

Lebanon County FFA Honors Students For Year of Hard Work

BY MIRIAM GREENFIELD
Lebanon Co. Correspondent
LEBANON — Lebanon County's richest agricultural resource is its future farmers, students of vocational agriculture. They gathered with advisors and guests May 15 at Cedar Crest Middle School for their annual banquet to reap honors for a year of hard work.

Dale Balmer, Annville-Cleona High School, outgoing president of Lebanon County FFA, was named 1986 Star Agribusinessman. He was also presented with a plaque and \$50 U.S. savings bond for outstanding Farm Credit Record Keeping by Keith Silfee of the Production Credit Association. In addition, his project on soybean production earned him a proficiency award from state. He was a 1986 Keystone Degree winner and in dairy judging, grades 11 and 12, he placed first. Dale is a son of John and Marilyn Balmer, R4, Lebanon.

Tim Elliott, Annville-Cleona High School, outgoing treasurer, was named 1986 Lebanon County Star Farmer by Reed Hoover of the Lebanon County Holstein Club. Elliott's farm project also earned him a proficiency award from state. In addition, he was a 1986 Keystone Degree winner and placed first in extemporaneous speaking, salesmanship, and corn yield. He is a son of Richard and Kathy Elliott, R4, Lebanon.

Harvey Smith, area consultant, also gave state proficiency awards to Jenny Embich, Cedar Crest, and Brenda Reinbold, Northern Lebanon, outgoing secretary of Lebanon County FFA.

Tonya Johnson, outgoing vice-

president, was named Star Agribusinessman of Cedar Crest High School and received first place in conservation speaking and in interview.

Keith Zeigler was Star Agribusinessman from Eastern Lebanon High School. David Brandt, from Lebanon Vo-Tech, and Matt Hetrick, from Northern Lebanon, were named Star Agribusinessmen for their schools.

Brenda Balmer was named Star Farmer from Cedar Crest; Gary Mart, from Eastern Lebanon; and Donna Kreiser, from Lebanon Vo-Tech.

Brenda Dice, Northern Lebanon, presented the County Creed and received a first-place check from the Lebanon County Farmers Association. Also receiving checks for second and third place in the creed contest were Mardell Boyd, Cedar Crest; and Mike Balmer, Annville.

Mark Long, outgoing reporter, was named Star Farmer at Northern Lebanon and was a 1986 Keystone Degree winner. He placed first in the agronomy contest.

Long and Lisa Houser, outgoing sentinel, Cedar Crest, conferred Lebanon County Farmer Degrees to the following winners: Kent Hoffer, Sheila Hostetter, Daniel Brandt, Eric Harnish, and Mike Beare, from Annville-Cleona; Jeff Ruhl, Adam Hain, and Kevin Dreibelbis, from Cedar Crest; Ted Zook, Keith Zeigler, Glenn Kurtz, Angie Bollinger, Adam Sonnon, and Dean Nolt, from Eastern Lebanon County; Dan Heisey and Dawn Sourwine from Lebanon Vo-Tech; and Matt Hetrick, Gene Kreitzer, and Julie Grill from

Northern Lebanon.

Charles Kline, state vice-president, brought greetings and encouraged members to participate in county contests. It was noted that of the 18 American Farmers named in Pennsylvania in 1985, four are from Lebanon County: Donald Baer, Daryl Balmer, Steven Wenger and Mark Patches.

Other Keystone Degree winners were Eric Morton, Annville-Cleona; David Groff, Daniel Groff, and Brenda Balmer, Cedar Crest; Philip Balsbaugh, Elco; Tammy Weaver, Lebanon Vo-Tech; and Wesley Harding, Mike Kunkle, and Eric Swinehart, Northern Lebanon.

County Contest first-prize winners besides those named above were Lynn Schwenk, Annville, land judging; Gerald Getz, Lebanon Vo-Tech, small engine; Laura Harding, Northern Lebanon, corn quality contest; and Sue Elliott, Annville, FFA prepared speaking.

