



BLUE & GOLD NEWS

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

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The All-American Dairy Show Experience

The All-American Dairy Show was held in Harrisburg from Sept. 17-21. The show featured nearly 2,000 of the top dairy cattle shown by over 1,000 of the best exhibitors in the U.S. and Canada. With 23 dairy shows in five days, including four days of youth shows, contests and programs, the All-American Dairy Show was a competitive but exciting experience.

While there, the state officer team assisted in many parts of the show while also seeing the behind-the-scenes parts of the event. The state officers passed out ribbons, performed ultrasounds on cows, and cleaned and decorated the show ring.

On Sept. 20 the state officers also escorted the grand champion dairy cows and heifers into the ring for the supreme pageant of the Premier National Junior Show.

Callie Whiting, the treasurer of the Pennsylvania FFA state officer team, got to represent the Milking Shorthorn breed with her grand champion 4-year-old cow, R-Generation Leader Make-Up. Whiting not only walked away with grand champion Milking Shorthorn but also best bred and owned in the junior national show. Congratulations to Callie and Make-Up. The state officers were fortunate to have such a great experience!



Pennsylvania FFA

The state FFA officer team poses alongside treasurer Callie Whiting and her grand champion Milking Shorthorn cow, R-Generational Leader Make-Up, at the All-American Dairy Show.

Memories and Aspirations From the Ear of Corn

FROM THE OFFICERS STATION



JESSICA HERR

FFA OFFICER CANDIDATE

My roots in the agricultural industry run deep, as I am the fifth generation on my family's dairy, poultry, and crop farm in Lancaster County.

After being heavily involved in FFA throughout high school, I was elected as the 2020-2021 FFA state secretary. I am currently in my second year at Penn State University, where I am studying agricultural sciences and pursuing a minor in leadership development. After college, I hope to work in communications for an agribusiness.

Serving as a state FFA officer was one of the greatest joys

of my life. I had the chance to build lasting relationships with students, educators and professionals alike. Each time I zipped up my blue jacket, I have been reminded of the community that we get to call home within the agricultural community.

As a national officer, my goal would be to do just that — build community so that every student finds their place within this organization.

My preparation has consisted of meeting with mentors and agricultural professionals, assisting current state FFA officers to facilitate workshops and conferences, as well as practicing interview rounds that I will experience at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

It is truly a joy and an honor to be selected to represent the state of Pennsylvania at the national level. I am incredibly grateful for the community of people who have walked alongside me and encouraged me throughout this process. I could not do this without them. I hope to make Pennsylvania proud!

FFA Officers Experience The Big E

The state officers' time at the Eastern States Exposition was an event they will remember for a lifetime. The Big E, as it is known, took place in West Springfield, Massachusetts, from Sept. 26-Oct. 2.

President James Winklosky had the pleasure of serving as an intern, taking part in the in-depth planning, organizing and structuring of the events.

The rest of the FFA officers as-

sisted in the contests that the Eastern states' FFA members qualified for at their state level contests. Pennsylvania FFA would like to recognize the following stars who represented the commonwealth at The Big E:

- Allison Zimmerman, Grassland FFA, Star in Placement
- Courtney Martin, Headwaters FFA, Star in Production
- Andrew Snook, Mifflinburg FFA, Star in Agribusiness

Member Spotlight on Allison Zimmerman

Hello, my name is Allison Zimmerman from the Garden Spot FFA chapter. I selected an internship that was connected to agriculture because I loved being in FFA and being involved in the chapter officer team.

My supervised agricultural experience at Homestead Nutrition began as a paid internship through the co-op program at Garden Spot High School. Soon, my internship turned into employment, and I have now been working there for about two years.

Homestead Nutrition is a consulting-based company aiding growers in livestock, seed and soil in New Holland. Homestead Nutrition is unique in that it offers a range of services in different sectors of agriculture.

I had a connection with the owner, Don Weaver, due to attending church with him. Don was a Grassland FFA alumni and used his passion for agriculture to create Homestead Nutrition. Homestead Nutrition strives to create value and provide innovative solutions for each part of the farm.

I enjoy the diversity my SAE offers from designing projects and doing administrative tasks to learning more about products and planning events.

FFA has helped me in many



Pennsylvania FFA

Allison Zimmerman, a member of Garden Spot FFA, shares her SAE experience at Homestead Nutrition.

ways on the job. Through FFA, I learned valuable skills including communication, problem solving, public speaking, time management and attention to detail.

Career development events and leadership development events grew my skills as well and provided a wider range of agriculture knowledge. Specifi-

cally, the Agriculture Sales CDE and Agriculture Issues Forum LDE enhanced my agriculture knowledge and assured me that I wanted to be involved in the agriculture industry.

I am excited to continue my journey in agriculture and continue working at Homestead Nutrition.

Chapter Visit Season in Full Swing

JEREMY ROSE

Pennsylvania FFA Reporter

The state officers had their first chapter visits with Little Dutchmen then Northern Lebanon the following day.

The team worked hard over the course of August preparing workshops that would allow

students to learn and grow. They also had the pleasure of being able to present to past state officers.

The structured criticism the state officers received ensured the students who get to sit through the workshop experience have an exciting and educational opportunity.

Thanks to the extensive learning the state officers went through, Jeremy Rose, Zaliagh Wade, Callie Whiting and James Winklosky had the experience to facilitate the Washington Leadership Conference. The chapters in attendance included Avella, Fort Cherry, McGuffey and Trinity.