



By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Seventeen youths from Imperial and Grant took to the stage Sunday afternoon in a youth talent contest sponsored by Lions Clubs in the two communities.

Held at the school auditorium in Imperial, the contest drew youths in five age divisions. Winners now move on to the Lions district talent contest this Sunday, April 28, in Hyannis.

Judges rated youths in three areas for a total of 60 points—degree of talent (30 pts.), perfection of performance (20) and audience appeal (10).

Judges included Ron Moritz of Imperial, Mary Dodson of Venango and Penny Hite of Grant. Agnes Strand, grade 5-12 instrumental director at Chase County Schools, served as emcee. CCS 7-12 vocal director Randy Hayes ran the lights and sound.

Youths had a four-minute time limit to present their act or number. While none of the performances Sunday were over the time limit, there would have been point deductions for being longer than four minutes.

There were age divisions for solos/duets, as well as for groups of three to nine.

Here are the competitors and how they finished in Sunday's contest.

- Eight years and younger—1st Matalie Wallin, tap dance, "With This Ring."
- Age 9-11—1st Morayah Cupp, vocal solo, "Make It In America," 2nd Madison Schuller, dance, "What a Feeling," 3rd Morayah Cupp/Ashley Bubak, dance, "Contagious Love."
- Age 12-14—1st Katie Patrick, vocal solo, "I Won't Give Up," 2nd Shirley Wade/Emma Schrotberger, vocal duet, "Blown Away."
- Age 15-18—1st Paige Spady and Emma Bauerle, vocal duet, "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)."
- Group age 12-18—1st Andy Lane, Will Kuenne, Ike Maxwell, Colton Burpo with an instrumental/vocal number, "21 Guns," 2nd vocal ensemble of Hailey Snyder, Kyla Wykert, Peyton Woodmancy, Katie Patrick, Taylor Williams with "Titanium."

All of the contestants received certificates and Subway gift cards for participating. District participants on April 28 will receive T-shirts and other recognition.

Winners at Sunday's district contest in Hyannis, one of four district events across Nebraska, advance to the state talent contest May 31 in Norfolk during the Nebraska Lions state convention.