

Penn State Dairy Science Club Presents Awards, Holds Expo

(Continued from Page A1)

In the Dairy Expo showing and fitting contest Dave Packard, a turfgrass science major from Troy, was the overall, showman and fitting champion, while Rachel Birch, a dairy and animal science major from Latrobe, was the reserve champion. Packard was the showing and fitting winner in the professional division (experienced showmen), while Birch had won first place in the intermediate division in both categories.

In the amateur division (first-time showmen) the champion fitter was Sarah Rodriguez, Bethesda, MD, champion showman was Matt Hazelton, Mansfield, and reserve champion fitter and showman was Jennifer Vallimont, Clearfield. Reserve champion showman and fitter in the intermediate division was Barbie Berrang, Valencia. Reserve champion professional fitter was Cory Meyers, St. Thomas, and reserve champion professional showman was Mike Kowaleski, Forest City. The judges were John Piwowar for showmanship and Michele Reasner for fitting. Both Penn State dairy production graduates, Piwowar and his wife Myra have a dairy farm near Uniontown, and Reasner and her husband Jeff raise Jerseys, Ayrshires and Holsteins at their Jem Cattle Company in Shippensburg.

This year's Expo dedicatee was Horace Backus of Mexico, New York. Backus has been an auctioneer since 1953 and has read pedigrees and assisted at the Penn State Dairy Science Club-Pennsylvania Holstein Association's Nittany Lion Fall Classic Sale since its inception. In addition to working over 2,500 Holstein auctions, he has compiled Holstein pedigrees, is writing his third book, and has participated in local, state and national Holstein associations and local and state school board associations. He is a part owner of a five-generation Holstein family of Excellent cows with a 1000-pound fat average.

Dr. Stuart Patton, an internationally acclaimed food scientist, was the Expo's distinguished alumnus. Having earned a B.S. degree in dairy husbandry at Penn State, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in dairy science from Ohio State, Patton became the first Evan Pugh Professor of Agriculture at Penn State in 1966. His research, teaching and writing in the fields of milk chemistry and mammary gland physiology have earned him many awards, including being made a Fellow of the American Dairy Science Association in 1997. After retiring from Penn State in 1980, he became a visiting scientist at the University of California-San Diego, and he comes back to Penn State in the summer to work with Dr. Craig Baumrucker. He and his wife Colleen live in La Jolla, CA.

At the awards banquet the Dairy Science Club recognized outstanding members and contest winners. The highlight of the evening is the Davey Award, which goes to the outstanding senior in dairy science. This year's winner was Jeffrey Balmer of Lititz. Besides being an honor student, Jeff has been a leader in the Dairy Science Club, including being chairman of the Nittany Lion Fall Classic Sale and the Cheesebox Sale and club vice president. His other campus activities are Ag Advocates, Coaly Society, Christian Student Fellowship, Ag Student Council, Gamma Sigma Delta, Phi Eta Sigma and Golden Key Honor Society.

The Young Dairy Leader was Tammy Balthaser Weaver of Ephrata, a 1992 Penn State graduate in ag business management. Tammy and her husband Fred Weaver have an Angus cross herd for breeding calves for a club calf sale and assist Fred's parents with a beef feedlot, poultry breeding, and crop raising operation. Tammy is the director of industry relations for the Pennsylvania Beef Council and a skin care specialist for May Kay Cosmetics. She also is a director of the Penn State Dairymen's Club, is a breeder show chairman for the PA Angus Association, and has assisted with dairy princess programs and the Berks County dairy promotion committee.

Alisha Myers, a dairy and animal science major from Lebanon, was named the outstanding first year student and the 1998 Penn State Dairy Princess. The Branding Award for the outstanding junior club member who demonstrates organizational ability and cooperative spirit went to Mark Mosemann, an ag systems management major from Warfordsburg.

Spring Judging Contest 4-H, FFA and collegiate winners also were recognized at the Expo banquet. In the 4-H Division the winners were: Junior - high team, Juniata (Mindy Dressler, Zack Swartz, David Wilson, and Turner Swartz), high individual, Kevin Caldwell, Beaver/Butler, Intermediate - high team, Lebanon (Jackie Troutman, Bradley Hoover, and Daryl Maulfan), high individual, Dustin Horning, Lebanon; Senior - high team, York (Josh Hushon, Heather Crowl, Susan Richardson, Jacob Hushon), high individual, Brandon Treichler, Berks.

In the FFA Division winners were: Junior - high team, Middleburg (Jed Risser, Kyle Heimbach, Heather Benfer, and Brent Schrader), high individual, Brenda Walker, West Perry, Intermediate - high team, James Buchanan (Emme Mellott, Kyle Burdette, Mindy Martin and Emily Stuff), high individual, Emily Stuff; Senior - high team, James Buchanan (Stacy Goetz,

(Turn to Page A37)



Jenn Vallimont, reserve champion amateur showman and fitter.



Ken Raney presents the Rumler Award for show manager to Matt Davis.



Terri Snook, left, Adopt-A-Cow chair; and Jen Davis, Meet-A-Cow chair.



Ken Raney, PA Holstein Assoc. presents the PA Jr. Holstein quiz bowl award to Colleen Kretzing, bowl chair.



Matt Hazelton, champion amateur showman.



Mike Kowaleski, reserve champion professional showman.



Jason Wolfe, left, receives the past president's award from Barbie Berrang, club president.



Mark Mosemann, receives the Branding Memorial Award from Barbie Berrang, club president.



Alisha Myers receives the outstanding club member award from Mike Kowaleski, vice president.



Carrie Bryant, 1997 Davey Award winner; and Jeff Balmer, Davey Award for outstanding senior in Dairy Science, 1998.



Jen Davis, left, high individual in collegiate linear evaluation, spring dairy judges; and Heather Oberholtzer, high individual in collegiate dairy judging spring contest.



Rachel Tanis, left, editor, Penn State Dairyman; and Christine Habecker, assistant editor, Penn State Dairyman.



Mike Kowaleski, vice president, Dairy Science Club, presents the 1998 young dairy leader award to Tammy Weaver.