

RECORD OF 4-H EXPERIENCE

FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE COMPLETION OF "RECORD OF 4-H EXPERIENCE," REFER TO THE EXAMPLES ATTACHED. Note the reference on each example to the location of the material in your TRF (Texas Report Form) for information to be condensed for this application. (Use L - local; C - county; D - district; S - state; N - national.) The Scholarship Selection Committee, while determining an applicant's score for the "Record of 4-H Experience", will only review the "4-H Experience" and the "Additional Information for Judges" (provided by the county Extension agent) section of the application.

1. LIST UP TO FIVE (5) OF YOUR MOST SIGNIFICANT 4-H PROJECTS. DESCRIBE YEARS INVOLVED, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS GAINED SCOPE AND ACTIVITY RELATED TO PROJECTS, DEMONSTRATIONS, TALKS, EXHIBITS, WORKSHOPS, TOURS, INTERVIEWS, ETC.

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES 1988-1998

3rd Battalion Bobwhite Brigade, 1 of 30 delegates 1995, S-1; Prepared Quail Handout, Quail Presentations, L-13, C-28, D-4, S-6, 4510p. Assist. Covey Leader West Texas & East Texas Bobwhite Brigades, 1996, S-2, 64 p.; Texas Youth Delegate 1996 Quail Unlimited Nat Mt., Nashville, Tenn.; Booth Texas Wildlife Expo, S-1, 436p; Booth Nat. Quail Unlimited Convention, N-3, 1400p.; Nat. Environmental Stewardship Conf. 1997, 1 of 2 Delegates from Texas; Environmental Stewardship Presentations, L-1, C-6, D-2, & S-11, 523 p.; prepared 45 handout booklets; Conducted 6 hr. tr., D-1, 38 p.; Environmental Ex., C-4, S-3, 631 p.; 7 Scientific Experiments, L-7 & R-7 Observations-343 wildlife & aquatic animals; collected & identified 463 plants & seed samples; Trips & Tours-115; Recycled Items-36; bags; Adopt-A-Highway Program-2 miles, 4 times/yr.-10 yrs; 12.5 miles roadway clean-up ALCOA 1/yr. 6 yrs; Teen Leader MLK Ecology Camp C-6, 497p.; Task Force Meetings, C-6; Food Plot-Planted 1 acre quail food plot; News Articles-wrote C-4, S-3 Shells-85 Collected & Identified; Books & Magazines-read 39; Teen Leader Texas 4-H Safari, S-1, 35p.; Wildlife Habitat Tr. L-12 C-7, S-2; Wildlife Habitat Contest 1998, S-1; Mounted & I.D. 1521 Pictures; Spectra Wildlife & Fisheries Tr. S-3; Ocean Awareness Camp, S-1; Co. 4-H Camp-C-9; Teen Ld. & Coach Shooting Sports, C-48, S-3, 789p.; Toured Forestry, Range Science & Environmental Science Dept.-Texas A&M; Air Pistol Postal League, S-5; Air Rifle Postal League, S-1; Conservation of Nat Resources Demon, C-7, 312p.; Shooting Sports Proj. Mts., C-132; Two Environmental Awareness Skits, L-21, C-5, D-5, & S-4 2493p.; 5-Star Shooting Sports Extravaganza, S-2; Wildlife Habitat Workshop, S-1; Contests-ALCOA Plant I.D. & Houston Wildlife Habitat, S-2; Awards-1st State Air Pistol Silhouette at 5-Star Shooting Extravaganza, 1995 & 2nd place 1996, 4th Houston Wildlife Habitat 1998; LEARNED: Different types of habitats, leadership skills, mounting techniques, wildlife management plans, capture techniques necropsy, career choices, predator-prey relationship, radio telemetry, communication skills, research projects, best mgt. practices & characteristics of different plants..

