

Students make glue in mobile Ag Lab

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

Even before the experiment began, Jarrid Babcock had a hunch that his homemade glue would work better than Elmer's Glue.

Babcock and his classmates in Korin Frey's third-grade class at Ross Elementary School in Sweet Valley completed an experiment called "Glue from Milk" on Jan. 21 as part of the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab which visited during that week. All students in the school participated in two of 30 grade level-tailored hands-on activities.

Deborah Ellis, program assistant and the teacher with Ag Lab who visited Ross Elementary, says the program owned and operated by the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is in its sixth year. Having started with just one teacher and one lab, Ag Lab now boasts 20 teachers and four mobile labs.

The Ag Labs travel throughout the state, stopping at elementary and middle schools for one week at a time during the school year. In the summertime, the labs make trips to 4-H events and fairs. All Ag Lab lessons meet the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Science and Technology and Environment and Ecology standards.

Although the Ag Lab trailer has heating and air conditioning, it was too cold for classes the morning of Jan. 21 when the outside temperature hovered at nine degrees Fahrenheit. In an effort to keep warm, Frey and her students moved their glue experiment to the school's art room.

The students created glue by adding vinegar to warm milk and then mixing in baking soda. Their goal was to compare the homemade glue, made from natural materials, to Elmer's Glue, made from cow hooves and synthetic ingredients. The children put a drop of homemade glue and a drop of Elmer's Glue on a



Matthew Fasset and Josh Hinkley, third-graders at Ross Elementary School, do a viscosity test, comparing glue they made to name-brand Elmer's glue.



Third-graders Brittany Schwartz, left, and Aliah Laver make glue as part of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab, which visited Ross Elementary School in Sweet Valley the week of Jan. 19.



Amanda Ayers, left, and Nicole Wojciechowski check out the ingredients of name-brand Elmer's Glue before they start their own experiment to make glue as part of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab.

paper plate and observed each one's viscosity, a property that causes fluids not to flow easily.

Matthew Fasset and his partner, Joshua Hinkley, felt their homemade glue was better because the Elmer's Glue flowed more easily.

"Definitely the milk glue," Fasset said of the stronger glue. "That thing ain't movin'!"

Makayla Adams and Keara Gallagher felt the same.

"It's sticking better," Adams said of their glue.

Brittany Schwartz, Aliah Laver and Tabitha Baker all worked together to make glue. The girls said their favorite part of the experiment was straining water out of their glue.

"And I like when Brittany spilled the vinegar," Laver added as she laughed.

Earlier in the week, the children in Frey's class did an Ag Lab

lesson on soybeans. They put soybeans in water and Plaster of Paris, which is calcined gypsum in a white, powdery form, overnight and sprouted the beans. The students also made lip balm from the soybeans.

"I thought it was great," Frey said of the Ag Ed Lab program. "It's really interesting to see what you can do with natural ingredients. The kids get really excited about it."



PHOTO COURTESY OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Pennsylvania Executive Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding stands with the top five finalists in the 23rd annual Pennsylvania Fair Queen contest. From left, are Samantha Sarnicke, Washington County Fair; Nicole Clemson, Luzerne County Fair and 2009 Pennsylvania Fair Queen; Leah Carr, Clearfield County Fair and first runner-up; Debbie Drake, Big Butler Fair; and Lindsey Longstreth, Greene County Fair.

BEST

Continued from Page 1

At school, Clemson is involved in student government, the National Honor Society, peer counseling and varsity soccer and field hockey. She is a member of the

Wilkes-Barre Leadership Advisory Board and has committed more than 150 hours to community service work in the past year at nursing homes, the Back Mountain Memorial Library and the Luzerne County S.P.C.A.

Clemson plans to study pre-veterinary medicine in college but is currently undecided as to what college she will attend.

DMS girls head to playoffs

The Dallas Middle School seventh grade girls basketball team lost, 28-27, at the buzzer to Crestwood.

Leading the scoring for Dallas was Taylor Kelley with eight points, followed by Sam Missle with seven, Stephanie Cybuski with six, Michelle Thompson with four and Katy Comitz with two.

The seventh grade team was forced into a head-to-head match against Pittston Area for the regular-season title. The Back Mountain girls started fast and never looked back, beating Pittston Area, 31-18, to claim the title and become the No. 1 seed in the playoffs.

