



Glide FFA
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*"And so, my fellow Americans:
ask not what your country can do
for you- ask what you can do for
your country." –John F. Kennedy*

Dear Oregon FFA,

A fiery horse with the speed of light, a cloud of dust and a hearty "Hi-yo Silver, away!" the Lone Ranger rides again! Just like when John Reid first put on the mask and swore to fight for law and order in the early American West, I too feel responsibility when putting on my corduroy jacket to go make a difference.

It was during my freshmen year of high school that I discovered something called the FFA. This was the greatest discovery of my life, an organization that was based around leadership and agriculture. From the very beginning, I knew that I wanted to take on a leadership role. However, I could never find what that was. I never could figure out where I fit in to serve.

At last year's Oregon FFA State Convention, I walked around and talked to as many students as I could. I listened to their stories. But I still hadn't discovered what my leadership calling was. Several months later, I attended Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. It wasn't until at that conference that I truly understood the purpose of my service. It wasn't about me. It never had been about me. It was about my chapter, district, and my state. It was about how I could make a difference in the lives of others through leadership.

My good friend Mitchell Evers once said to me, "If you are capable of doing something, then it's your responsibility to do it." Since the Washington Leadership Conference, I've devoted my time as Chapter President helping the Glide FFA Chapter grow and improve. My goal before graduating is to inspire members of my chapter to use their leadership skills to their fullest potential.

If I am elected into Oregon FFA State Office, my plan is to do this on a statewide scale through motivational speeches, workshops, and videos in hope of inspiring others to find their service calling. Oregon FFA, it is with these endeavors in mind that I am pleased to announce my candidacy for the position of President on the 2014-2015 State Officer Team. Fellow FFA members, the next time you see me and wonder "Who is that man in the blue jacket?" You can say "That's one of the state officer candidates".

Sincerely,

Elijah Dunnavant

