

**SkillsUSA Louisiana E-Newsgram News Letter
(VOL 11 - 11)**



Larry Rabalais, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Rabalais".

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SkillsUSA Louisiana

Friday, October 07, 2011

Hello Everyone! From SkillsUSA Louisiana !



This is the (11th) E-Newsgram of this year with important information for you. Hope that your school year is off to a great start!

➤ **ACTION ITEM: ATTENTION BELOW!!!!!!!!!!**

This issue of the Louisiana Champions (VOL 11-11) probably contains much more information than the usual issue. Please print this issue and read at your leisure. There is very good information for you to launch a great SkillsUSA chapter at your school, campus for this year.

NEWS! NEWS! !

Important Dates

October 5-8	WorldSkills Competition, London, England
November 4	Champion of the Year Dinner, New York, N.Y.
November 17-19	ACTE National Conference, St. Louis, Mo.

GRAPHIC STANDARDS 101

SkillsUSA's Office of Publications has a mission to support standards that enforce the organization's brand. Standards for the use of the national and state logos are important because:

- SkillsUSA should be easily recognized every time we send a message to our audience.
- We should present ourselves as a professional organization with the highest of standards.
- Every time we use the logo properly, we reinforce our credibility, positive image and message.
- Using the logo consistently provides legal (trademark) protection.

The public is bombarded by thousands of visual messages every day. To communicate our own message, we in SkillsUSA have to cut through the clutter and present ourselves in a way that is consistent and easily recognizable. Even small changes to our logos will weaken this effort.

Although the Publications staff is always available to review your use of the logo, a reminder may be helpful from time to time. For example, if you go to our online instructions at <http://skillsusa.org/about/logos2.shtml> you will see that the first basic guideline is, "DON'T alter or attempt to re-create any part of the art." Basically, the logo will not turn out correctly. For one thing, it uses a typeface that has been tweaked in a way that no one except the designer would be able to duplicate.

No one should ever have to re-create our logo art. The national logo is available for download at the link above, and the state logos are on the state association directors' section of the website. Also, the Publications staff can email logos immediately to anyone upon request. Email Tom Hall, director, at thall@skillsusa.org.

LOWE'S STATE TEAMWORKS GRANTS

SkillsUSA and Lowe's are pleased to announce the availability of up to \$250,000 in competitive grants for SkillsUSA state associations that run state TeamWorks competitions in 2012.

Through this program, Lowe's will provide unprecedented state-level contest support and create stronger state partnerships. A competitive application process will be used by SkillsUSA and Lowe's to determine which states receive the grants. Up to 400 TeamWorks teams can be funded and benefit from this program. The application deadline is the close of business on **December 1, 2011**.

Grant Guidelines

To apply, **state associations must complete and submit an application** (an online application is available, or you may download, print and complete an application to mail in or submit electronically). **[Let me know if you think that you qualify for a Teamworks Grant.]**

Selected states will receive \$600 per state TeamWorks team they expect to

register, and a total of up to 400 TeamWorks teams can be funded nationwide. Teams will build a kitchen or bath project at an approximate retail cost of \$600 per project. Project plans will be provided, and may be used if desired.

Grant states will also receive an additional \$1,000 stipend to cover the cost of dumpster rental or other direct expenses.

States receiving grants will also receive gift items, such as tool bags, to provide to first-, second- and third-place winners at the high school and college levels as part of their state-provided prizes.

About TeamWorks

The TeamWorks event requires a team of four people to build a joint project in six hours or less, demonstrating their preparation for employment in residential construction. Team members must analyze a project drawing, write an action plan, give a presentation and demonstrate their ability to work as a team performing skills in residential carpentry, plumbing, electricity and masonry. They are also judged on cleanliness of job site, timeliness of completing the project and proper inventorying of tools and equipment. For complete TeamWorks contest details and guidelines, see the *SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards*.

How to Apply

Send me your request for the application to the grant.

Questions?

Questions on **project specifications**, again let me know.

Best of luck as you plan for a possible 2012 TeamWorks competition grant.

LOWE'S APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY REBUILDING GRANTS

The SkillsUSA Lowe's Grant applications for the Community Improvement and Community Rebuilding grant programs have been posted to the SkillsUSA website. **Please be aware that the deadline date for these two grant programs is November 1, 2011.** Grant winners will be announced in early January 2012.

