Penn State Dairy Science Wraps Up Great Year

The Penn State Dairy Science Club completed another school year with the 87th Penn State Dairy Exposition and the annual club awards banquet. On Saturday, April 14, exhibitors, heifers and spectators filled the Snider Agricultural Arena as thirty-two contestants showed in three different divisions based on dairy experience. Each participant chose a heifer through a random drawing in March and had the responsibility of training and fitting the project for show day. Judges for the show were Gary Mase from Howard and Trisha Knight from Airville. At the end of the day, Amy Yeiser was named Overall Champion and Ashley Stoltzfus earned Reserve honors.

EXPO CHAMPIONS: L-R: Kameron Lynch, Assistant Show Manager; Clayton Weber, Show Manager; Nathan Oleniacz, Overall Expo Chair; Amy Yeiser, Overall Champion; Ashley Stoltzfus, Reserve Overall Champion; Trisha Knight, judge; Gary Mase, judge; Kelcie Degenfelder, Penn State Dairy Princess.
The 2012 Penn State Dairy Science Club awards banquet was held on April 25 to recognize exceptional performance from members and supporters. Mrs. Lila Conklin was named Club Dedicatee. This award honors strong supporters of the dairy industry and the Penn State Dairy Science Club. Lila served for many years as staff assistant in the Department of Dairy and Animal Science and worked diligently to support students and the club. The award was presented posthumously to her family members.

Daphne Lang received the Young Dairy Leader Award in recognition of her service to youth through many industry events. Daphne is a dairy coordinator for Select Sire Power. She has served as president of the York County Holstein Club and vice-president of the Penn State Dairymen’s Club.

The club recognized members who demonstrated excellent leadership and involvement throughout the evening. Philip Bachman was the recipient of the William R. Davey Award presented to the Outstanding Senior in Dairy Science. Bachman served as Dairy Science Club president in 2011 and was a member of Dairy Cattle Judging Team that placed third at World Dairy Expo.

Philip Bachman receives the Davey Award from Mrs. Patricia Madore (daughter of Dr. Davey) and Dr. Chad Dechow.
The Branding Award recognizes a “behind the scenes” junior who is extensively involved in club events. Clayton Weber was honored with 2011’s Branding Award for his high year member. Recipient Chad Horst is a freshman involved extensively with the Nittany Lion Fall Classic and other major club events.

Ken Raney represented the Pennsylvania Holstein Association and extended recognition to Hannah Bachman, Nathan Ulmer, and Chad Horst for organizing the Dairy Jeopardy Contest at the PA Junior Holstein Convention and to Ariel Taxdal for serving as Dairy Bowl coordinator. Raney thanked Nathan Ulmer for his work as chair of the 28th Nittany Lion Fall Classic. He presented the Robert H. Rumler Award to Clayton Weber for his time and effort as the Dairy Expo Show Manager for 2012.

Recipients of the American Dairy Science Association Scholarship Recognition awards included senior Philip Bachman and sophomores Denise Beam, Kristin Bigelow, Alyssa Dietrich, Caleb Grove, Dakota Grove, Faith Musser, Brianne Rice, and Jennifer Royer The ceremonies concluded with a sincere ‘thank you’ to graduating seniors for their leadership and hard work with the Penn State Dairy Science Club.