ENTOMOLOGY 1988-1998

Insects-483 collected, mounted & identified; Public Parks-492 acres treated with Logic & Amdro for fire ants, 6 yrs.; Study Cards-42 prepared; Record Books-Assisted 9 youth; Teen Leader 4 yrs., 63 p.; Proj. Mt.-C-127; Roundup I. D. Contest, C-10, D-10, S-2 Displays, C-4, S-2, 1219p.; Tours-S-3; Field Trips-23; SPECTRA Tr., S-2; State Awards-7th 1995, 6th 1996, & 4th 1997; LEARNED orders, Latin names, identifying, beneficial insects, hosts, control methods, collection, preserving, mounting & labeling, attractant repellents, reading & following labels, appreciation of insects, types of insect homes & career opportunities.

RECREATION 1987-1998

Proj. Mt., C-17; Teen Ld. Retreat Tr., S-3, 418p.; Recreation Tr. Workshop, D-1, S-5, 791p.; Share the Fun Skits, L-68, C-9, D-1 S-3, 2376p.; Recreation Work Nights-3; Built Stage Flats; Planned & Conducted Recreation Training Act., C-31, D-12, S-3, 3849p; Adopt-A-Nursing Home Prog. 5 times/yr., C-25, D-2, S-2, 1477p.; Fund Raisers-5; Summer Reading Prog. C-12, 625p.; Back-to-School Fashion Show, L-2, 342p; Halloween Fashion Show, L-2, 344p.; Committee Mt.-C-12, Sec. Recreation Proj. Group Newsletters-12; 252p; Valentines-Made & Distributed 231, C-12, 1231p.; Christmas Cards-Bought & Distributed 270; Caroling, L-Floats-Assisted in Building & Road in Parades, C-13; Props & Costumes -Collected for 17 skits; Awards-Outstanding State Recreation Team, 1994 & 95, S-2; 2nd & 3rd State Share The Fun Contest, 1995 & 96; LEARNED: Teaching recreation, different types of leader different styles of leadership, teamwork, communications skills, timing, stage presentation, use of props, resources available and recreation with different age groups.

CONSUMER DECISION MAKING 1991-1998

Project Mt., C-111; Demonstrations, 12 prepared & presented, 540p. Contests, C-8, D-5, S-7; Reasons Training, C-6, D-2, 190; Shopping Trips-321 trips; Awards-1st & 6th place Con. Dec. Making Team, S.A. L.E. 1996 & 1998; Leadership-Dist. Con. Dec. Maki Comm. 1998; LEARNED: Cost of owning & operating a truck; comparing items, understanding terms, reading labels, preparing presenting reasons, warranties, guarantees & return policies.

FOODS & NUTRITION 1987-1998

Dishes Prepared-689; Complete Meals-231; Turkey Dinners-Assist. With 19 dinners for average, C-11, 500 p.; Booths-Worked food booths 11 yrs; Teen Leader-Martin Luther King Nutrition Day Camp, C-7; 509p.; Food Shows-L-8, C-11, & D-1; Tours-Exhibits-2; Shopping-Grocery Shopping Trips-111; Project Training Mt., L-31; Baked Sales-Prepared & worked 42 baked sales, yrs; Leadership-Served on Co. Foods show Comm. 6 yrs. & master of ceremonies 1998; LEARNED: Food Pyramid, Importance Exercise, Sources of Hidden Fat, Ethnic Foods, Complex Carbohydrates, Nutrition and The Athlete, Importance of Food Safety, Food Storage, Food Service, Nutritional Value, Meal Planning and Basic Food Preparation.

LIST MAJOR LEADERSHIP ROLES. (INCLUDE VOLUNTEER, PROMOTION, AND ELECTED-APPOINTED LEADERSHIP); LIST ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, YEARS, LEVELS, DUTIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP, 1991-1998

Milam Co. 4-H Heritage Task Force, 1996-1998, Developed Co. 4-H History, 723 former 4-H members located; Honored older members; Historical exhibit, L-10, C-12, D-4, & S-6. Two skits "History of 4-H" & "4-H Reunion," L-13, C-13, S-5, 2475p.; Preparing for 90th birthday celebration; 12 task force meetings.

Milam Co. 4-H GO4IT Community Service Task Force, 1997-1998, Ch. Task Force, 5 task force meetings, Community Service Workshops Presented C-1, D-3, & S-1, 369p., Promotion Pictures, S-1, Comm. Service Exhibit & 4-H booth at S. A. L. E., 1998.

