Garden Of Fashions Fills Capital Region Stage

LOU ANN GOOD Food And Family Features Editor

CUMBERLAND VALLEY (Cumberland Co.) A swirl of colors and fashions filled the stage of the Cumberland Valley Eagle View Middle School last Thursday evening.

Called the Garden of Fashion, the event spotlighted the talents of 74 4-H'ers from seven different counties. These 4-H'ers selected patterns and fabrics to stitch an outfit that flattered their build and personality. When finished, they needed to model their fashions and place in the top level at their local Fashion Revue competition in their respective counties before being eligible to proceed to regional competition.

An amazing array of talent assembled on the stage, but even then, some of the ingenuity and tedious detail remained hidden from the audience. For example, the audience could see that Matthew Reichard had stitched a classic tailored jacket, pants, and shirt. But hidden inside were details that ensured the tailored fit. Matthew had used horsehair canvas for interlining and made his own shoulder pads and sleeveheads for the jacket.

The perfect fit wasn't achievable by simply following a pattern. Most of the participants needed to measure, adjust, sew, and rip numerous seams before they were satisfied.

Not all that looked perfect to the audience passed the scrutiny of judges who had a close up examination of the outfit and its wearer. Selecting gold and blue ribbon winners in junior and senior divisions were judges Karen Hess, Vicki Caruso, Nancy Class, Fran Horst, and Liz Ricker.

Only the senior gold ribbon recipients will continue to state competition. The senior blue ribbon winners serve as alternates in case one of the gold ribbon winners is unable to attend the state event on July 25.

The regional event was as far as the junior gold ribbon winners will advance. According to Mary Ann Olyer, Franklin County family living agent, participation in Fashion Revue helps members achieve self confidence, learn about wardrobe selection, the importance of good posture, physical fitness and other grooming tips.



These senior gold ribbon winners will advance to state competition: Lindsay Burkhart, Lancaster; Patricia Grieggs, Dauphin; Beth Parrish, York; Matthew Reinhart, Franklin; Madelyn Snyder, Dauphin; Sara Ann Oyler, Adams; Sarah Graybill, Lancaster; Sara Krall, Lebanon, and Elizabeth Criswell, Lancaster.

Gold ribbon winners at the Capital Region, which includes the counties of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York, include the following:

• Sara Oyler, Adams County, who wore a khaki shirt and checkered shirt outfit. The short skirt features front darts, front waistband and elastic around the back. The three-quarter length sleeved shirt of 100 percent cotton fabric promoted a sporty look. The sleeve bottoms had notch detailing. Sara made a coordinating scrunchie.

• Matthew Reichard, Franklin County, stitched a tailored jacket and pants combination. The black gabardine dress slacks featured straight legs with side front pockets and back welt pockets. The blue/black plaid patterned wool jacket had a back pleat for ease and comfort.

Matthew said that he found it interesting working with horsehair canvas in the slacks and jacket. He even made his own shoulder pads and sleeveheads for the jacket.

• Sarah Krall, Lebanon, stitched a two-piece evening gown with front and back princess seams and an invisible zipper. The cranberry ballina fabric was her 10th year sewing project.

• Beth Parrish, York, modeled an evening length gown with contrasting, close-fitting bodice and raised waist. The fully-lined dress, made of crepe black satin featured a black pleat.

The 17-year-old has been sewing for 11 years.

• Lindsay Burkhart, Lancaster County, stitched a double-breasted pea coat and jeans. The coat was made of gray wool with set in pockets hidden by welts and a vent in the back. Demonstrating ingenuity, Lindsay figured out how to add lining to the jacket made from an unlined pattern. Gold-colored topstitching on the back pockets and inside seams of the flared jeans required precise straightness.

• Elizabeth Criswell, Lancaster County, selected a semi-formal fitted, lined dress of sheer black, flocked polyester over a royal blue polyester sheath. She wrapped up her outfit with a navy blue jacket of stretch velvet. For her seventh year sewing project, Elizabeth altered the patterns to create the outfit she envisioned.

• Sarah Graybill, Lancaster County, stitched a denim jacket, tan pants, and purple shirt to create her outfit. The dark denim jacket featured pockets and buttons down the front. The contrasting gold-colored thread on the jacket was difficult to sew. The tan-colored cotton pants had an invisible zipper and darts. The spaghetti strapped purple shirt contrasted with the outfit. • Patricia Grieggs, Dauphin, made a pink-lined sundress of 100 percent rayon with an invisible zipper, front and back darts, and a ruffle to accent the neck and hem lines. She used 100 percent polyester lining that is antistatic for comfortable wear.

• Madeline Snyder, Dauphin County, purchased a burgundy and black paisley print of 100 percent rayon challis to make a fully-lined, princess seamed dress. The dress had narrow shoulder straps and an invisible back zipper.

Madeline added her own sense of style to the total look with the addition of decorative beads along the hemline.

Blue ribbon senior winners include Elizabeth Grieggs, Dauphin; Emily Walker, Franklin; Gwen Umbreit, Franklin; Marie Collins, Lancaster; Becky Gordon, Lancaster; Liz Francis, York; and Betsy Ranck, Lancaster.

Junior gold ribbon winners were Megan Parsons, Lancaster; Rachel Siegel, Lebanon; Anna Gilbert, Adams; Bretney Endy, Dauphin; Katie McGinnis, Dauphin; and Katie Weaver, Lancaster.

Junior blue ribbon winners were Jasmine Martin, Lancaster; Olivia Hostettler, Adams; Laura Umberger, Lebanon; Katrina Oyler, Adams; Brooke Umberger, Lebanon; and Marlee Beckner, Franklin.



Junior gold ribbon winners include Katee Weaver, Bretney Endy, Katie McGinnis, Megan Parsons, Rachel Slegel, and Anna Gilbert.





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Junior blue ribbon winners include Brooke Umberger, Jasmine Martin, Katrina Oyler, Laura Umberger, Olivia Hostettler, and Marlee Beckner.