

FFA Happenings

FFA Members Win At States

Twin Valley FFA returned from state FFA competition at Penn State with a first place dairy foods team, the top individuals in the interview and dairy foods contests, the new state FFA chaplain, and the second place forestry team.

More than 1,200 FFA members and advisors from chapters across Pennsylvania gathered at Penn State for the 65th annual state FFA summer convention and state contests in 26 areas.

Capturing first place in the interview contest was Melissa Tyson of Birdsboro. Missy, the daughter of Dona and Gregory Tyson, had to write a letter applying for a job, complete an actual job application, and then actually be interviewed for this job.

In the dairy foods contest, Michelle Powell captured first place and led the Twin Valley team to a first place finish. Other team members were Crystal Peterson, who placed third; Michelle

Steve, who placed 15th; and Rob Deeds, who placed 20th.

Dairy foods competitors take written tests on milk production and milk marketing and also solve milk marketing problems. They must detect off-flavors in milk and assign numerical scores to the milk samples, identify mastitis in milk samples, detect defects in milker parts which could be harmful to that cow, identify different cheeses, and differentiate between real and artificial dairy products. Michelle Powell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scaramuzzino of Rockville, Crystal is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Peterson of Honey Brook, Michelle Steve is the Daughter of Mrs. Jane Yohn of Birdsboro, and Rob is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deeds of Birdsboro. The dairy foods team will now represent Pennsylvania in national FFA competition in Kansas City, Mo. in November.

In forestry competition, Twin Valley captured second place in a very close contest. Megan Mac-

Bride finished third, Tara Plewa, sixth, and Larry Medaglia 12th. Forestry contestants also take a written test and do forestry problem solving. They must identify common Pennsylvania trees, equipment used in forestry, measure the diameter of trees and estimate the timber volume in each tree and a premarked stand, and tell how to manage a forest stand. Megan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Macbride Elverson, Tara is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Plewa of Honey Brook, and Larry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Medaglia of Elverson. The team will now represent Pennsylvania in competition at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass. in September.

In wildlife competition, Melissa Makris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Makris of Honey Brook, placed third with a gold medal. Melissa had to take a written test on her knowledge of wildlife, correctly identify 25 birds from a list of more than 200, identify common Pennsylvania mammals, identify common wildlife foods, identify wildlife tracks, identify bird calls, identify signs of various wildlife species, and finally, at two different sites, identify the wildlife species you would expect

to encounter at these sites.

In public speaking competition, two members earned gold medals. Joellyn Kinsey earned a gold medal in the junior prepared speaking contest with her prepared speech on pet therapy. Joellyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Kinsey of Green Hills. Junior prepared speeches are 3 to 5 minutes long with a 5 minute question and answer period at the end. Only first year FFA members may enter the junior prepared contest. Joellyn placed 5th in the state. In the conservation speaking contest, Amy Jo VanBodegraven placed 7th with a speech on the American Bald eagle. AmyJo's speech was 5 to 7 minutes long with 5 minutes for questions and answers afterwards. AmyJo is the daughter of Susan Fox of Birdsboro.

Other Twin Valley students earning awards were Jason Redmond who received a bronze medal in the livestock judging contest and Heather Dougherty who received a gold medal as a chapter

delegate. The chapter scrapbook also received a silver medal. Jason is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Redmond III of Plowville. Heather is the daughter of Mrs. Debra Dougherty.

Ben Dodd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Dodd of Geigertown, was elected as state FFA chaplain for the 1994-1995 school year. Ben will serve the state FFA along with 10 other state officers to visit chapters across the state and participate in numerous activities.

Other Twin Valley students who participated in the various contests were Jarad Moyer - wildlife; Tom Lakeman and Ed Gegenheimer - small gas engines; Rose Samojeden, Mathan Messner, and Megan Charron - horse judging; Greg Lund and Carla Kurtz - nursery/landscape; Jim Lakeman - livestock judging; Andy Risbon, Adrienne Neff, and Steve Roehm - aquatic resources. Twin Valley students were accompanied by chapter advisor and agricultural science teacher Ronald Frederick.



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