The Community Improvement: Champions Serving Others grant category is for those schools proposing project that will focus on benefiting their local community or school. In choosing grant winners for the upcoming year, projects that focus on a local need vs. want will stand a greater chance of receiving funding. For this category, a maximum of \$10,000 per grant winner will be awarded.

The Community Rebuilding: Reaching Out and Partnering grant category brings grant project opportunities to a new level in both funding and building leadership skills. Proposed projects in this category will combine the efforts of two SkillsUSA chapters (a “lead” chapter and a “partnering” chapter) partnering and reaching out to a community or school that has been drastically affected by a natural disaster. One of the partnering chapters may be the beneficiary of the project. **Grant recipients for 2011 may not be the financial beneficiary of the project, but may participate as the “partnering” chapter.** The maximum grant in this category will be \$25,000. Community rebuilding grant winners will be highlighted on stage at the 2012 NLSC Awards Ceremony with a video/photo presentation of their project.

A webinar series titled “Writing a Quality Grant Application” will be held on the following dates and at the times listed. Please join us to gain some helpful tips in completing your SkillsUSA Lowe’s Grant application.

- October 11, 2011 at 12:00PM Eastern Time
- October 11, 2011 at 4:00PM Eastern Time
- October 12, 2001 at 4:00PM Eastern Time

Webinar Directions: (Computer and phone needed!)

Access the below URL link first, and then follow the directions for calling in. You will enter the attendee code when you call in. You will also be asked to sign in (first and last name) on line. Then to access the webinar power point, you will click on “Click to Join.”

URL: <http://web.ganconference.com/?meeting=5772579>

Telephone: 888-222-0475

Attendee code: 5692952

If you need further information on the above grant programs, contact Carol Lowery at 641-512-0504 or Carol Lowery at 641-456-4515.

SKILLSUSA CHAMPIONS FALL ISSUE

The fall issue of *SkillsUSA Champions* magazine should be in your hands. **Our own SkillsUSA Louisiana state President, Gabe Foneca is captured on page 25. “The Future’s Foundation Depends on Education.”**

ACTE’s VIDEO PSA CONTEST REMINDER

Foster future filmmakers: Encourage your CTE students to submit an entry to ACTE's video PSA contest. The winning student or team will receive \$750, and the second-place student or team will receive \$250. Videos should be 29 seconds in length, promote CTE and include the 2012 CTE Month logo.

PSAs must be uploaded by October 17, 2011 at 11:59 p.m. P.S.T. A broadcast-quality hard copy on DVD and required forms must be mailed to ACTE with a postmark date of **October 17, 2011**. Get all the rules and details at www.acteonline.org/psacontest.aspx. We look forward to viewing and sharing these examples of your students' creativity!

Highlights

- The SkillsUSA WorldTeam received coverage in the Labor Day weekend edition of *PARADE* magazine. And, there was much more extensive coverage online, including the team members' biographies. Here is the link: <http://www.parade.com/what-people-earn/americas-skilled-workers/featured/110904-at-last-good-news-on-jobs.html>. *PARADE* appears in more than 600 Sunday edition newspapers. *PARADE* is the largest circulation magazine in the country with 70 million readers of the print edition and 40 million online. More coverage in *PARADE* online has been promised this month.

ADVISOR OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Is there an amazing SkillsUSA advisor who truly makes a difference in his or her classroom, school and within your state association? Applications are still being accepted for the 2011-12 SkillsUSA National Advisor of the Year program. Sponsored by Delmar, Cengage Learning, this is SkillsUSA's teacher honor bestowed annually and one of the most exciting announcements at national conference each year. Each state association is asked to gather advisor applications and then select a SkillsUSA Advisor of the Year for the state. States can submit both a high school and college/postsecondary nominee to be considered for National Advisor of the Year.

The state winner's paperwork must be postmarked by Thursday, **December 1, 2011** and sent to Jeri Widdowson. Nominations will be grouped by region and

then reviewed by a state director selection committee to determine the Regional Advisors of the Year. There will be one winner per region (either high school or college/postsecondary). The five regional winners will be invited to attend the 2012 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. Following personal interviews, one National Advisor of the Year will be selected and announced on stage at the Opening Ceremony at Kemper Arena.

