



WCHS senior Grant Hitchcock, pictured in green jacket, got to shake hands with President Trump during his visit to Nashville on Monday.



Pictured during their Nashville trip to see President Trump are, from left, 4-H agent Emily Mote, Meghan Madewell, Blake Waldron, Will Prater, and Jacob Scott.

Meeting President Trump

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Continued Crowe, "It started with 12 students and kept growing. By the end, they said they wanted 25 students and wanted one of them to greet the president when he came off the plane."

Crowe said three Warren County students were selected to attend because they are on the State 4-H Council. Caroline Brooks made the trip, but Emily Pennington was unable to attend.

"In my 10 years with state 4-H, we've never had a 4-H'er meet a president," said Crowe. "I'm beyond proud of Grant and beyond excited for him."

As a side note, Grant's younger brother Ethan was able to accompany him to Nashville because school was canceled Monday. Even though Ethan was confined to an area with the general crowd, President Trump saw him and by coincidence walked over to shake his hand.

Other local 4-H students who attended the conference and listened to President Trump are Blake Waldron, Will Prater, Meghan Madewell, and Jacob Scott.

President Trump was in Nashville to speak at the annual American Farm Bureau Federation convention. Mr.

Trump became the first president in a quarter-century to address the federation's convention, using the trip as a backdrop for a White House report that included proposals to stimulate a segment of the national economy that has lagged behind others.

Joined by Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and a group of Tennessee lawmakers, Trump said most of the benefits of tax reform legislation are "going to working families, small businesses, and who? — the family farmer."

The package Trump signed into law last month provides generous tax cuts for corporations and the wealthiest Americans, and more modest reductions for middle- and low-income individuals and families.

Trump also called on Congress to renew the farm bill this year, adding he supports providing federal crop insurance. The massive federal legislation funds federal agriculture and food policy, and it offers assistance to rural communities.

Crowe said 20 Tennessee 4-H students and five chaperones were in VIP seating, rows 1-5, during the president's speech. He said there were an estimated 7,000 people in attendance.

From Nashville, Trump traveled to Atlanta to watch Alabama play Georgia for the college football national championship. The game was played in Mercedes-Benz Stadium, the new \$1.5 billion home field of the Atlanta Falcons and won by Alabama in OT.

Before departing for the game, Trump referenced his ongoing defense of the American flag and the national anthem, saying there was enough space for to people to express their views. "We love our flag and we love our anthem and we want to keep it that way," he said.

The president was greeted by cheers and a smattering of boos when he took the field in Atlanta, escorted by ROTC members. With his hand over his heart and an American flag pin on his lapel, Trump sang a few words as Georgia's Zac Brown Band and a gospel choir performed the anthem.

Trump left the game at halftime to return to the White House.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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