Teen Leader Wildlife & Fisheries, 1995-1997, Presentation on Bobwhite Brigade & Quail, L-13, C-28, D-4, S-6, 4510p.; Asst. Co. Leader for both West & East Texas Bobwhite Brigade, 1996; Presentation for Lee County 4-H Awards Banquet, S-1, 85p., 1995; Presentations on National Environmental Stewardship Act. & Tr. L-1, C-6, D-2 & S-11, 523p.; 6 hour workshop Dist. Leadership Lab, D-1, 38p.; Educational Exhibits-C-4, S-3, 631p.

Record Book Teen Leader, 1997, Assisted 9 junior 4-H members in completing their first record books. All received awards on the county level and two recognized on district level.

Milam Co. 4-H Ecology Day Camp, 1993-1998, C-6, 496p., Co-chairman task force 1996 & 1997, 10 task force meetings, planning, conducting, promotion, & involvement of teen leaders from across the county, set-up, training, & clean-up.

Milam Co. 4-H Recreation Team-1993-1998, Active member 6 years. Conducted training on local, county, multi-county, district, & state level. 46 presentations, 3849 p., Adopt-A-Nursing home project-5 times a yr. for approx. 90 p., Performed share the fun skits & recreation training for Dist. 11 Leadership Lab 1997, Lee Co. 4-H Awards Banquet 1996, Milam Co. 4-H Awards Banquet, 1993-1996, 1281p.

Milam County 4-H Council Standing Committees, 1997-1998, Chairman Milam County 4-H Awards Banquet with 523p., Chairman Co. 4-H Food Show with 121p.; Chairman Multi-Co. Ambassador Training, 89p; Financial Task Force; 1994-1997, served as Superintendent Co. 4-H Roundup, Co. Awards Banquet Comm., Co. Summer Day Camp, 61p., Co. Ambassador Training, Co. 4-H Project Information Day, 1996, Co. Leadership Workshop, 1994-1997; Planning & Conducting Events.

District 9 4-H Leadership Extravaganza, 1995, Helped plan, coordinate, and present a district-wide training on 4-H Roundup opportunities and a workshop on Bobwhite Brigade. Gave training on 4-H entomology projects, planning and coordinating a share the fun skit and presented skit. S-1, 175p.

District 11 4-H Leadership Lab Recreation Training, 1997, Helped plan, coordinate and present training a district-wide training on 4-H Share the Fun Activities and organizing a 4-H recreation project. S-1, 151p.

PROMOTIONAL LEADERSHIP, 1991-1998

Co-Chairman Cameron 4-H Club Annual Fund Raising Activities, 1997, Club's nominee for Mr. 4-H. Club raised \$8500. in two month period. Planning, promotion, conducting, involvement of volunteers, set-up, & clean-up. Assisted with fund raising activities during two month period, 1988-1996 & 1998.

National 4-H Week Promotional Activities, 1988-1998, Entered slogan & poster contest, made radio spots, & civic club programs & exhibits. Made 8 radio spots. Assisted in taping 95 spot announcements for two local radio stations with 4-H council.

Lufkin Lions Club Program, 1995, Presentation on benefits of Bobwhite Brigade & how youth can use this information & solicited financial support East Texas Bobwhite Brigade, S1, 185p.

Taylor Soil Conservation District Program, 1996, Benefits of Bobwhite Brigade & solicited continued financial support of Milam Co. 4-H Ecology Activities, S1, 45p.

Bobwhite Brigade News Articles & Radio Interviews, 1995 & 1996 Wrote 3 news articles for area & statewide newspapers & 2 radio interviews. Recruited 1 student for 1996 Bobwhite Brigade & 4 students for 1997 Bobwhite Brigade.

Stiles Farm Field Day, For 6 years helped man family consumer science exhibits and 4-H promotional exhibits at the Stiles Farm Field Day. Helped set-up, answered questions, & clean-up. S-6, 1323p.

ELECTED LEADERSHIP, 1988-1998

Milam County 4-H Council, 1997-98, Chairman, Presided at 6 meetings, represented Co. on Dist. Council, Master of Ceremonies at major Co. Events, Served on Co. Planning Committees, including Co. Financial Task Force; 1996-1997 1st Vice Chairman, Program Chairman for 4 major county events, represented Co. on Dist. Council; 1995-1996 Secretary, Minutes, attendance, and correspondence; 1994-1995 Recreation Officer, Planned recreation for council meetings, C6, 232p.