Let me know if you are interested in a nomination form. You can nominate yourself or someone else for consideration as advisor of the year. We sent due dates in the (Vol 9-11) of the Louisiana Champions.

LOWE'S GRANT WEBINARS

SkillsUSA is pleased to announce a continuing partnership with Lowe's for 2012. As part of their overall grant to SkillsUSA, Lowe's will be awarding grants to local chapters of up to \$25,000 each for Community Improvement and Community Rebuilding Grants to be implemented in 2012. New this year, in support of chapters applying for grants, a series of webinars will be held to help chapters through the grant application process. Get the details here: www.skillsusa.org/educators/loweswebinars.shtml. The deadline for applications is November 1, 2011

FREE ONLINE TEACHER TOOLS

New for this school year, I would like to let you know about the 12 online advisor training modules (Advisor Essentials Training Library). These modules are designed to be easy-to-use, easy-to-access and to connect advisors to existing resources. All advisors are welcome to use the training modules anytime, anywhere to learn how to develop a strong SkillsUSA chapter. For more information and to view the modules, go to <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/change2.shtml>

Also free and online are two additional resources - Chapter Activity Planner and Personal Leadership Inventory. They are both important documentation tools for teachers.

The Chapter Activity Planner (CAP) is a tool that makes planning and conducting chapter activities fun and effective. The planner makes it easy to brainstorm ideas, set goals, create an action plan, track assigned tasks and evaluate progress. At the end of an activity, the tool produces an electronic report to save for future reference. The CAP will help students master six steps from organizing to reporting an activity. There is also an online learning module for advisors and a lesson plan to introduce members to the planning process and help them begin using the tool. To access this resource and learn more, visit: <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/cap.shtml>.

The Personal Leadership Inventory (PLI) is a series of online self-assessments for students to grow their skills as individuals, team members, citizens and employees. There's also a module for instructors on how to put the PLI into action in the classroom and a lesson plan to introduce members to the personal growth process and the PLI. Go to <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/pli.shtml>.

➤ **ACTION ITEM: PLEASE NOTE!!!!!!!**
IT IS HIGHLY SUGGESTED THAT YOU LOOK AT THE ABOVE
INFORMATION AND TEACHER TOOLS AND LESSON PLANS TO DEVELOP
YOUR CHAPTER TO A NEW LEVEL. CALL ME IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

REGIONAL PDP, CMI AND CSEP TRAINING SEMINARS UPDATE

State Farm Insurance is, once again, generously sponsoring regional Professional Development Program (PDP), Chapter Management Institute (CMI) seminars and Career Skills Education Program (CSEP) seminars. There will be one training session (CMI, PDP or CSEP) per region. All materials and training will be free to participants. The only cost is \$30 for lunch and breaks. PDP participants will receive a complete set of PDP materials and free licenses for each level. CMI participants will receive an ASK CD, a SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook and the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards CD package. CSEP participants will receive one free CSEP license.

Region 3 State Farm Funded Chapter Management Institute (CMI)

October 31, 2011

Where: Mercer County Technical Education Center

1397 Stafford Drive

Princeton, WV 24740

Time: 9:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Registration Deadline: October 17, 2011

Fee: Training and materials are free to participants. There is a \$30 registration fee to cover lunch and breaks. Contact: Stephanie Bland at 703-737-0622 or sbland@skillsusa.org to register.

If you would like to sign-up for or host a regional PDP training seminar, CMI training seminar or CSEP training seminar, please contact Stephanie Bland at 703-737-0622 or sbland@skillsusa.org. A minimum of 25 participants is needed to conduct the training.

For the latest information on training seminars, please go to <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/training.shtml>.

NEW SKILLSUSA PSAS PRODUCED FEATURING WENDY VENTURINI

SkillsUSA has recently produced two video and three audio public service announcements featuring Wendy Venturini, correspondent for the SPEED channel's "NASCAR Raceday" program and a former SkillsUSA student.

Download the PSAs and get additional information here: <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/psa.shtml>.