Leading the scoring for Dallas was Michelle Thompson with nine points, followed by Taylor Kelly with six, Sam

Missle, Stephanie Cybuski and Abbey Berger with four points each, Katy Comitz and Vanessa Parsons with two points apiece.

The Dallas Middle School eighth grade girls team clinched the regular season title with a 33-10 victory over Wyoming Seminary. Leading Dallas in scoring was Rachel Olzewski with 13 points, followed by Ashley Dunbar with eight, Madline Mulhern with five, Marlee Nelson with four and Tanner Englehart with three.

The teams will compete in playoffs this Saturday at Wyoming Seminary Lower School with the seventh grade team facing Crestwood at 8:50 a.m. followed by the eighth-grade team facing Meyers.

DALLAS YOUTH BASKETBALL RESULTS

3rd & 4th GRADE BOYS

Berlick Corp. 32
Orthopedic Consultants 15
Berlick Corporation defeated Orthopedic Consultants, 32-15. Jason Anderson and Paul Zabolney led Berlick's offense with 15 points each; Jake Weiland added the other basket. Steven Finarelli had several rebounds and played tough defense.

Leading the offense for Orthopedic Consultants was Alex Charlton with six points. Playing a strong defense was Collin Gleco with help from Michael Montgomery.

DeLuca Law 18
Drs. Kovalick 14
DeLuca Law defeated Drs. Kovalick, 18-14. Leading DeLuca Law's offense was Collin Pertl with 10 points, Nico DeLuca with six points and Stone Mannello with two points. Playing great defense were Stone Mannello and Paul Hurn.

Gattuso Group 24
Grasshopper Lawns 12
The Gattuso Group defeated Grasshopper Lawns, 24-12. Both teams played well defensively. The Gattuso Group's scoring was evenly spread with Dalton Gattuso's six points, Mason Gattuso, Ricky Morgan, Chris Allen and Jacob Serafin all with four points each and Frank Weaver with two points. Connor and Ryan Phillips played a very strong defense.

Grasshopper Lawn's offense was led by Ben O'Connell with 10 points and Zach Bloom with two points. Playing great defense were Adam Borton, Chris Sedeski and Josh Wyandt.

Pizza Perfect 18
Orthopedic Consultants 14
Pizza Perfect defeated Orthopedic Consultants, 18-14. Leading the offense for Pizza Perfect were Jay Bittner with six points, Josh Lydon with six points and Michael Farrell with four points. Jacob Mullen, Andy Zeyher, AJ Spears, Tyler Cavanaugh and Moustafa Almeky led a good defensive effort.

Leading the Orthopedic Consultants' offense was Alex Charlton with six points. Playing strong defense was Collin Gelco.

Gordon and Long 21
Frontier 20
Gordon and Long defeated Frontier Communications, 21-20, in a thrilling overtime game. Brady Strickland scored a basket in

overtime and grabbed a bunch of rebounds. David Schuster scored five points and made an important free throw also in the overtime period. Alex Perry saw extended action and hustled.

Leading Frontier's offense were Matt Mathers with 16 points and Malik Kaleta with four points. Keeping Frontier in the game defensively were Michael Mesko and Edward Zochowski.

Gordon Long 31
Pizza Perfect 10
Gordon Long defeated Pizza Perfect, 31-10. Chris Murray led Gordon Long's offense with 18 points while Nick Kocher added 11 points. Justin Phillips hustled and played great defense.

Tyler Cavanaugh and Michael Farrell each had four points and Josh Lydon added two points for Pizza Perfect's offense.

Drs. Kovalick 29
Grasshopper Lawn 27
Drs. Kovalick defeated Grasshopper Lawn, 29-27. Lee Eckert hit two free throws with seven seconds remaining to ice the game for the doctors and finish with 23 points. John Macey had four points and Eric DeReemer hauled in several tough rebounds.

Ben O'Connell led Grasshopper Lawn with 19 points while Adam Borton and Dalton Simpson chipped in with four points each. Defense was led by Sam Kravitsky, Chris Sedeski and Ty Madden.

