Whitney Bowman is a senior in Dairy Science who grew up on a small beef farm in Mt. Jackson, Virginia. Bowman served as a state FFA officer and ran for national office twice.

Bowman’s time at Virginia Tech has been full of extracurricular activities including Dairy Club and Beef Leadership Council. She is also a part of Virginia Tech Young Farmers.

Bowman hopes to get into agriculture education, either in the classroom or through extension.

What is something you wish your freshman self knew?
Have confidence and try everything. You never know where a path will open. The Dairy Science department is super supportive and it makes opportunities available. You never know what will come of going to a conference, taking an extra class or trying a new club.

What is one thing you want consumers to know about the dairy industry?
I wish consumers knew that be that behind every agriculture product is a farmer. And farmers are really neat people who care about what they do. They have a passion with all that they do and I think that if we can build that connection with ag that that will take us really far.

Who is your favorite cow?
Maple, my Little All American heifer. Well she’s still a heifer but she’ll be a cow soon!

Is almond milk really milk?
*audible laughter* No, it’s not and it tastes terrible.

Disney Channel or Nickelodeon?
Disney Channel

Plain or chocolate milk?
Plain, whole milk

Can you talk about your summer internship?
I worked for American Farm Bureau Federation. I lived and spent the summer in Washington DC; it was a very cool time to be there. I worked in education, specifically creating member programs and member services. So, I got to host a program for interns, develop some curriculum and travel.

Speaking of education, is there an age group you’d like to work with?
I thought about high school for a bit but now I’m leaning more towards extension so we’ll see.

What is your #VTmoment?
One of my all-time favorites was Coach Beamer’s last game. There was that last touchdown and we all knew it was done but everyone starting chanting “Beamer!” It was just awesome. And then of course showing in Little All American with Maple was a highlight too.