FIRST COMPETITOR FOR WORLDSKILLS GERMANY 2013 SELECTED

Daniel Berrios, a graduate of Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania won the WorldSkills Cabinetmaking Qualifying Trial at AWFS®Fair, July 20-23 in Las Vegas and will represent the United States at the 2013 WorldSkills Competition in Leipzig, Germany.

Berrios graduated from Bethlehem Vo-Tech in May 2010 and one month later won gold in high school cabinetmaking at the SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, Missouri. After graduation, he was asked to return to his school as an adult education night class instructor. He is still teaching and also is a student in the CAD program at Northampton Community College.

Kaydee Walters from Tooele High School in Tooele, Utah, was Berrios' formidable competitor. After four years of intense training in high school, Walters became this year's SkillsUSA national high school gold medalist in cabinetmaking. The daughter of a woodworking teacher (at a different high school), Walters recognized her love for woodworking early on and knew she would want to pursue a career in the field. She will continue her training in the cabinetmaking program at Utah Valley University this fall. Fourteen AWFS Fair exhibitors chose to support this event as sponsors by providing tools, machinery, supplies and materials for the students to use: Amana Tool Corporation, Bessey Tools North America, Bosch Power Tools & Accessories, Colonial Saw Company, Inc., Delta Power Equipment Corp., Dixon Enterprises, Inc., Festool USA, General International MFG CO LTD, Powermatic,

Joos USA, Inc., Kreg Tool Company, Rockler Woodworking & Hardware, Royal Plywood and Senco Products.

The sponsors' enthusiasm led to generous tool prizes for both students. Berrios went home with a Delta 10" table saw and his school received a matching saw. Other prizes included a Lamello biscuit joiner, a Powermatic mortiser and jointer, a Grex pin nailer and an assortment of Bessey clamps. Walters received an impressive Woodcraft workbench, Bessey clamps and a hearty stack of quality wood for her next project.

Beyond the donations, the students had some once-in-a-lifetime opportunities during the AWFS Fair. Thanks to Bessey Tools, they enjoyed a special intimate lunch with Tommy MacDonald, host of the Emmy nominated PBS woodworking show "Rough Cuts" with Tommy Mac. Berrios and Walters also got to share the stage with Scott Phillips, host of the long-running favorite PBS show "The American Woodshop" as he announced the winner.

To view some of the great media coverage and photos of the qualifying trials, please visit the following links:

- http://www.woodworkersjournal.com/Ezine/Articles/Cabinetmaking_Students_Compete_for_International_B_8633.aspx
- <https://finewoodworking.com/item/39836/teen-woodworkers-battle-it-out-for-international-title>
- <http://blog.festoolusa.com/post/2011/08/03/What-you-missed-at-AWFS.aspx>
- <http://www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=10150728697145506&oid=108897209138311&comments>
- http://www.wgqa.com/articles/events-industry-news/awfs-student-comps/?utm_source=cc&utm_medium=email&utm_term=read-more&utm_content=awfs-student-competition&utm_campaign=newsletter072711
- http://www.woodworkingnetwork.com/news/woodworking-industry-news/awfs_worldskills_cabinetmaking_qualifying_trial_127859708.html
- http://www.woodworkingnetwork.com/news/woodworking-industry-news/berrios_wins_worldskills_cabinetmaking_trial_event_127865828.html
- http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/nuemedia/awfs_officialshowalert1/
- <http://cabinettrends.wordpress.com/2011/08/04/skillsusa-woodworking-competition-winner-at-awfs/>
- <http://www.woodlinksusa.org/index.php/2011/06/10/awfs-woodworking-students-compete-globally/>
- <http://expoease.zenfolio.com/p718644367>

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chapters of up to \$25,000 each for Community Improvement and Community Rebuilding Grants implemented in 2012.

The Community Improvement: Champions Serving Others grant category is for those schools that are proposing a project that will focus on benefiting their local community or school. In choosing grant winners for the upcoming year, projects that focus on a local need vs. want will stand a greater chance of receiving funding. For this category, a maximum of \$10,000 per grant winner will be awarded.

