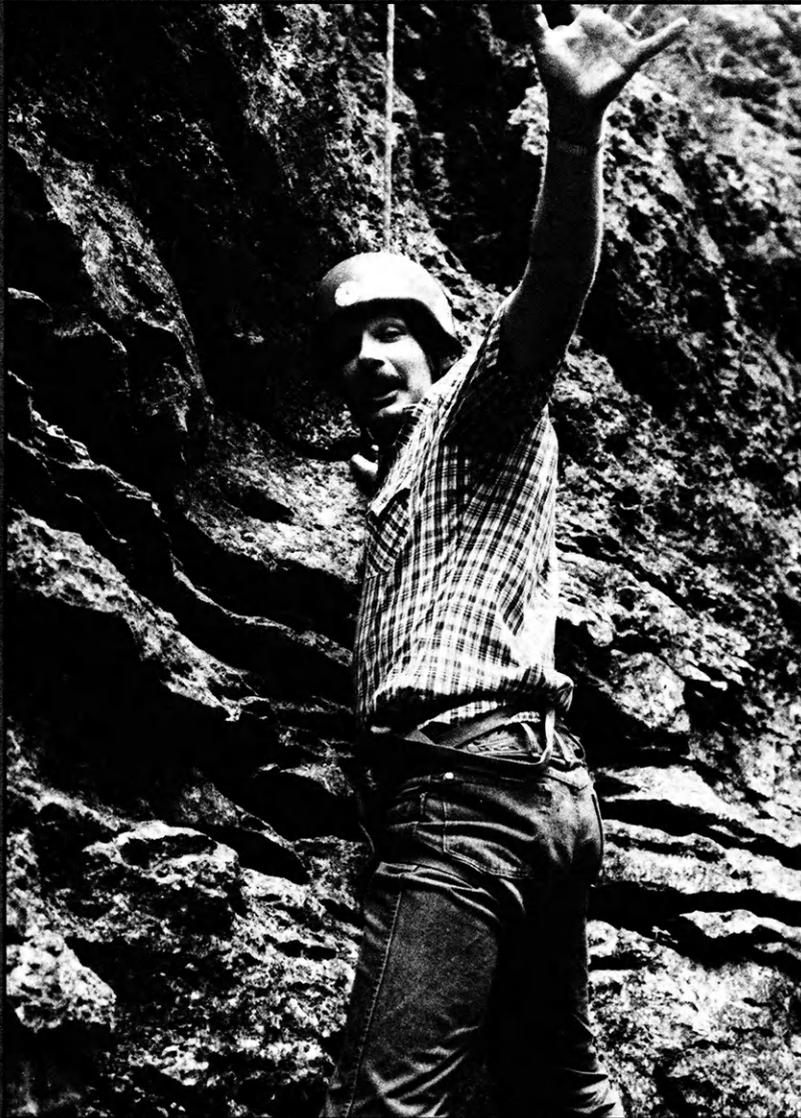
For more information or to send entries contact:

**Bill Scott
R.R. 1, Box 143
Ransom, Kansas 67572
913-731-2797**

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