3rd & 4th GRADE GIRLS

Corbett Insurance 9
Pike Law 6

In a strong defensive game by both teams, the Corbett Insurance Tar Heels beat Pike Law Office, 9-6. Sara Lojewski paced the Heels with five points while Carley Perloff had the remaining four points. The Heels' defense was led by Sam Delamater, Rachel Maniskas, Megan Meyer, Mikayla Sowga, Jolee Treslar and Frankie Treslar.

Pike was led in scoring by Paige Evans with four points and Talia Kosierowski with two points. Megan Miller, MaKenna Bryant, Brianna Rinehimer and Caitlyn Pike played awesome defense.

Corbett Insurance 18
Bendick Law 10
The Corbett Insurance Tar Heels beat Bendick Law Firm, 18-10. Sara Lojewski led the Heels

with 12 points. Sam Delamater provided scoring support with four points while Rachel Maniskas rounded out the Heels' scoring with her two points. Their defense was led by Megan Meyer, Carley Perloff, Mikayla Sowga, Jolee Treslar and Frankie Treslar.

Bendick was led by a strong scoring effort from Angela Bendick with six points. Brianna Coolbaugh and Anna Lehabe each had two points to finish their team's scoring. A strong defensive effort was led by Angela Langdon, Abby McCabe, Madison Slactish, Sam Stier and Erica Van Etten.

5th & 6th GRADE BOYS

DeLuca Law 29
Smith Insurance 24

Allen Fell score 14 points and Jeff Stradus added six as Vito DeLuca Law Offices edged Smith Insurance Group, Inc. 29-24. David Simpson added three points for DeLuca Law while James Fiorello keyed the defense.

Donald Michalisin led Smith Insurance with 11 points while Kyle Piscorik added seven. Peter Capitano had four points and Chris Mennig added two.

Dallas Rotary 29
Fieldhouse 28

Jamie Flores scored 15 points and Joey Bevevino had six to lead Dallas Rotary to a 29-28 win over the Fieldhouse. Jacob Ondish and Matt Harrison added two points each for Rotary while Jonathan Wilson led the Fieldhouse with eight points. Nicholas James added six, supported by Ryan Cheskiewicz and Jesse Kincaid with two each.

Bishop Photo 39
Eye Care Specialists 30

Omar Nijmeh scored 23 points and Chandler Caruso had four as Bishop Photo topped Eye Care Specialists, 39-30. James Geiger led the defense for Bishop while Jesse Goode had several key assists. Eric Pincowski had 10 points for Eye Care while Aaron Yurko had nine. Zach Dotter keyed the defense.

UGI/Penn Natural Gas 55
Gattuso Group 47
Matt Ross scored 36 points and Jonathan Sabatini added 13 as UGI/Penn Natural Gas outscored Gattuso Group Accountants & Consultants, 55-47. Nick Muldoon added six points for UGI and Brendan Balara had several key rebounds.

Tanner Gattuso led Gattuso Group with 17 points and Jake Archer added 15. Kyle Archer had eight points and Keith Gillette had several key assists.

5th & 6th GRADE GIRLS

Drs. Banas, Byron & Kim 29
Community News 12

Ashley Stradus and Lindsey Jacobs each scored eight points to pace the doctors' team. Maddie Perez tossed in six and Sydney Kern had four to help the winners.

Kaley Polachek scored eight points and Danielle Walsh had four to lead the News team.

Arris Engineering 16
Drs. Banas, Byron & Kim 14

Talia Szatkowski scored a game-high 12 points to lead Arris. Nicole Wren added a basket to go along with her many rebounds.

Katie Snedaker and Lindsey Jacobs each had six points for the doctors' team.

Arris Engineering 29
Motorworld 15

Lauren Dotter and Talia Szatkowski each scored 10 points to pace the Arris team. Nicole Wren added six and Alley Rom had two. Madison Kaminski led the Arris defense.

Rachael Healey, Alyssa Parente and Tiffany Zukosky played well on both sides of the ball for the Motorworld team.

Riders World 29
Pro HVAC 17

Riders World was led by game-high scorer Gabrielle Volpetti's 15 points. Allison Rismondo added six and Lyndsey Oremus had five points to go along with the fine defense of Julia Baloh to help the winners.

Caroline Banas and Amy Bolton each netted six points and Alexis Pelchar added five to help the HVAC team.