District 8 4-H Council, 1996-1998, Delegate, Helped plan & conduct district events; Committees-1995, Dist. Roundup Committee; District 8 Leadership Lab Teen Leader, 1995-1997; District Consumer Decision Making Contest, 1998; and District 8 Share the Fun Contest, 1997 & 1998, superintendent in 1997 & Chairman & Master of Ceremonies 1998; District 8 Leadership Institute, 1996 & 1997 training on marketing, public relations, & interpretation & competed R.O.P.E.S. course 1997.

Milam County 4-H Shooting Sports Club, 1993-1998, Helped organize club & recruited new members & leaders. Coach & Teen Leader, assist in training & coaching younger 4-H members. Club has grown to over 40 members. 1st Vice President, 1994-1995, assisted in planning agenda, planned & conducted programs, planned & conducted club banquets; President, 1995-1996 & 1996-1997, planned agendas, conducted meetings, involved volunteers, conducted club banquet; Council Delegate, 1997-1998, Represent club on county council & serve as a means of communications between local club & council.

Cameron 4-H Club, 3rd Vice President, 1997-1998, planned and conducted four club community service projects for a club with 15 members; Treasurer, 1996-1997, Record Keeping, Budgeting, Quicken, & gave reports, \$10,000. club budget; Council Delegate, 1995-1996, means of communications between club & council, planning & conducting Co. Events; Recreation Officer, 1991-1994.

3. 4-H CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES. LIST ACTIVITY, YEAR AND YOUR ROLE. (USE Y - PERFORMED YOURS
M - MEMBER OF A GROUP; G - GAVE LEADERSHIP TO GROUP).

ACTIVITY	YEAR	YOUR ROLE	
<u>VARSITY READING PROGRAM</u>	1996—1998	Organized & coordinated weekly reading program by varsity athletes for Pre-K—2nd grade classes for past 2 years, 63 athletes and 523 students.	G
<u>ECOLOGY COMMUNITY SERVICE</u>	1996—1997	Donated four hours at Memphis, Tenn. Zoo as part National 4-H Congress Community Service & Potomac River Clean-Up—Eagle Observation Area during National Environmental Stewardship Conference.	M
<u>ADOPT-A-NURSING HOME</u>	1994—1998	Recreation for 90 residents, 12 hrs./yr., 1440p.	M
<u>CHAMBER ARTS & CRAFT SHOW</u>	1988—1998	Hauled tables & chairs, Planned & worked in booths	G
<u>HOME FOR HOLIDAYS</u>	1994—1997	City Christmas Tree Lighting, preformed in concert Worked in booths, made recycled ornaments for Christmas Tree, clean up, worked on floats & parades	M
<u>FIRE ANT PROJECT</u>	1992—1997	With Lions Club treated 496 acres public parks safely.	Y
<u>PROJECT STARFISH MENTORING</u>	1995—1998	Mentor 7 th grade boy on weekly basis.	Y
<u>MUSEUM PROJECT</u>	1994—1998	Helped clean flower beds, move plants & treat for grass in flower beds on a quarterly basis.	M
<u>TEXAS WILDLIFE EXPO</u>	1996—1997	Manned booth on Bobwhite Brigade, 5 hours.	G
<u>CHRISTMAS CAROLING & CHRISTMAS CARDS</u>	1987—1997	Visited nursing homes, sang & distributed cards. Total 25 hours and 957 people.	M
<u>DAY CARE CENTER</u>	1991—1997	Collected & donated 8 boxes of recycled school supplies.	Y
<u>BOOK COLLECTION</u>	1991—1992	Collected & donated 400 recycled books to MLK Center for reading programs.	Y
<u>DISTRICT 8 LEADERSHIP LAB</u>	1997—1998	Taught 6 hr. workshop on community service for District Leadership Lab & painted park equipment, 11p.	G
<u>COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES</u>			
<u>ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY PROJECT</u>	1989—1998	Picked-up trash quarterly basis, 2 miles of roadway, 8hr/yr.	M
<u>ALCOA TRASH PICK-UP</u>	1993—1998	12.5 miles of roadway, once a year, 16 hrs., 130, 30-gallon bags yearly.	M
<u>MILAM COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM COUNCIL BANQUET</u>	1994—1997	Recreation team planned & coordinated decorations, & set-up. Assisted with registration. Assisted with program preparation in 1996, C-4, 418 people.	G
<u>SUMMER READING PROGRAM</u>	1994—1995	Public Library Volunteer, Summer Reading Program 2 hours per week, for six weeks, total 260p. 12 hours	M
<u>SUMMER READING PROGRAM</u>	1995—1996	6 weeks program on ecology, skits, demonstrations & exhibits, "Our Planet, Our World", C-6, 18 hrs., 432p.	G
<u>SEQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION</u>	1995—1996	Marched in parade & worked in booths, 4 hrs.	M
<u>CHRISTMAS ROUNDUP</u>	1987—1997	Collected food & toys for needy.	
<u>VALENTINES FOR SHUT-INS</u>	1987—1998	Made valentines & helped coordinate, 125/yr.	M

