

Chocolate Cake Contest Appeals To Chocoholics

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— Two attributes that Joanne Kuhns possesses, she believes, helped her win first place in the Greatest Chocolate Cake contest.

"I'm a chocoholic and I love to bake," she said. She spent 2½ hours placing almond slivers in a circular pattern on the cake.

Joanne has been entering cooking contests for the last five years at Carbon, Lehigh, Schuylkill, and Columbia Fairs. Last year at the Farm Show, she was one of the top 10 finalists for the cake contest. This year, her cake was chosen from 47 entries from first-prize county fair winners across the state.

While waiting for the judges to make their decision, Joanne said, "I've never been this nervous since

I got married. I show in horse competitions and I never was this nervous."

Joanne and her husband, David, crop farm and raise Christmas trees in Bloomsburg.

Joanne also bakes and sells yeast breads at her hometown farmers' market once a week. Her win brought her a weekend trip for

four to the Hershey Resort and Conference Center.

Second-place went to Jill Fleisher of Chambersburg. This was her first time for Farm Show competition although she has been baking for many years.

"I felt confident until I got here and saw the other 44 entries," Jill said.

Actually Jill's cake tied for first place, and judges went into overtime to deliberate the winning entry.

Jill and her husband Randy have three kids who like to help her bake. "My recipe uses five Score bars. We eat a little piece out each bar for our lucky number," Jill said.

When she was announced the \$50 winner, her son said, "That's 'cause we ate pieces from the

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First prize cake is Hershey Chocolate Almond Cake.



Julie Freeman shares her pie-baking secrets with Secretary of Agriculture Boyd Wolff.

Caramelized Honey Produces Prize-Winning Apple Pie

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— Julie Freeman was too nervous to sit and watch the judging during the apple pie contest held at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show on January 8. She wandered around the Farm Show Complex and missed the first announcement by Sec. of Ag Boyd Wolff that proclaimed her pie the best in Pennsylvania.

It was Julie's third try but the first win for the state title as champion apple pie baker.

"I've got a secret — actually two — but I don't think I'd better give away my secrets," the teary-

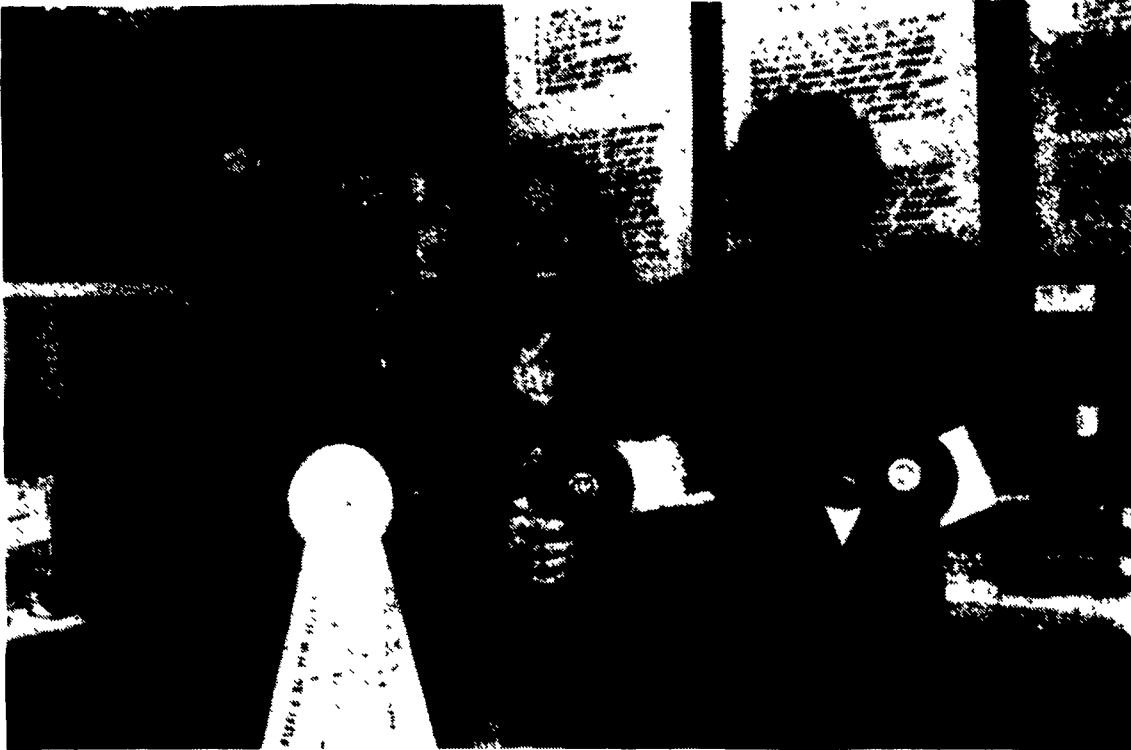
eyed champion said of her prize-winning pie.

One secret, she said, was the caramelized honey sauce that she devised.

The Schuylkill County winner said that she made three pies that morning so she would have two for backups in case something disastrous happened on the icy drive to the competition.

She thought she would automatically be disqualified when the sauce cooked over the edges of the pie. But Judges Minnie Siefreid, owner of Our Daily Bread Restaurant; Margaret Wolff, wife of State Secretary of Agriculture Boyd

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A chocolate cake is a chocolate cake, right? Not when you see the tremendous diversity of entries at the Greatest Chocolate Cake Contest. Top three winners are, from left, Kay Kelso, third; Jill Fleisher, second, and Joanne Kuhns, first.

Eight-Year-Old Bakes Best Cookies In State

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— Jennifer Intrepido of Nazareth is only 8 years old, but she can bake the best cookies in the state.

That's what the judges decided when they chose Jennifer's Chocolate-Caramel Cookie Bars from 48 entries. To enter the contest, participants first needed to win first prize at one of the 107 county and local fairs in Pennsylvania.

Jennifer first won at the Allentown Fair. She confessed that she burned her first batch when preparing her entry. But the second batch turned out perfect and scrumptious according to taste-testers.

"My mom is a good cook," said the second grader, who is the daughter of Patrick and Jolene Intrepido.

This was Jennifer's first year to enter competition. She won a weekend trip for four to the Hershey Resort and Conference Center.

Second place went to 12-year-old Lisa Achenbach. It was a step up for the 12-year-old who placed

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Homestead
Notes



Chocolate cookie champ Jennifer Intrepido, right, shows off her winning entry. From left are her Aunt Mary with parents, Julie and Pat.



Secretary of Agriculture Boyd Wolff said that you can't find better bakers anywhere. These top three winners in the cookie contest are, from left, Jennifer Intrepido, first; Heather Ulrich, third, and Lisa Achenbach, second.