Bendick Law 17
Riders World 15

In a hard-fought game, Abbie Bendick tossed in a game-high seven points and Emily Zawatski scored six to help Bendick Law defeat Riders World. Mallory Faux added a basket to go along with her strong defense to also help the Bendick team.

Riders World was led by Gabrielle Volpetti's six points and Allison Rismondo's four points. Olivia Mennig played a strong defensive game.

Bendick Law 28
Community News 20

Bendick Law was led by Abbie Bendick with 16 points. Helping with the scoring was Emily Zawatski with six points, Emma Doran with four and Julianne Murray added a bucket.

Fieldhouse 33
Bishop Photo 29

Jonathan Wilson scored 13 points and Nicholas James added four to lead Fieldhouse over Bishop Photo, 33-29. Jesse Kincer added a basket for Fieldhouse while Jesse Goode scored nine points for Bishop Photo. Chad Phillips and Chandler Caruso added four points each.

Eye Care Specialists 28
Smith Insurance 14

Brian Drouse scored 14 points and Spencer Bowanko added six to lead Eye Care Specialists to a 28-14 win over Smith Insurance Group. Zach Dotter played well for Eye Care while Donald Michalisin led Smith Insurance with 10 points. Kyle Piscorik added four points and Frankie Bevevino pulled down several key rebounds.

7th & 8th GRADE BOYS

Gallis Insurance 65
Bishop Photo 53

Gallis Insurance stopped the photo men, 65-53. Brian Banas played an outstanding game, leading the insurance men with 16 points. Felix Doleman chipped in 14 and dominated the boards while JT Carey tossed back 13.

Bishop Photo was led by Brian Strepniak with 25 points. Rudy Georgetti played well, scoring 13 and Kyle Zumchak added six points.

DeLuca Law 59
Medico Industries 44

Vito Leluca Law threw the book at Medico Industries, 59-44. Eric Zawatsky was the top scorer in the game, scoring 22. Aaron Napkora led the defense and scored 10. Marianno Medico continues to play well, adding 16.

Steve Wempa was hot for Medico, scoring 13 while Jory Brezinsky added 12 and Ryan Zapoticky tossed in 11.

Grotto Pizza 56
DeLuca Law 47

Grotto Pizza delivered another victory over DeLuca Law, 56-47. John Murray dominated from all over the court, scoring 31 points. Greg Petorek played well, adding eight while Blake Williams was hot from the outside, tossing in seven.

Eric Zawatsky played great for the law firm, scoring 29 while Aaron Napkora added nine. Dominic Deluca led the team with steals and tossed in four points.

Drs. Byron, Banas & Kim 62
Gallis Insurance 58

Drs. Byron, Banas & Kim stunned Gallis Insurance in double overtime, 62-58. Jason Siminovich made a fantastic steal with seconds left to change the pace of the game and Jason scored 38 big ones to cement the game. Danny Saba played well, adding seven while Matt Saba tossed in five.

Brian Banas was lead man for Gallis Insurance with 16 points. Chris Behm was hot from the outside with eight while Bill Gately put on a defensive show and scored seven points.

Bishop Photo 42
Luxury Limousine 29

Bishop Photo stopped Luxury Limousine, 42-29. Brian Strepniak led the photo men with 14 points and 15 rebounds while Rudy Georgetti tossed in 12. Zack Goodwin was hot from the outside, scoring eight.

Nathan Kish led the limo guys with 14. Carl Gross played tough on the boards, tossing back eight while Mike Boland added three.

SEVENTH GRADE TOURNAMENT TEAM

The seventh grade boys tournament team staged a furious rally in the second half at the Plains-Solomon League but fell short in a 40-32 loss to the Crestwood Comets.

Justin Brojakowski led Dallas with 10 points while Aaron Napkora added nine points, Kyle Razawich added eight and Matt Saba had five.

7th & 8th GRADE SKILLS COMPETITION

7th grade winners

Foul shots: Marianno Medico, first place; Kyle Razawich, second place; Blake Williams, third place

3-point shots: Chase Makowski, first place; Chad Debona, second place; Matt Saba, third place

8th grade winners

Foul shots: Mike Carey, first place; Brian Strepniak, second place; Rudy Georgetti, third place

3-point shots: Eric Zawatsky, first place; Kyle Zumchak, second place; John Murray, third place