

# West Snyder FFA Receives 'Three-Star' Emblem At FFA Convention



West Snyder FFA officers earn national "Three-Star" rating. From right, James Wright, chapter president and Heather Hollenbach, vice president, received the National Three Star Award from the National FFA officers, far left, in Louisville, Ky. at the 73rd National FFA Convention.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — After ranking first of Pennsylvania's 149 FFA chapters in the National Chapter Award program, the West Snyder FFA application was forwarded to the National FFA Center for ranking on a national level.

West Snyder FFA chapter received a national "three-star" gold emblem at the 73rd National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky., for its efforts in this program.

The three-star award is the highest level of achievement the National FFA bestows upon a chapter. Only the top 100 chapters of the nation's 7,264 FFA chapters received this award.

Accepting the award for the chapter was James Wright, chapter president and Heather Hollenbach, vice president of student development.

The National Chapter Award program is designed to improve the chapter's program of activities, assist chapters in evaluating their accomplishments, and reward chapters for providing educational experiences for the entire membership. This program has the highest percent of participation of any program or event offered by the National FFA Organization.

While at the National FFA



West Snyder FFA members at the National FFA Convention in Louisville. From left, row 1, Hannah Etzler, Heather Hollenbach, Melissa McWilliams, Daphne Wagner, and Heidi Good. Row 2, Maria Trego, Derek Fetterolf, James Wright, Lance Herman, and Chuck Kessler. Absent from picture was Phaedra Wray.

Convention, West Snyder members heard motivational speeches and presentations from Deborah Norville, anchor of "Inside Edition"; John Alston, author; Dr. Guy Doud, U.S. teacher of the year; and Carolyn Peck, WNBA coach. The members also attended a concert with country stars Toby Keith and the Wilkinsons. They toured Churchill Downs where they saw the Thoroughbred horses practice for the upcoming Breeder's Cup Race and toured the Louisville Slugger Baseball

Bat Factory and Museum.

In a related activity, Heather Hollenbach, James Wright, Melissa McWilliams, Chuck Kessler, Lance Herman, Phaedra Wray, Derek Fetterolf, Hannah Etzler, and Daphne Wagner conducted two pre-convention workshops on the PALS (Partners in Active Learning Support) program. This program was conducted with 500 elementary

students from the Louisville area and 500 volunteer FFA members from across the nation.

West Snyder FFA members conducted PALS presentations on agricultural literacy and team building skills. The first event was making "ice cream in a bag." West Snyder member Phaedra Wray dressed in a cow costume and distributed ice cream stickers while the students ate their ice cream. They also played "Foodo," a bingo style game which teaches the players about the basic four food groups.

West Snyder FFA distributed milk promotion erasers, pencils, stickers, and activity books sponsored by the American Dairy Association. Louisville elementary students also enjoyed playing "Peanut Butter River" with the West Snyder FFA members. This event requires a team building effort among its players. After a morning of mentoring with the FFA members, the Louisville elementary students departed for their schools.

The nine West Snyder FFA members were accompanied on the trip by Cynthia Shaffer, chapter adviser, and Dale and Teresa Wright, parents of James Wright, chapter president.



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