



# BLUE AND GOLD

## Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

*One Emblem, Endless Opportunities*

[www.paffa.state.pa.us](http://www.paffa.state.pa.us)

## Gettysburg FFA Kicks Off Year with Fun



The watermelon crawl has a completely different meaning to these FFA members.

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — It was all for fun when Battlefield FFA members kicked off the school year with its traditional Back-to-School Fun Night filled with all kinds of old-fashioned “Sunday School picnic” style competitions and games.

With heavy rope borrowed from a local fire department, the students teamed up for Tug-o-War. To win, one team had to win two out of three matches, but it didn’t take long for one group, with the intense strategy, to handily win the first two rounds.

Then there was the obstacle course that took students over, around and through stacked bales of straw. Wayde Dubbs, an incoming freshman, controlled that event. When the FFA members finished with the obstacle course, they made good use of the bales with a bale toss. Tyler Fiscel had the longest toss.

Once again, Dubbs showed “his stuff” along with wheel barrel handler, Cody Lewis in the wheel barrel race.



FFA members from the Battlefield FFA enjoy an intense game of tug-o-war.

Finally, it was time for the event that everyone was waiting for — the watermelon crawl. FFA members paired up, got on their hands and knees, and raced around a bale of straw to see who could push the watermelon the fastest with their heads and cross the finish line first.

When the Back-to-School FFA Fun Night ended, the students came into the agriculture classroom. The chapter advisors informed new students and their parents about the abundance of opportunities associated with FFA involvement. The discussion included Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects, leadership training, career development events, State FFA officer visits, attending the National FFA Convention, earning scholarship money for furthering their educations and planning more fun activities throughout the school year.



### FROM THE OFFICER'S STATION

#### Michael Kenney State Vice President

Hello everyone! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. Now that summer is over it can only mean that school is here. The state officer team is working on making some helpful, but fun, chapter visit workshops for FFA members to enjoy across the state.

My name is Michael Kenney and I am from the Derry FFA chapter in the western region. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve you this year as your state vice president. It was great getting to meet so many members at Ag Progress Days in Rock Springs. This year the FFA booth was all about the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the animals that live there. The FFA Foundation also set up the Hatfield Food Stand again.

Our goal this year is to push the Pennsylvania FFA membership to more than 8,000 members statewide. In the upcoming month, the team has many exciting trips and events scheduled. First we

will be heading up north to the “Big E” and then back to Harrisburg for the All-American Dairy Show. We also want to wish the best of luck to all the FFA members participating in the Big E and National Convention.

We also are starting chapter visits and workshops. The team very excited to make our way across the state and to all the chapters to meet everyone and help in anyway possible. Hope to see everyone soon.

Remember to check our your next edition of the Blue and Gold Page for a new “From the Officer’s Station” featuring Big E and chapter visits, or read our journals online at [www.paffa.state.pa.us](http://www.paffa.state.pa.us). Also keep those articles rolling in, tell us what is happening in your chapter and what you are excited for in the upcoming school year in your FFA program. For the October issue of the Blue and Gold Page, your articles are due to Mike Brammer at [c-mbrammer@state.pa.us](mailto:c-mbrammer@state.pa.us) by Oct. 10. Good Luck to all this year!

## W. B. Saul Experiences Disney

#### KRISTA MOSER

*Philadelphia FFA Chapter*

PHILADELPHIA — This past year, 16 members of the Philadelphia FFA Chapter had the opportunity to attend Disney’s Youth Educational Services (YES) Program. This unique trip happened from Jan. 31 through Feb. 4 and it took the animal science majors of W. B. Saul High School behind the scenes to learn how the ani-

mals are trained to look and act while they are “on display.”

These FFA members were given the opportunity to view aspects of agriculture that do not directly deal with cows and plows at each of the Disney parks. The 16 students had the chance to meet with a dolphin trainer and learn what skills are needed to work with Disney’s dolphins. While meeting with various trainers, the FFA members were given

the opportunity to learn how an elephant would be trained. The FFA members also met with the animal nutritionist.

While the trip to Disney was educational, there was also time to experience “the magic of Disney.” The members of the Philadelphia FFA had time to ride the rides in the various parks and eat dinner with Mickey Mouse and his friends, Chip and Dale and Pluto.



Pictured with “Stitch” at Disney’s Animal Kingdom are, front row, from left, Jackie Daughtery, Aqilla Purnell, Brettany Sumpter, Briana Mills, Sharice Williams, Christopher Herbert, Juanita Cerpa, Chantelle Mills, and Tori Snyder. Back row, from left, Christina Rasky, Krista Moser, William Dea, Tiera Woods, Kiera Wiggins, Jasmine Meadly, and Joshua Bernhardt.



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