

Roger Gardner

Roger Gardner was in Future Farmers of America while in high school over in Harrisonville, where his dad taught vocational agriculture. In February, 1982, Derry hired him to drive over from Mizzou to do farm reports, especially the early ones when Derry had returned late the night before from a speaking engagement. Roger went full time in May of '83, after graduating from MU with an Ag-Education degree. Naturally, I saw Roger as a strong addition to our farm broadcasting staff and the eventual successor to Derry.



Until he came to me with an odd question in early 1984: "How do you see my future here?" he asked. I told him my vision. "Well, I don't see myself being a farm broadcaster." he told me. Eeeek! Now what was I going to do? I liked the guy, but... So, I asked him if he'd move to Des Moines and along with Greg Brown run that new property (Iowa State). He was only 22 and newly engaged.

January 12, 2009

[[part of longer post](#)]