



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of JAMES W. RICKETTS



Written by AMA staff (12/1989); Transcribed by JS (01/2009), Reformatted by JS (01/2010)

The following was published in the December 1989 issue of Model Aviation magazine. James was a 1989 Sig Memorial Scholarship winner.

James W. Ricketts, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is working on a Criminal Justice/Pre-Law major at the University of South Dakota. After a successful high school career in which he made the honor roll two years in a row, James is determined to succeed. Active in the French Club at school, as worker in the youth group at his church, and a keen sportsman in football and track, he has lots of energy.

He joined AMA at the age of eight, and has been a keen aeromodeler ever since. In 1985, 1986, and 1987 he competed at the Nats. His specialty is Control Line (he does fly Radio Control), and at those three Nationals he won first places in Scale Race, Rat Race, and A Speed, and picked up trophies for placing second in other Control Line events. James polished his competitive skills in many area and regional contests, and loves to be a Nats contestant. He enjoys the camaraderie, and sharing ideas and experiences with other modelers.

With two other children in their family, his folks are working hard to help him go through school, but he has also been steadily employed each and every summer, putting aside funds for his college expenses.

James seems to be typical of the fine young men and women who come up through the ranks of model aviators, and we wish him the very best.

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