

Bakers Tackle Contest Challenges



Oreo Cookie Cream Cake clinched blue ribbon honors for Belinda Myers, Dallastown.

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the blue ribbon title with her Almond Apple Pie. It was the first time that she won at the Lebanon Fair, but certainly not the first time she won at other area fairs. In fact, in 1992 she was the state champion apple pie winner.

Connie's close friend, Belinda Myers, Dallastown, wooed the judges with her Oreo Cookie Cream Cake, which means she will represent Lebanon County at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in January. Belinda has been a state winner in cake, pie, and other contests.

But these two contestants don't resort to relying on the merits of past grand champion entries. Every year, they cook up a new recipe.

Now, both Connie and Belinda are qualified for state competition, will they stop entering county fairs this season?

Only in the category in which

they qualified. Connie will continue to try for first in cake and bread categories. And Belinda will enter bread and pie contests. It's their goal to be able to compete in every bake-off category at state competition.

What makes a former champion continue to vie for the chance to compete again and again at state competition?

"I love to cook," both Belinda and Connie answered in unison.

To them, improvising and experimenting with recipes in the hopes of claiming the top prize is a challenging goal.

Although they are competitors, the two, like many other contestants become close friends who share common interests. They look forward to meeting each other in state competition.

"It's a much fun to see her win as it is for me to win," Belinda said of her friend.



From left, Alletta Schadler, apple pie contest judge, selects the winners, Connie Shuff, York; Debra Martin, Conestoga, and Dorothy Martin, Conestoga.

For those eager to try the recipes from the Lebanon Fair competition — sorry! The recipes are top secret until the state competition is over. If they win at that point, the recipes will be published.

Placings for each category are as listed:

Blue Ribbon Apple Pie: 1. Connie Shuff, York; 2. Debra Martin,

Conestoga; 3. Dorothy Martin, Conestoga.

Hershey Cocoa Cake: 1. Belinda Myers, Dallastown; 2. Diana Zackey, Lebanon; and 3. Jen Wolgemuth, Schaefferstown.

Simple Delicious Vegetable Quick Bread: 1. Nancy Hibshman, Myerstown; 2. Linda Siegel, Lebanon; 3. Danette Ocker, Richland.

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