

Five bring home scholarships

Career Center students attend state competition

By **LYDIA COTTRELL**

lcottrell@timesobserver.com

Six students from the Warren County Career Center recently attended the state competition for SkillsUSA and five came home with scholarships.

John Zeleznik, a senior at Youngsville High School, place first in Marine Technology. His first place finish earned him a full scholarship to WyoTech. His top finish also landed him in a spot to attend the SkillsUSA National Skills and Leadership Conference in Kansas City,

Bradley Theuret, a senior from Youngsville High School, placed second in Power Equipment Technology. His second place finish earned him a

See SCHOLARSHIPS / A6



Photo submitted

Six students from the Warren County Career Center attended the SkillsUSA competition April 7 -11 in Hershey, PA. Picture from left to right are John Sheeny, John Zeleznik, Mr. Jim Young (Senior Advisor), Trevor Anderson, Jamie Brown, Brad Theuret and William Dore.

Scholarships awarded to five students ...

\$3,000 scholarship for Pennsylvania College of Technology.

John Sheehy, a senior at Youngsville High School, placed second in Motorcycle Repair, earning him a full scholarship to WyoTech or the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute.

Jamie Brown, a senior at Warren Area High School, placed second in Marine Technology, earning him a full scholarship to WyoTech.

Trevor Anderson, a senior

at Eisenhower High School, placed second in Collision Repair, earning him a full scholarship to WyoTech.

William Doré a senior at Eisenhower High School placed fifth in masonry.

The competition brought in approximately 1,500 students from across the state. For the competition, according to teacher Jim Mechling, the students took an industry test, did hands on work at six station and completed a leadership test.

For Young, one of his proudest moments of the trip was visiting the students' hotel an hour before curfew. He said there was a dance going on downstairs but his students were in their room studying. Their level of commitment is evident in the results of the competition

"In the end, we brought back full scholarships for kids who might not have gone to school," he added

SkillsUSA is a student

organization that creates a partnership between teachers, students and industry.

"There's a huge support from the industry," said Jim Young, an auto collision teacher who accompanied the kids on the trip.

The competition is much more than test the students' knowledge in their respective field. SkillsUSA also focuses on leadership and work skills and ethics.

"They learn how a

meeting should be run," Young said. He also indicated that the students learn how to act and dress appropriately in a business situation.

The experience and knowledge the students gain at SkillsUSA is facilitated by the industries that hope to employ them.

"We can't do this without industry support," Young said.

According Mechling, the industries and large

technical schools support SkillsUSA by aiding in scholarship granting and helping set the industry standards the students will have to follow in the work field.

Partnerships with organizations such as the Association of Marine Technicians also aids in the creation of the industry standards.

"It develops leaders for the work force," Principle Delores Berry said.