

## Co-op students

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tended last year because "I got a lot of encouragement from FFA advisors at school. My brother Doug had gone and liked it."

For Deb, attending the Institute was a personal growing experience.

"I learned a lot about cooperatives and I learned a lot about myself," she says. "They want you to be leaders, and I learned to believe in myself and to have self confidence. I learned to relax when speaking in front of a group."

Another plus for Deb was, "I learned to know a lot of great people. I made friendships that will last. I didn't know about cooperatives, and now I am a strong believer in them. The institute encourages scholars to think about the cooperative form of business. I will promote cooperatives when I go home."

Deb agrees with Vicki about the quality of kids who attend. "There is a selection process, so there are really top ones selected to be here," she says. "You have to be a leader to be chosen to attend." While free time in the form of dances, ball games and picnics are built into the program, Deb states, "If you are active there is not much free time."

There are always meetings to plan the talent show or to work on the newsletter. Nevertheless, Deb points out, "Meeting new people is a form of recreation, too."

Deb is a junior in nursing at St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing.

Scholars are eligible to return for a second year, and many do. Seventeen-year-old Josh Weinstock, son of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Weinstock, Phoenixville in Chester County, went back for a second year and is serving, again, as co-editor of the newsletter. Josh says the newsletter staff interviews some of the guest speakers and lets scholars know what is going on each day of the Institute.

From his experience last year Josh wrote his junior term paper at school on cooperatives. This year, he says, "We are learning more principles of cooperatives, and more about the manager level and employee relationships."

Each year participants at the Institute form their own cooperative, Minico, something Josh thinks is an excellent idea.

"It's a real legal co-op" he says. "I was with Joan (the president) when she signed the papers."

Josh also said he thinks the Institute opens up career ideas for the scholars who attend.

One New York resident who is participating in the Institute is Russell Lerwick, 18, of Harpersville. He is planning to attend Delaware Valley College in the Fall and attended the Institute as a second-year scholar.

Russell says, "I heard about it through FFA and saw it as a leadership opportunity. Last year I learned about cooperatives and how they work and the important role they play in agriculture and the job field. I knew a little about them before I came, but I broadened my knowledge and learned a lot more."

Russell lives on a dairy farm where they raise heifers and cows up to freshening age, and he belongs to a sheep and wool growers cooperative because he raises sheep.

This year Russell says, "We go into more depth about money and the financial end of cooperatives. I think I enjoy it more this year. I feel more at home and I know more about it. I think the Institute is preparing future leaders who will serve and will spread the word that cooperatives are good."

Many of the young people participating are from farms, but by no means all of them. In fact, Joan Gagliardi hails from center city Philadelphia, and worked hard to find a way to attend the Institute after she learned about it from a 4-H friend in Sullivan County. She made some phone calls, got out the encyclopedia to learn about cooperatives and is taking an active part.

Joan says, "I didn't know a thing about cooperatives." The first thing she learned is that there are cooperatives in Philadelphia, though not farmer cooperatives. There are housing and food cooperatives, but the principals are the same - one member, one vote.

It seemed natural for Joan to

attend since she is majoring in business administration and economics at Ursinus College with the intention of going to law school. She has been a 4-H'er for 10 years and is now learning about FFA as well.

Joan came to the Institute wishing to be elected to the board of directors of Minico, and not only succeeded in that goal, but also was elected to serve as president of the Board of Directors. She says, "I learned a lot about parliamentary procedure." She has been elected president of her class for two years at Ursinus, so she says, "I pretty much know how to organize things."

She is enjoying the opportunity to observe the workings of a cooperative first-hand. She explains that Minico will sell souvenir frisbees, magnets and

key chains, and will sponsor refreshments at one of the dances and at the pizza party.

One of her first jobs as president was to appoint a committee to select a manager for the cooperative. The committee screened applicants and interviewed the top candidates before selecting 18-year-old Don Carter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mac Carter of Washington County.

Don is in his second year, and says, "I applied to be manager because I thought it would be pretty interesting. It is good experience."

His first job was to work with his area managers in selecting the right place from which to order soda and pizza for their refreshments. Figuring price was the next job.

Don admits that he's working harder than he did last year, but seems to be enjoying every minute of it. He said the manager gets a salary, but not until the job is finished. It is three percent of the profit, probably not enough to pay tuition when he begins studying dairy production at Penn State in the Fall. He said the biggest drawback to the job is that it must be accomplished in such a short time - just three days from start to finish.

There's no doubt that there's a lot of learning about cooperatives going on in the halls of Shippensburg University. But there is also a lot of personal growth and leadership training taking place with the work, and the result is sure to benefit the entire community.

## Panizzi Wears Westmoreland Crown

GREENSBURG — Cynthia Panizzi, R2 Derry, was recently crowned Westmoreland Dairy Princess by Janean Frye last year's winner.

The 17-year-old brunette is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Panizzi. She has hazel eyes and is 5'6" tall.

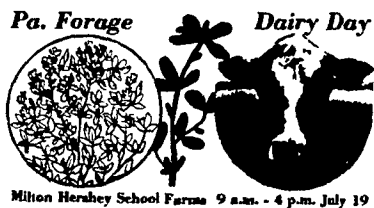
A recent graduate of Derry Area High School, Cindy will attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania in the fall, where she will study elementary education.

Elizabeth Sarver, R1 Greensburg, and Bonnie Baird, R1 Latrobe, were named alternates. Both girls will be attending seminars at Lycoming College, Williamsport, this month.

Judges for the evening were Barbara Berkley, Berlin; Sharon Fox, Rockwood; and Kenneth Raney, Washington. Donald Fretts was master of ceremonies.



Helping to crown Cynthia Panizzi, Westmoreland's new Dairy Princess, were Kathy Clawson, crown bearer, and Brian Clawson, ring bearer.



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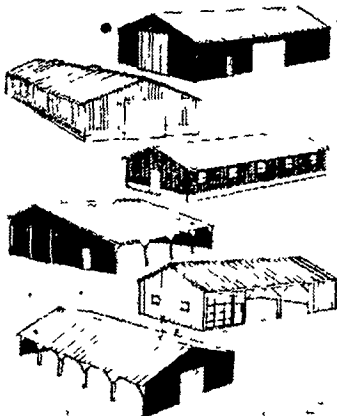
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