4. LIST YOUR FOUR (4) MOST IMPORTANT HONORS RECEIVED IN 4-H. LIST HONOR, YEAR & LEVEL AND WHY DO YOU CONSIDER THESE HONORS TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT?

BOBWHITE BRIGADE—1995—Selected as 1 of 30 delegates to the 3rd Battalion Bobwhite Brigade; 1996—Selected as assistant covey leader for both East and West Texas Brigades and Outstanding Assistant Covey Leader; Coached Outstanding Covey at West Texas State Fair; 1997—Selected as Youth Delegate from Texas to Quail Unlimited National Meeting; and accepted trophy for Bobwhite Brigade for Outstanding Youth Conservation Award at Quail Unlimited Meeting.

NATIONAL 4-H YOUTH ISSUES CONGRESS—1996, 1 of 12 Delegates from Texas to Memphis, Tennessee.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE—1997, 1 of 2 Delegates from Texas to Washington, D.C. and 1 of 20 youth Delegates from the Entire Nation.

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES RECORD BOOK—2nd in State Competition in 1995 & 1st place in State Competition in 1996. Honored at State Fair of Texas Banquet, Received \$500. Scholarship from Winchester, Gold Star Award 1996, and Cameron Area Chamber of Commerce Outstanding 4-H Member Award.

WHY IMPORTANT: These honors are all the results of the many goals that I set for myself through my numerous years in 4-H. They are the tangible evidence of the hard work, time and dedication that I, my parents, leaders & county extension agents have given to all my endeavors. All of my experiences & honors have made me a more well-rounded individual & have given me the confidence that through persistence & hard work I can succeed beyond my highest expectations.

LEADERSHIP OUTSIDE 4-H (INCLUDE SCHOOL, CHURCH, AND OTHER YOUTH GROUPS, ETC.)		
YEAR	OFFICE OR OTHER ROLE	ORGANIZATION
1996 & 1997	Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (Planning, Hiring, & Supervising Church Staff)	First United Methodist Church, Cameron
1996 & 1997	Administrative Board-Planning & Conducting	First United Methodist Church, Cameron
1994----1998	In charge of props & stage set-up	U.I.L. One-Act Play, L,Z,D,A,R& S.
1994----1998	Loading Crew, load & unload equipment	Varsity Band, C. H. Yoe High School
1994----1998	Fund Raising Committee, sold plants, raffle tickets & worked booths & dinners	Varsity Band, C. H. Yoe High School
1996 & 1997	Reception Committee & Food Service	National Honor Society, C. H. Yoe High School
1996 & 1997	Captain Lincoln-Douglas Debate Team Helped younger members write cases.	U.I.L. Lincoln-Douglas Debate Team
1994----1997	Fund Raising Committee-planned meal, provided supplies,& work concession stand	Fall Drama, Way Off Broadway, Yoe High School
1994----1998	Fund Raising Committee-planning, made contributions & worked activities	Methodist Youth Fellowship Group
1997	Assisted with set-up, registration, & clean up	Red Cross Blood Drive
1996----1997	Fund Raising Committee, planning, made contributions & worked activities	Junior Class, C. H. Yoe High School
1993----1997	Air Rifle Booth, Sponge Toss, Water Gun Booth, set-up, clean up & work booths	Cameron Elementary School P.T.O. Halloween Carnival
1995----1996	Assistance coach basketball team, 2/week,	Little Dribblers Basketball Team, 2 months.
1996----1998	Volunteered 3 hours per month, city library.	Library Volunteer, Cameron Public Library
1997	Planned & conducted 3 hours recreation for five days with 35 youth.	First United Methodist Church Vacation Bible School
1995----1996	Set-up & worked spook house, 3 hours.	Halloween Carnival, Church
1994	Ran survey at 4 th of July Celebration	Cameron Chamber of Commerce
1991----1992	Dist. flyers, set-up & clean up	Milam Co. Courthouse Historical Marker Dedication

