

## Del. Jr. broiler winners announced

NEWARK, Del. — In one of the closest contests in 30 years, an FFA member from Christiana High School was chosen as the 1978 Delaware Junior Broiler Program champion. Dan Thomas of Bear received the top prize of \$25 and a trophy, plus an additional \$5 for submitting the heaviest entry. The winning entry scored 94.80 points.

William R. Brown, III,

FFA member from Wyoming took second place with a score of 94.25. Another FFA member, Glen Davis of Bear, came in third with a score of 94.15.

Cash prizes were awarded to the top 20 contestants, all of whom scored over 90 points. They are: Allen Cook, Kenton, 4-H; Bonnie McClements, Dover, 4-H; Sherry Warren, Smyrna, FFA; Ellen Sherwood,

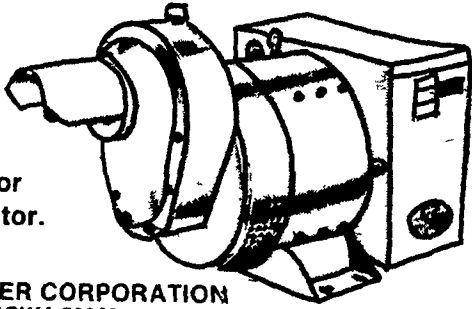
Camden, FFA; Maria Warren, Woodside, 4-H; Ron Walton, Magnolia, 4-H; Keith Warrington, Bridgeville, 4-H; Dale Cook, Kenton, 4-H; Mike Everline, Harrington, 4-H; Wayne Carlisle, Dover, FFA; Cheryl Warren, Kenton, 4-H; Crawford Shahan, Magnolia, FFA; Matt Smith, Bridgeville, 4-H; Eddie Justice, Laurel, FFA; Holly Webb, Wyoming, 4-H; Brian



First through fifth place winners of the 30th annual Delaware junior broiler finals are (left to right) Dan Thomas, Bear; William R. Brown, III, Wyoming; Glen Davis, Bear; Allen Cook, Kenton; and Sherry Warren, Smyrna. Each contestant raised at least 50 chicks to seven weeks of age.

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Hammond, Houston, 4-H; and George Petras, Clayton, FFA.

The Junior Broiler contest was established in 1948 to encourage youth participation in poultry production. Sponsored by the Delaware Poultry Improvement Association and the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Service, the program is open to youths participating in 4-H and FFA programs.

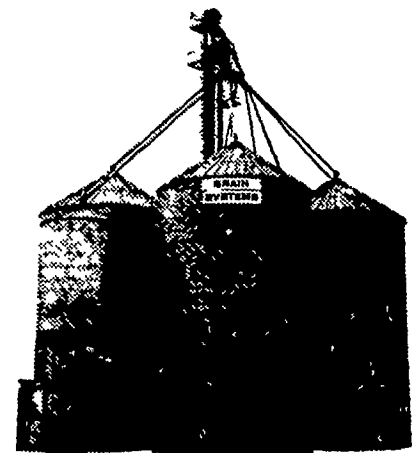
Judges selected the winning broilers on the basis of conformation, condition, appearance, uniformity of entry, weight and completeness of records.

This year, the birds were raised in 49 days and had an average weight of 4.99 pounds, while the heaviest entry averaged 5.61 pounds per bird. Twenty years ago it took contestants 10 weeks to produce birds with an average weight of only 4.37 pounds. According to the judges, experienced contestants as well as better poultry breeds and feeds are responsible for the improvement.

Each contestant was given 50 chicks in March and was responsible for feeding and caring for the birds through maturity. Seven birds from each flock were selected for competition, dressed by a commercial processor and then displayed and judged.

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