

# FFA'ers Thrive On Competition At Penn State

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — More than 1,000 FFA members, advisors, and guests participated in the three-day annual FFA Activities Week Convention recently.

Members were able to apply knowledge and skills in the 22 different contests held. Contests cov-

ered subjects ranging from aquaculture to extemporaneous speaking and parliamentary procedure to wildlife.

All contest participants are given rankings within the state. The first group of top ranked students get the opportunity to represent Pennsylvania in the national

contests held in Kansas City, Mo., in November. The next highest rank group will represent Pennsylvania in the regional contests held in Springfield, Massachusetts.

In addition to competing in contests, the students attended general sessions that featured motivational speakers. On Tuesday night,

Patrick Grady of Charlotte, N.C., spoke of goal setting for teenagers. On Wednesday night, the keynote speaker was national eastern FFA Vice President Matthew Lohr, from Virginia.

Members were also entertained with FFA talent presentations on Tuesday and Wednesday nights

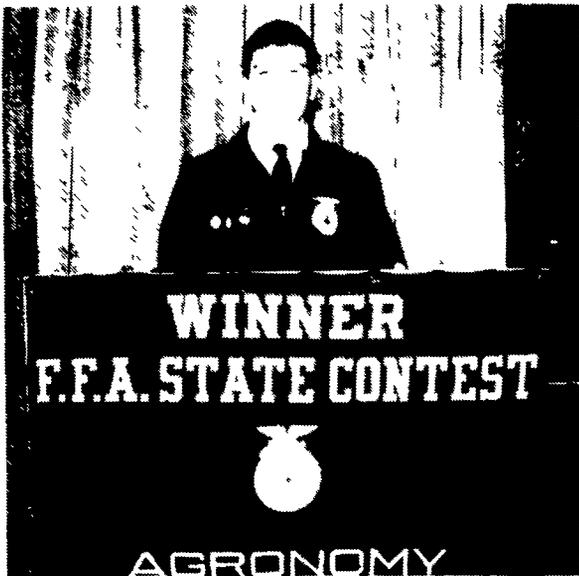
and by the state chorus, directed by Daniel Shaw.

Thursday morning's final general session was highlighted by the announcement of the national and regional contest winners and the presentation of the new 1991-1992 State Officer Team.

Following is a list of winners:



Perennial contenders, Cedar Crest FFA captured first place honors in the chapter procedure contest. First row left to right, the team of Matthew Sensing, Scott Nolt, Jamie Eisenhour; second row left to right, Jason Krall, Dan Atkins, Ammon Peiffer, third row left to right, alternates John Risser and Nat Seyfert, Randy Brandt, and Christopher Long, is coached by advisor Harold Berkheiser (not pictured) and sponsored by Sun Oil Company and Arco.



Aaron Harpster, of Tyrone FFA, used the practical experience he has gained on his home farm to earn first place gold honors in the agronomy contest. Harpster will now go on to represent Pennsylvania in national competition at the November convention in Kansas City.



Pictured here are four of the top place dairy cattle judges. Left to right, Jamie Shultz, Danville FFA, placed fifth; Jill Harnish, Solanco FFA, placed sixth; George Bard, Penn Manor High School, placed second; and Kraig Sellers, Anville Cleona placed third. Not pictured is fourth place finisher Nicki Bozinski of Mowhak FFA.



Left to right, Greg Garland of Franklin County AVTS FFA placed second in the agricultural salesmanship contest, while Heather Becker of Pequea Valley FFA earned top honors. Becker will go on to national competition in Kansas City in November.



Sire Power NESD District 1 Manager Jake Meyer, far left, shows the companies support for the regional dairy showman. Left to right, Kristen Hoffer, Anville Cleona FFA; John Kennedy, Knoch FFA; and Sandy Gross, Hamburg FFA. The three FFA members placed fourth, third, and second, respectively, and will go on to further competition at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass.



Top applicant in the interview contest was Tracey Sauder of West Perry FFA. Sauder's first place gold finish earned her a trip to the National FFA Convention with the Pennsylvania delegation.



In the eastern states nursery landscape contest, Pennsylvania FFA will be represented by sixth place winner Jason Bennett, Columbia-Montour FFA; fifth place winner Chad Correll, Danville FFA; and fourth place winner Jeff Jackson, Western FFA.



Left to right, Manheim FFA member Dean Wenger received the first place gold, Carla Zimmerman of James Buchanan FFA placed third, and Daryl Ebersole, Milfillburg FFA, earned second place gold honors in the farm management contest. The three FFA members will go on to Kansas City as Pennsylvania's representatives in the national farm management contest.



Left to right, first place livestock judge Harry Hoover, Rockwood FFA, will be joined by second place finisher Stephanie McConn and third place judge Jody Clapper of Central Cove FFA to represent Pennsylvania in national livestock judging competition during the November National FFA Convention.



In her first state public speaking contest, Marci Harnish of Manheim FFA earned a first place gold award in the creed speaking contest. For her efforts, she was also awarded a trip to Kansas City to the National FFA Convention.



Rounding out the top 10 in livestock judging were Frank Bogacz, Knock FFA, ninth place, Matt Fenton, Reynolds FFA; eighth place, Ryan Mooney, West Greene FFA; and seventh place, Jerry Bollinger, Cloister FFA. The group will represent Pennsylvania in competition at the Eastern National Livestock Show in Timonium, Md.