The Community Rebuilding: Reaching Out and Partnering grant category brings grant project opportunities to a new level in both funding and building leadership skills! Proposed projects in this category will combine the efforts of two SkillsUSA Chapters partnering and reaching out to a community or school that has been drastically affected by a natural disaster. One of the partnering chapters may be the beneficiary of the project. The maximum grant in this category will be \$25,000. Community Rebuilding grant winners will be highlighted on stage at the 2012 NLSC closing ceremony with a video/photo presentation of their project.

Lowe's will be reviewing the top applications, as submitted by a SkillsUSA staff committee, and selecting the chapters to receive the funding. Grant applications must be submitted by **November 1, 2011**. Notification of successful applicants will be in January of 2012. Projects may be implemented during the spring or fall semesters in 2012 and must be completed by November 30, 2012.

New this year, in support of chapters applying for grants, a series of webinars will be held to help chapters through the grant application process. September 14 and 15, 2011, at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time), the first webinar on "Getting Kids Excited About Community Service" will be held. Chapters attending the first webinar will receive a free copy of the new Champions Serving Others curriculum. On September 27 and 28, 2011, at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time), the second webinar will address "Writing a Quality Application." Refer to the SkillsUSA website to confirm times of the webinars as these dates approach.

In addition, CareerSafe Online training vouchers to promote safety among technical students will again be available in 2012.

If you have questions on the grant program, please contact Lowe's grants manager, Carol Lowery, at 641-512-0504 or 641-456-4515 or clowery@skillsusa.org.

For more information and to reach the online application, go to the following: www.skillsusa.org/educators/lowes.shtml.

➤ **ACTION ITEM: PLEASE NOTE!!!!!!!**

FREE SKILLSUSA ADVISOR MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES

When they register at least 20 student members plus one or more professionals by **November 15, 2011**, advisors will receive a free copy of *Leveraging Your Leadership through Effective Chapter Meetings*. This brand new resource from the *SkillsUSA Educational Resources Catalog* discusses how to improve attendance at meetings, ideas for large or small chapter meeting programs, the basics around developing an agenda and meeting room set-up, plus the value behind holding meetings. This tool is ideal to assist in preparing chapter officers to truly lead chapter meetings (value: \$15.00).

Also, instructors who submit a roster with 100-percent membership plus one or more professionals will also receive a SkillsUSA Program of Work calendar (value: \$5.95).

Remember, the membership roster must be submitted online or postmarked by November 15th to receive these free items.

CALL FOR SKILLSUSA TALENT

Do you have a talented singer at your school who would enjoy a special performance opportunity? SkillsUSA seeks talented singers for the opening ceremony or awards ceremony during the 2012 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. We are looking for a SkillsUSA student member to sing the national anthem or another patriotic song appropriate for opening a general session. Singers may sing a capella or to a pre-recorded instrumental track. Send in all audition videotapes on DVD, postmarked by **February 1, 2012** to: Heidi Ambrose, SkillsUSA, 14001 SkillsUSA Way, Leesburg, VA 20176. Questions may be directed to Heidi at 703-737-0610 or hambrose@skillsusa.org.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PIN AND T-SHIRT CONTEST

February 1, 2012 is the deadline for the entries to the SkillsUSA National Conference Pin and T-shirt competitions. This event is open to all paid student members of SkillsUSA. This is a great way to have a student and advisor from your state recognized in front of a national audience. A plaque for the teacher and student, plus a school grant to the advisor of the winning student will be announced at a later date. Rules are in the membership kit and are also posted on the SkillsUSA website at:

<http://www.skillsusa.org/compete/other.shtml>. Questions may be directed to Heidi Ambrose at 703-737-0615 or to hambrose@skillsusa.org.

SKILLSUSA STORE

Here is a note from Steve Korker at the SkillsUSA Store.

The SkillsUSA Store is gearing up for another great school year and looks forward to welcoming all of you back! We are proud to be your one stop resource for all things SkillsUSA, including:

- * Official SkillsUSA Blazers, Wind Jackets and Ties
- * Competition Work Uniforms (Now Featuring Carhartt!)
- * Chapter Supplies, Banners and Table Drapes
- * SkillsUSA Pins, Patches and Medallions
- * Fun and Stylish Fashion Apparel
- * Branded Gifts and Accessories
- * Customizable Awards
- * And much more!

The SkillsUSA Store is located at www.skillsusastore.org and is available 24/7 to serve you.

