



Taking top ribbon in the Hershey's Cocoa Cookie Contest, from left, are Lisa Jones, third; Brittany Monday, second; and Ami Martin, first.

Farm Show Judges Find Brownie Bites Irresistible

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)
—No doubt about it. Ami Martin bakes irresistible brownies. This year and in 1995, her brownies convinced judges to give her the top prize in the Hershey's Greatest Cookie Contest. The prize is a weekend trip for four to the Hershey Resort and Conference Center in Hershey.

That's no easy feat for a 15-year-old who competed against 63 entries at last Saturday's Farm Show competition.

Ami said that her recipe is fashioned after Black Bottom Cupcakes made into brownies. She is the daughter of Barbara Martin and David Krapf of Allentown.

Brittany Monday of West Chester received second place with her Surprise Hug Cookies. Third prize for Pizza Brownies went to Lisa Jones of York.

Here are the recipes from the contest co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs and Hershey Foods.

Ami's Irresistible Brownie Bites

- ½ cup flour
 - ½ teaspoon baking powder
 - ¼ teaspoon salt
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 6½ tablespoons shortening
 - 1 tablespoon vanilla
 - 6 tablespoons Hershey's cocoa
- Combine flour, baking powder, and salt in a small bowl. Mix eggs and sugar in large bowl. Add

melted shortening, cocoa, and flour to sugar-egg mixture, stir well. Add vanilla. Pour half of mixture into a greased 9x13-inch pan. Reserve remaining batter to spread over top of cream cheese-chocolate chip mixture.

Cream Cheese-Chocolate Chip Filling:

- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup sugar

Beat together until creamy. Add half package of chocolate baking chips to mixture. Spread gently over brownie batter in pan. Take remaining brownie batter and gently spread over the cream cheese-chip filling layer. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes or until toothpick inserted comes out clean.

Frost with buttercream icing using decorator tip and bag. Sprinkle with edible glitter.

Butter cream frosting:

- ½ cup shortening
 - ½ teaspoon clear vanilla
 - ¼ cup milk
 - ¼ cup butter
 - 2 cups confectioners' sugar
- Cream butter and shortening with mixer. Add vanilla. Gradually add sugar a half cup at a time, beating well on medium speed. Scrape sides and bottom of bowl often. When all sugar has been mixed in, icing will appear dry. Add milk and beat at medium speed until light and fluffy. Keep icing covered with a damp cloth until ready to use.

Brittany Monday's Surprise Hug Cookies

- 12-ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips
- ¼ cup butter
- 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons baking cocoa
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 60 Hershey Hugs with Almonds, unwrapped

1 cup white chocolate chips
½ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

2 teaspoons shortening

Heat oven to 350 degrees. In medium saucepan, combine chocolate chips and butter. Cook and stir over very low heat until chips are melted and smooth. Add sweetened condensed milk and mix well.

Lightly spoon flour into measuring cup and level off. Lightly spoon cocoa and combine with flour.

Add chocolate mixture and vanilla. Mix well. Shape one tablespoon of dough around each Hershey Hug covering completely. Place one-inch apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for six minutes. Do not overbake. Cookies will be soft and shiny but will be firm when cooled.

In small saucepan, melt 1 cup white chocolate chips with 1 teaspoon shortening until melted and smooth. Dunk half of cooled cookie in white chocolate.

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Judges for the Hershey's Cocoa Cake and Cookie Contest, from left, are Karen Sandoe and Lilli Ann Kopp, home economists; Ed Hartman, district justice; Martene Firestone, Berks County, and Chris Fickes, Bucks County.

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