SUMMARIZE YOUR MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND HONORS.

<u>I. L. PARTICIPATION:</u>	1995---1998	One-Act Play, Crew, Props, & Actor, 1 st in Z, D, A, R, & State Finalist 1995 & 1997; & 1 st in Z, D, A, & Area Finalist 1996; Local, Zone, District, Area, and Regional Awards; & Preparing for 1998, Letterman Jacket-1998
	1995----1998	Lincoln-Douglas Debate, L, D, & R; Regional Qualifier-97; 3 rd in District 1997; Prep. for 1998, Local, Dist., & Regional Awards
<u>ATHLETICS:</u>	1995----1998	Science Team, 4 years, L & Preparing D, Local Awards
	1995----1998	Informative Speaking, 3 years, Local & Dist. Competition, Local Awards
	1995----1997	Currents Events Team, Local & Prep. for District Competition
	1997----1998	Math Team, Local & Preparing for District Competition
	1997----1998	Computer Science Team, Local & Preparing for Dist. Competition
	1997----1998	Freshman Football Team, Served as game captain, Y-Athletic Award
	1994----1995	Junior Varsity Football Team, Served as game captain, Y-Athletic Award
<u>Y-ATHLETIC AWARD:</u>	1995----1997	Junior Varsity Football Team, Game Captain, 10-0 Season, Dist. Champion
	1995----1997	Y-Athletic Award
<u>Y-ATHLETIC AWARD:</u>	1995----1998	Varsity Football Team, Dist. & Bi-District Champs, Area Finalist Yoe High School
<u>SCIENCE FAIR:</u>	1997----1998	Champion Awards (Off-Season Program, 1995 & 1997), Y-Athletic Award, 10-2 Season
<u>ORGANIZATIONS & AWARDS:</u>	1994----1995	Freshman Basket Ball Team, Y-Athletic Award
	1995----1996	Junior Varsity Basket Ball Team, Y-Athletic Award
	1995----1998	Active Member, Top Fund Raiser Award-2 years, community service project
	1995----1998	Local & Regional Science Fair Participant, L-4, R-4, Honorable Mention Award City of Waco Award, Four local awards.
	1995----1998	Varsity Band & Jazz Band,
	1995----1998	Y-Academic Awards
	1997	Outstanding English III Honors Award
	1994----1998	Fall Drama, Member of Way-Off Broadway Group, Crew, Props, & Actor
	1994----1998	Fellowship of Christian Athletes
	1994----1998	12 Years Perfect Attendance Award

HAVE YOU EXHIBITED, JUDGED, OR IN OTHER WAYS PARTICIPATED IN THE SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW?

YES

XXXX NO

PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Write or type a narrative, not more than one page in length, about yourself, pointing out any important facts you would like the committee to know. Do not repeat information already stated in the application.

ONLY USE SPACE PROVIDED ON THE FRONT SIDE OF THIS PAGE; DO NOT ADD PAGES.

Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute. Here I am on stage in tights and all these feathers. Thanks goodness for this headdress, maybe no one will recognize me. This must be my worst nightmare. This is not a dream, this is our Environmental Skit and hundreds of people are watching. The show must go on and people are really enjoying the presentation. Hopefully, they will also take home some practices to put to work in saving our environment. This is not so bad. I am really enjoying it. This is just one example of some of the many different opportunities I have had during the past few years related to ecology and environment. This activity will be something to help me along with my career as a graduate and face a new challenge of majoring in forestry in college.

