

210 FFA Keystone Recipients Help Build The Future

(Continued from Page 35)

Ryan Smathers

Ryan Smathers, 19, son of Elke and Robert Smathers of Morgantown, is the sentinel for the Twin Valley FFA. He has won awards for soil and water management, wildlife management, in agricultural processing, and also a Foundation award. The recipient of Greenhand and Chapter degrees, he said he intends to pursue marine science studies at college. He has also been involved in the Tel-Hai Pet Therapy program, Food For America, Ag Day Breakfast, a 3rd Grade Ag Tour, rock climbing, helping at a Pa. Game Commission bear check station, aquatic resources contests, the Collegiate FFA Fall Leadership Conference, and for three years attended the Made For Excellence program.

Joel Smiley

Joel Smiley, 18, son of Jeff and Jane Smiley of Berlin, is the vice president of the Brothersvalley FFA Chapter. He had served last year as its sentinel and its treasurer during the 1995-96 year. A member of the chapter's Barbecue, and One-Acre Corn Growing Contest committees. His projects have been raising field corn and raising dairy beef. He won a first place award for dairy judging and another first place for his tractor driving prowess. He earned Greenhand and Chapter degrees, and after being graduated from high school, he intends to go right into farming.

David Smoker

David Smoker, 18, son of Paul and Doris Smoker of Oxford, is a four-year member and president of the Hans Herr FFA Chapter. He said the experience of being a leader and being comfortable talking in front of people are two of the most enjoyable opportunities provided through FFA participation. He was the national champion in Ag Mechanics CDE. The recipient of the Greenhand and Chapter degrees, his plans are not specific, except that he expects to work after being graduated from Lancaster Mennonite High School.

Chris Sollenberger

Chris Sollenberger, 17, son of Ellis and Ellie Sollenberger, is the reporter for the Central Cove FFA Chapter, where he's been a member for four years. Last year he served as chaplain. He's been a member of its Leadership, Program, Budget, and Executive committees. His projects include dairy herd, on-farm work experience, swine, and beef production. Chris has won awards for land judging, record book keeping, and in creed contests. He has Greenhand and Chapter degrees and plans to work on his family farm after being graduated from Central High School.

Kevin Stauffer

Kevin Stauffer, 18, son of Wes and Marla Stauffer of Ephrata, has served as chaplain and treasurer of the Cloister FFA Chapter, where he also has served as chairman of its Financial Committee. He raises capons and works for his father at

Wes Stauffer Engines and Equipment. He has received proficiency awards in ag sales and service, technical systems, was outstanding citrus salesman, was on the first place team in the Penn State dairy foods contest, and was the first place individual on the first place team in Penn State small gas engines competitions. He said he plans to continue working for his father after high school.

Gary Stehley Jr.

Gary Stehley Jr., 17, of Altoona, son of Gary D. Stehley Sr. and Patricia Hermalik, has served as chairman of the Bellwood-Antis FFA Chapter Leadership and Alumni Relations committees. He has also served as a member on the chapter's Conduct of Meetings, Public Relations, and Recreation committees. His projects include work experience and home improvement. He has received awards for ag mechanics, record keeping, his project book work, and chapter scholarship. The recipient of Greenhand and Chapter degrees, he plans to be a sales manager and pursuing religious studies.

David Steinfelt

David Steinfelt, 18, son of Mike and Linda Steinfelt of Little Marsh, is the vice president of the Cowanesque FFA Chapter, having served last year as its treasurer. A member of the chapter Citrus Sales Committee, his project work includes raising swine and making maple syrup. He has won awards in dairy judging at the state level, as well as record book keeping, and earned a star in agribusiness and parliamentary procedure. With Greenhand and Chapter degrees, he said he plans to attend Penn State's Erie Campus for agricultural education, eventually to pursue agricultural education and farm management degrees.

Amanda Strominger

Amanda Strominger, 18, daughter of Mervin and Susan Strominger of Lebanon, is treasurer of the Cedar Crest FFA. She also has served on its Financial/Economics, Scholarship, Banquet and Sales committees. Her project has been work experience. With Chapter, Greenhand and county degrees, she said she intends to start at Delaware Valley College this fall and pursue a career in veterinary sciences. She has first in the county landscaping contest, first in the area in Co-op Pursuit contest, a member of the fourth place state team in parliamentary procedure, was 16 in the country for dairy judging, third in the county record book contest, and placed fifth in the county in the Hoard's Dairymen contest.

Marie Sullivan

Marie Sullivan, 18, daughter of Robert and Sharon Sullivan of Aspers is a four-year member of the Apple City FFA Chapter and she has served on its Citrus, Mums, Bulbs, and Poinsettias sales committees. Her projects include raising market swine and working at Weis Markets. She earned a varsity letter four years playing softball and field hockey for Biglerville High School, and she also received an academic letter. With Greenhand, Chapter and Apple (county) degrees, she said she plans to work as a computer technician.

(Continued on Farm Show Section 2, Page 4)

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