Other County Contest first-prize winners were Gale Hitz, Cedar Crest, for meat judging; Jeff Ruhl, Cedar Crest, agriculture mechanics; Tom Price, Cedar Crest, dairy foods; Rodney Eckenrode, Cedar Crest, horse judging; Dave Lentz, Northern Lebanon, dairy judging, grades 9 and 10; and Kathy Blatt, Northern Lebanon, greenhand contest.

Glenn Wenger of Wenger Farm Machinery announced the following Lebanon County Project Book Contest medal winners: enterprise, Jeff Balmer, Elco, gold; Becky Smith, Cedar Crest, silver; and Gene Kreitzer, Northern Lebanon, bronze. En-

terprise, Laura Harding, Northern Lebanon, gold, and Diane Dice, Northern Lebanon, silver. Home improvement, Ed Fidler, Annville, gold; John Whary, Cedar Crest, silver.

Dairy cows, Dean Nolt, Elco, gold; Dave Lentz, Northern Lebanon, silver. Beef, Paul Reinbold, Northern Lebanon, gold; Brenda Reinbold, Northern Lebanon, silver; Eric Harnish, Annville, bronze.

Greenhouse, Julie Grill, Northern Lebanon, gold; Jenny Embrich, Cedar Crest, silver. Rabbits, Patrick Elliott, Cedar Crest, gold; John Boyer, Cedar Crest, silver. Tobacco, Geary Martin, Elco, gold.

Dairy heifers, Lisa Houser, Cedar Crest, gold; Sherry Donmoyer, Northern Lebanon, silver; Sheila Hostetter, Annville, bronze. Swine breeding, Eric Harnish, Annville, gold; Mark Long, Northern Lebanon, silver; Susan Rudd, Northern Lebanon, bronze; market hogs, Gale Hitz, Cedar Crest, gold; Kathy Blatt, Northern Lebanon, silver; Kent Reigel, Annville, bronze.

Small grain, Brian Boyer, Cedar Crest, gold; Ann Saylor, Annville, silver. Alfalfa, Susan Elliott, Annville, gold.

Broilers, Jeff Ruhl, Cedar Crest, gold. Sheep, Matt Hetrick, Northern Lebanon, gold; Krista Hetrick, Northern Lebanon, silver. Horses, Andrea Young, Annville, gold.

Work experience on farm, zero to 500 hours, Angie Bollinger, Elco, gold; Tonya Johnson, Cedar Crest, silver; Jeff Balmer, Elco, bronze. Over 500 hours, Lynn Schwenk, Annville, gold; Dale Balmer,

Annville, silver; Gary Martin, Elco, bronze.

Work experience off farm, zero to 500 hours, Mardell Boyd, Cedar Crest, gold; David Brandt, Lebanon Vo-Tech, silver. From 500 to 1,000 hours, Keith Zeigler, Elco, gold; Mike Beare, Annville, silver; Kent Reigel, Annville, bronze. From 1,001 to 1500 hours, Glenn Kurtz, Elco, gold.

Miscellaneous I, Marro Ceresini, Annville, gold; Julie Grill, Northern Lebanon, silver; Adam Hain, Cedar Crest, bronze. Miscellaneous II, Lynette Kreiser, Cedar Crest, gold; Chris Hartleib, Cedar Crest, silver.

Dairy herd, Dale Balmer, Annville, gold; Angie Bollinger, Elco, silver; Brenda Balmer, Cedar Crest, bronze. Enterprise, Tim Elliott, Annville, gold; and Daniel Brandt, Annville, silver.

Skills and tasks, zero to 225 hours, Tom Prince, Cedar Crest, gold, Todd Wenrich, Cedar Crest, silver; and Kevin Dreibelbis, Cedar Crest, bronze. Over 226 hours, Dawn Sourwine, Vo-Tech, gold; Patty Hostetter, Vo-Tech, gold; and Mike Wenrich, Cedar Crest, silver.

New officers were installed and Gene Kreitzer, Northern Lebanon, 1986-87 president of Lebanon County FFA, closed the meeting.



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