

Mine-safety contest winners are announced

A team from the National Pocahontas Mine of the National Mines Corp. of Pineville, W.Va., was the first-prize winner in the National Mine Rescue and First Aid contest, a two-day event completed yesterday at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center.

The National Mines team won the "two-hour mine rescue" event in the contest sponsored by the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration. The team won the top prize, a \$5,000 scholarship that can be divided among team members or their children.

Other winners in the two-hour contest were:

Emery Mining Corp., Huntington, Utah, second; Virginia Pocahontas No. 1 Mine, Island Creek Coal Co., Oakwood, Va., third; Leeco Inc., No. 1 team, London, Ky., fourth; McComas B team, Consolidation Coal Co., McComas, W.Va., fifth.

Other events and their winners were:

One-hour Mine Rescue Contest:

Jewell Ridge Coal Corp., Jewell Ridge Va., first; Consolidation Coal Co., McComas team, McComas, W. Va., second; Dante team, Clinchfield Coal Co., Dante, Va., third; Leeco Inc., No. 2 team, London, Ky., fourth; and National Pocahontas team, National Mines Corp., Pineville, W. Va., fifth.

First aid contest:

Dominion Coal Co., B team, Vansant, Va., first; Allied Chemical Corp, Harewood Mine, Montgomery, W. Va., second; Emery Mining Corp., Huntington, Utah, third; Peabody Coal Co., Star Mine, Graham, Ky., fourth; and Peabody Coal Co., Alston Team No. Four, Centertown, Ky., fifth.

Combination event — (Teams participated in the two-hour mine rescue contest and the first-aid contest):

Island Creek Coal Co., Virginia Pocahontas No. 1 Mine, Oakwood, Va., first; Peabody Coal Co., Star Mine team, Graham, Ky., second; Island Creek Coal Co., Gauley District team, Craigsville, W. Va., third; Dominion Coal Co., B team, Vansant, Va., fourth; and Ranger Fuel Corp., Beckley, W. Va., fifth.

MSHA first-aid contest slated

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) will hold its 1979 National Mine Rescue and First-Aid Contest—known as the World Series of Safety—on September 20 and 21 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center, Louisville, Ky.

The two-hour mine rescue contest will be limited to 66 teams from the coal mining industry. (Teams in the metal/nonmetal, non-coal, mining industries hold their contests in alternate years.) The teams will be competing not only for the championship, but also for the \$5,000 Ansul Company Scholarship which will be awarded after the contest. The same team may enter the mine rescue and first-aid contests to compete for combination prizes, provided the first-aid team is composed of members of the mine rescue team. Jewell Smokeless Mine Rescue Team of Vansant, Va., will be at Louisville to defend the championship it won two years ago.

Each mine rescue team is composed of seven persons, with five working members. During the two-hour competition, the teams face simulated problems they might encounter in mining coal seams, such as fire, gas or smoke, and water. Teams must provide their own breathing apparatus, safety shoes, protective hat and cap lamp. The "mine" must be mapped as teams proceed through it. Victims must be moved to safety immediately upon discovery and their positions noted on the map. If any team member en-

counters serious difficulty, the team must leave the mine site immediately because the safety of the team is of first consideration in any mine rescue operation. A one-hour mine rescue contest will also be conducted.

Teams in the first-aid contest consist of six persons, including a captain and a patient. Team members will be tested for proficiency in artificial respiration, control of bleeding and the use of tourniquets, physical shock and the use of stimulants, wounds, burns or scalds, fractures, dislocations, splints, bandaging and transportation of victims. Each team will be given five or more problems to solve, with additional problems to break any ties.

Mine rescue teams are used not only to enter mines to rescue trapped miners and remove victims of accidents but also to reopen mines. Under provisions of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, each underground mine must have trained mine rescue teams. The mine rescue teams comprise both supervisors and miners.

Entries may be submitted in writing or by wire on or before August 31 to Herschel H. Potter, secretary, 1979 National Mine Rescue and First-Aid Contest, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 817, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Va., 22203. Teams competing in regional elimination contests after August 31 may submit entries after that date.