Forestry as a major for someone that grew up in Central Texas might sound a little strange. But not when you look at all the background activities I have with plants, ecology, and environmental stewardship it does seem so strange. I have spent lots of time learning about exploring the forests and woodland areas of East Texas, the Southeastern part of the United States and even plants and trees in Mexico. I have always had a keen interest in ecology and natural resources due to my 4-H and science background. One of the important things to remember in dealing with ecology, forestry, wildlife or any aspect of the environment is that it is dynamic (ever changing), not stagnate. I want to achieve my masters and my Ph.D. in forestry management and research. Job opportunities in this area are great. Studies show that there are ten job opportunities for every forestry graduate. One of the major reasons for this is the increased demand for urban forestry specialists. This major combines my extensive background in environmental studies, my 4-H ecology activities, my people skills and my interests in science.

As a result of my extensive 4-H career, I have developed excellent people skills. These people skills come from the fact that I have had experience dealing with all different kinds of people in many different situations. One of these major experiences was our Ecology Day Camp. I also helped teach a six-hour workshop on environmental projects to people from twenty-one counties. Remember the idea "that you never really learned something, until you have taught it to someone else." In the varsity reading program, varsity level athletes, on a daily basis, read to pre-kindergarten—2nd grade students. This program is designed to teach children that athletes like to read and instill a willingness to learn to read in the children. It also demonstrates something to the athletes, who it is that watches and looks up to them. This program was the result of my application to National Youth Issues Congress in Memphis, Tennessee. When I applied for this opportunity I designed this as my community service project idea. Now in its second year, the program has involved more than sixty varsity football players and has reached more than 500 students. After two previous seasons of losing football, last year the football team went to the State Quarter finals and this year we were area finalists. This is not a bad record for a team with little talent and lots of heart. I believe that the improved self-esteem that the football players gained from this program was a major factor in the success of this team.

A leadership opportunity that I have been involved in this year includes diversity training and the importance of community service. In 1996, I was part of a task force that researched and developed a county history of the Milam County 4-H Program. We located names, addresses and information on more than 700 former 4-H members. Also we located the oldest living 4-H member in the state, one of the best clubs (since 1910) and lots of neat stories. This year, as part of the Texas 4-H GO4IT Community Service Program, we have given trainings on a local, county, district and state basis on community service opportunities, what it is like to work with people with disabilities and ways to get involved in the community. If a person is not involved as a youth, they will not be involved as an adult. This program is leading toward the 90th birthday celebration of 4-H in Texas this year and we are already busy planning.

While I'm still working on fulfilling some of my own goals, this year I have focused mainly on helping other 4-H'ers. I really took a challenge, when I decided that I would assist nine junior 4-H members complete their first record books. This was really a learning experience, but it was well worth the effort, when I saw the looks on their faces at the awards banquet. My involvement in 4-H, athletic and other extracurricular activities has really taught me the importance of team work. One of the major goals of the Milam County 4-H Program has been that we might compete between each other on the county level, but once we are past county level, the overall county program is the important part of the program. As the old saying goes "there is no I in team." Teamwork is one of the most important people skills a person can develop.

One of the things I have always strived for is to be as involved as I possibly can be. This resulted in a very busy schedule. My day starts off at 7:00 A.M. with practice for Fall Show or one-act play. At 8:15 A.M. school starts and goes through 3:30 P.M. After school, I have had football practice in the fall from 3:50–7:00 P.M. or one-act play or other U.I.L. practice in the spring. Then I devour a quick snack and hurry to marching band practice or a 4-H activity until after 9:30 P.M. I have had basically the same schedule since I first entered high school and now in my senior year I am going on twelve years perfect attendance. It has taken a lot of planning and effort to maintain the schedule and my class rank.

4-H, forestry and the study of environment have been a major part of my life as long as I can remember and I certainly hope my career will allow me the pleasure of continuing my relationship with the great organization known as 4-H.

Thank you for considering me for the Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship Program.