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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Youth Garner Top Honors In State 4-H Public Presentations Event

Jaime Churchill, 17, of Saugerties; Jordan Gundberg, 15, of Accord; and Jennifer Weeks, 18, of Milton, showcased their knowledge and public speaking prowess at New York State 4-H Public Presentations on October 1, 2005 at Cornell University. They were part of a contingent comprising eighty-one teens from 35 counties who had been selected in five categories - demonstrations, illustrated talks, speeches, recitations and dramatic interpretations - to participate in this year's program. Presenters were awarded gold, silver and bronze seals depending on their numerical scoring.

Jaime's presentation, "Mission Impossible: the Crackdown on Eggs," earned a gold certificate and a third place, bronze medallion. She will also be presenting in the egg preparation demonstration at the National Poultry and Egg Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in November. Jordan Gundberg, took home a silver certificate for his illustrated talk on "Chicken Coops." Jennifer Weeks, was awarded a gold certificate and a first place medallion for her dramatic Interpretation of "The Lady Liberty."

The Public Presentation program is often credited by 4-H alumni as having given them an edge above peers in both college and professional careers. 4-H Youth Development Programs actively involve youth in opportunities that help them learn to lead, build their communities, and connect with Cornell University and each other. The statewide 4-H Public Presentation program is an annual event organized to meet this mission.

For more information about 4-H Youth Development of Ulster County contact Patti Zellmer, 845-340-3990 or psz2@cornell.edu.

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