

under the sun

Students Display Fashions, Talent At County 4-H Review

BY TERRY POPE

Carrying a fishing pole in one hand and a tackle box in the other, Jeremy Sellers strolled in front of the audience dressed in camouflaged pants, a matching cap and short-sleeve sports shirt. Jeremy wasn't enroute to his favorite fishing hole, but was displaying his handmade outfit at the annual 4-H Fashion Review and Talent Show last Thursday night.

Students from all chapters of the Brunswick County 4-H program joined together for the annual show, with winners to represent the county in district and state competition.

Chris Stevenson of the Longwood Patriots 4-H Club was declared the overall winner in the senior-teen fashion review and will attend the state 4-H clothing workshop May 3-5 in Reidsville.

Sabrina Daniels, also of the Longwood Club, was named talent winner in the senior-teen competition and will represent the county at Junior Activity Day in Jones County April 13. She will also represent the county at District Activity Day in Wilmington June 25.

Pre-teen talent winner Mary Beth Russ of Shallotte, who performed a dance routine, will also join Ms. Daniels as a representative of Brunswick County in the district competition where seven counties throughout southeastern North Carolina will compete for the title.

All blue ribbon winners from last Thursday's county competition also stand a chance to participate in the 4-H Club Congress in July in Raleigh, said Mary Lou Cumbee, director of the county 4-H program.

"The state will only invite so many blue ribbon winners, but they all stand a chance of going," Ms. Cumbee said. "They go by invitation only."

Blue ribbon winners for the fashion review were as follows: pre-teen, Shane Ward and LaShonda Stanley; early-teen, Tania Butler and Amy Hewett; and senior-teen, Tyra Gore and Chris Stevenson. Trophies were awarded for first-place to LaShonda Stanley, Amy Hewett and Chris Stevenson.

Blue ribbon winners for talent were awarded as follows: pre-teen, Mary Beth Russ and Sonya Gore; early-teen, Tabitha, Marcus and Christalla Daniels for a trio performance; and senior-teen, Sabrina Daniels, who received a trophy along with Ms. Russ.

Red ribbons for talent were awarded to the following: pre-teen, Keith Fullwood; early-teen, Michelle Sellers, Jennifer Gore, Shane Ward and Ginger Evans; and senior-teen, Cynthia Williams, Christa Daniels and Tania Butler.

White ribbons for fashion went to pre-teen participants Arlana Royals, Sabrina Daniels, Cynthia Williams and Jeremy Sellers.

Fashions displayed in the annual review last Thursday represented about five weeks of work, Ms. Cumbee said. Students spent about two weeks in clothing workshops at Longwood and another three weeks at the Brunswick County Extension Service office in Bolivia before their clothes were ready for display. Jeremy Sellers became the first male to model in the annual show since the program was formed.

"All of the fashions were constructed by the students," Ms. Cumbee said, "and each student modeled their own garment."

Students learned to choose a pattern that would fit themselves, taking into consideration their build, height, weight, skin tone and other factors. Chris Stevenson received high scores from judges Gloria Bryant and Bill Dunn for general appearance, 38 of a possible 40 points, and a perfect 40 points for cleanliness and choice of accessories that matched her navy blue, summer outfit.

All garments were turned in by the students before April 1 and were judged individually on April 2, prior to Thursday's show. Talent performers were judged for entertainment, appropriate selection, dress, showmanship and personality. Billy Privette, associate extension 4-H agent, served as fashion narrator for the show while Pearl Stanley, home economics extension agent, presented the ribbons and awards.

"Participation increased from last year, especially in the talent area," Ms. Cumbee said.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TERRY POPE
JEREMY SELLARS models his fishing outfit complete with camouflaged pants, fishing pole, tackle box and portable stereo headphones for when the fish are not biting.



MARY BETH RUSS of Shallotte danced her way into the district competition in June by winning the talent contest among pre-teen participants.



FASHION REVIEW winners are, from left, LaShonda Stanley, Chris Stevenson and Amy Hewett. Ms. Stevenson will attend the state 4-H clothing workshop in Reidsville May 3-5.



TALENT WINNERS who will advance to the district level in Wilmington in June are Mary Beth Russ, left, and Sabrina Daniels of Longwood. Ms. Daniels will also represent the county at Junior Activity Day in Jones County on Saturday, April 13.

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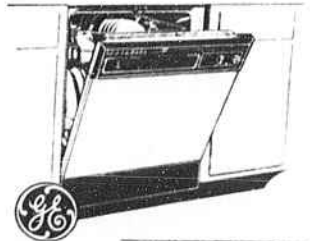
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