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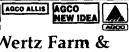
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Pennsylvania FFA Members Attend

(Continued from Page D1)

The Career Show, which represented businesses and industry, colleges and universities, ag products and services, and other diverse areas that support ag was conducted in a 770,000 square foot section of the convention hall. The career show added to a part of the total FFA experience.

The 1998-99 National FFA Officer Team hosted a reflection session and nine general sessions which all centered around the year's theme, "FFA The Signature of Success" During the sessions, members watched on as their fellow FFA members, advisers, and businesses were recognized, awarded, and honored for their hard work and dedication in the FFA.

Twenty-one Pennsylvania FFA members were honored by receiving the most prestigious degree offered in the FFA, the American Degree Penn- sylvania was represented this year in the area of career development events Elio Chiarelli Jr, Pennsylvania state president, was awarded first place in the national prepared public speaking event Melana Whit-tington of the Little Lions FFA Chapter of State College earned second place in the creed speak- ing contest. Kathryn Heeter of the West Snyder FFA Chapter in Beaver Springs was awarded 8th place in the extemporaneous public speaking contest.

Lindsay Spangler of the Mifflinburg FFA Chapter in Mifflinburg was awarded third place in the AgScience fair. Pennsylvania was honored this year to have three gold, nine silver, and one bronze team placings for events such as floriculture, forestry, and ag mechanics.

These career development events, among many others, were recognized during the general sessions. Also during sessions audiences were able to see dynamic performances by the National FFA band and chorus.

The diverse line of speakers who addressed audiences throughout the week included internationally renowned actor and superstar Danny Glover, Vietnam veteran and motivational speaker Dave Roever, humorist Emory Austin, and adventurer Jamie Clark The six national officers also gave their retiring addresses and received their retiring plaques.

During the ninth general session, members were able to view the installment of the brand new 1999-2000 national FFA officers.

The 1999-2000 Pennsylvania State FFA Officer Team served as nine of the 475 official national delegates. Delegates helped to decide many important issues for the future of the FFA. They also put forth many recommendations that will be used to enhance the FFA. The delegates were also involved in numerous workshops that will be helpful for the members of the Pennsylvania FFA.

During the convention, members were drawn to various forms of entertainment. The FFA Shopping Mall was open for all to buy souvenirs. Concerts by Ricochet, Sharee Austin, and Diamond Rio were attended by thousands. A local amusement park was opened for the enjoyment of all members who wished to attend.

Many tours of Louisville were made available for members. One highlight was visiting the Louisville Slugger baseball factory. Workshops were also available for members and advisers to attend. The convention center location allowed members to relax and enjoy the extensive lawns when they just needed to get away from all the people

Even though the national convention was moved for the first time in 72 years from Kansas City, Mo. to Louisville, Ky, it was a tremendous success. Next year Louisville will once again host the 73rd National FFA Convention.



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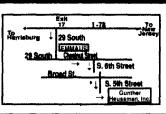


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