

Thornburgh Opens Governor's Ag School

BY MARY MAXWELL
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UNIVERSITY PARK — At last Sunday's opening convocation of Pennsylvania's first Governor's School for Agriculture, Governor Thornburgh welcomed the first class of 65 high school participants. "You are pioneers," he said. "You are not only a bright, exceptionally talented group of young people, but you are the first participants in Pennsylvania's

Governor's School for Agriculture." He went on to reflect: "Perhaps one of you will some day make a significant breakthrough in solving world food or fiber problems. Maybe one of you will develop a technology for better food, clothing or quality of life."

Penn State President Bryce Jordon welcomed the group on behalf of the University. In acknowledging the courses of

study for the coming weeks Jordon said, "These topics — and others — are critical to modern agriculture, the study of which is becoming more and more dependent on science and technology and the accompanying equipment which is so necessary to precise science and state-of-the-art technology."

Also on hand to welcome the students, their parents, and other guests were Mrs. Thornburgh and

Mrs Jordon, Minority Whip for the State House of Representatives Samuel E. Hayes, State Secretary of Agriculture Richard Grubb, Rep. Ruth Rudy, Dean of the College of Agriculture Lamartine Hood, Deputy Secretary of Education D. Kay Wright, State Governor's School Director Arthur Gatty, and Dr. James Mortensen, School of Agriculture director.

These 10th and 11th graders will be on the Penn State campus for five weeks. They were chosen by the Pennsylvania Department of Education basically for their overall academic achievement. The students also submitted recommendations from guidance counselors and teachers, and a personal essay on their interest in or experience with food, agriculture, or natural resources. The cost of the Governor's School is provided by a special state appropriation through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The students will take courses ranging in topics from horticulture and plant physiology, the economics of agriculture, and food science to radioisotope applications in agriculture. They will also have "hands on" experience at Penn State's Circleville Farm with sheep, dairy calves and in

other agronomic activities.

Courses will be taught by the PSU College of Agriculture faculty.

The Governor's School for Agriculture will end on August 2 with a closing ceremony and a display of the students' research projects.

The sixty-five high school students participating in the first Governor's School for Agriculture are:

Lancaster County: Randy Risser, Solanco HS; Nicole Rovner, Hempfield.

Lebanon: Angela Bollinger, Eastern Lebanon County; Kirsten Gross, Annville-Cleona.

Perry: Irene Benner, Greenwood; Jeffrey Stoltzfus, West Perry.

York: Adam Rishel, Central Senior.

Berks: Gary Bicksler, Tulpehocken; Michele Swope, Holy Name.

Bucks: Michael Hathaway, George School.

Chester: Kymberly Morris, Phoenixville.

Delaware: Margaret Ann Leavitt, The Baldwin School; Robin Parker, Upper Darby; Michael Shurkin, Radnor.

Lehigh: Benjamin Gruber, Northwestern Lehigh.

Montgomery: Amy O'Meara, Mt. St. Joseph Academy; Jennifer Perloff, The Baldwin School; Chang Shon, North Penn Senior; Jason Tsai, Upper Dublin.

Northampton: Jennifer Lai, Easton.

Philadelphia: Kia Lilly, Germantown Friends School; Jennifer Mellor, Little Flower Catholic; Carol Trimmer, W.B. Saul.

Dauphin: Gary Searer, Hershey. Juniata: Leslie Bowen, Juniata Area.

Huntington: Scott Kane, Huntington Area.

Blair: Laurie Smith, Central.

Centre: Kathryn Cahir, State College Intermediate; Sharon Johnson, Bald Eagle Area; Elizabeth Starling, State College Intermediate.

Elk: Jodi McCluskey, St. Mary's Area; Brenda Yanak, St. Mary's Area.

Luzerne: Truyen Huynh, Dallas Senior.

Lycoming: John Shu, Loyalsock Township Senior.

Montour: Brenda Moslock, Danville Senior.

Wayne: Tammy Conklin, Honesdale.

Wyoming: Anthony Adamo, Tunkhannock; Jane Cooper, Tunkhannock.

Tioga: Jennie Groover, Canton. McKean: Joseph DuShaw, Bradford Area; Gregory Stanko, Kane Area.

Potter: James Sherman, Northern Potter.

Franklin: Kerry Golden, Greencastle-Antrim.

Crawford: Dianna Ertman, Conneaut Valley.

Mercer: Dale Smith, Reynolds. Armstrong: Brian McIlwain, Shannock Valley.

Clarion: Brenton Henry, Red-bank Valley.

Indiana: Amy Mertz, Dayton. Fayette: Paul Swartz, Uniontown Area.

Westmoreland: Thomas Chang, Franklin Regional Intermediate; Jennifer Haberlen, Ligonier Valley Senior; Mark Handke, Greensburg-Salem Senior; Kathleen Renda, Burrell Senior.

Allegheny: Jennifer Bolin, Churchill; Scott Golla, Fox Chapel Area SD; David Kanter, Gateway Senior; Dat Xuan Nguyen, Keystone Oaks; Ishu Rao, North Hills; Paula Troxell, Taylor Alderdice; Jodi Varley, Steel Valley.

Beaver: Amy Fardo, Ambridge; Stephen Fuegi, Ambridge; Brian Kost, Quigley; Renay Oshop, Ambridge; Jonathon Tyma, Ambridge.



Governor Thornburgh and distinguished guests pose with the first Governor's School for Agriculture. The school opened last Sunday on the Penn State campus.

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