Be checking your mailbox this fall for the SkillsUSA Store's brand new 2011 - 2012 catalog! This year's full size color catalog features photos of SkillsUSA National Officers on the cover.

Along with the catalog, we're excited to be sending you a SkillsUSA Official Uniform Poster! The poster lists every current SkillsUSA competition along with photographs of actual SkillsUSA members wearing the corresponding approved uniforms.

We will also be giving the SkillsUSA Store a facelift this fall. Check back with us often to check out our improved site and functionality.

Finally, the SkillsUSA Store is also resource for all your custom branded SkillsUSA product and apparel needs. From T-shirts and lapel pins, to gifts and awards, we have access to more than a million products at every price point. Take a look for yourself by clicking on the custom products link at www.skillsusastore.org.

It's going to be a great year together and good luck to everyone. Thank you for shopping the SkillsUSA Store and your continued support of our organization.

PROVEN.COM/SKILLSUSA PARTNERSHIP

SkillsUSA is pleased to announce a partnership with **Proven.com** to assist SkillsUSA alumni and graduating students with job networking opportunities and to help our partner companies hire qualified skilled workers.

Proven.com is an innovative company offering skilled workers free tools to showcase their skills. Companies can hire exactly who they need and can access education and work history and information such as background checks, DMV records and drug tests for those who choose to share it on their profile. The basic product is free of charge, with more advanced premium recruiting tools coming soon. Companies who sign up on Proven.com can hire SkillsUSA alumni or one of the thousands of other skilled workers currently on the site.

Proven.com is directly donating to SkillsUSA's Youth Development Foundation a percentage of the fees generated from SkillsUSA partner companies that hire through Proven.com.

You are welcome to explore Proven.com's website at <http://www.proven.com/>.

STATE FARM PROJECT IGNITION GRANTS

The National Youth Leadership Council® and State Farm® are pleased to announce the availability of \$2,000 Project Ignition grants for public high school students and teachers to address teen driver safety through service-learning.

Car crashes remain the number one cause of death for adolescents. That's a staggering statistic, but one that young people, in partnership with their teachers and community, can and are changing through Project Ignition.

For the past eight years, high school students in public schools throughout the United States and in three Canadian provinces have been using service learning to tie their academic objectives to this important issue. They do this by getting the facts out, engaging their audiences and working to ultimately influence driving behaviors and save lives on the road.

Students use their own creativity to create impactful awareness and engagement campaigns. Strategies used in the past have included: hosting events and demonstrations; forming community-wide partnerships; working on local and state policy; producing public service announcements; and, more.

Twenty-five schools will be chosen to receive \$2,000 grants to support the implementation of their campaigns between January and April 2012. Ten of these 25 schools will be granted an additional \$5,000 to support their participation in a

significant national conference or event – including the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. They will also be given the opportunity to be named "National Leader Schools" and receive an additional \$2,500 to go deeper with their campaigns during the 2012-2013 school year.

Applications are due **November 15, 2011**. To apply, go to <http://www.sfprojectignition.com/>

STATE FARM HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON VIDEO CONTEST

State Farm® Insurance Companies recently kicked off Friday Night Feats, a national high school football video contest. Beginning August 25, the biggest moments of the season as captured by players, parents and fans can win up to \$17,500 for their high school.

Eligible fans, coaches, players and community members can submit videos to the State Farm Friday Night Feats contest page at <http://fridaynightfeats.com/fnf/> from Aug. 25 until Nov. 28 to be considered as the best Friday night feat of the 2011 high school football season.

For more information go to:

<http://www.statefarm.com/aboutus/pressreleases/2011/august/25/friday-night-feats-program.asp>

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➤ This issue of the Louisiana Champions (VOL 11-11) probably contains much more information than the usual issue. Please print this issue and read at your leisure. There is very good information for you to launch a great SkillsUSA chapter at your school, campus for this year. As always, if you have a question call me. I am pleased to report to you that I always answer either by a phone call or email within 24 hours or sooner.

➤ **HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE 2011 SKILLSUSA LOUISIANA FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN LAFAYETTE, OCTOBER 17-18, 2011!**

Thank you for all you do for the great students and teachers we serve.