



PHOTOS BY JOYCE TOMLINSON

Tracy Griffin, whose entry placed among the top 10 in the recent National Grange Sewing Contest, receives congratulations from Grange officials John T. Cox, left, and Roy Hart.

Tracy Griffin ranks high in national sewing contest

Tracy Griffin, whose entry represented Texas in the recent National Grange Sewing Contest, placed among the top 10 in the annual nationwide contest sponsored by Simplicity Patterns of New York.

TRACY'S GARMENT, which was judged best-in-Texas in the Teen Divi-



Tracy Griffin models the dress that won the State Sewing Competition and carried her to the National finals.

sion, was in competition with more than 43,000 other entries in the 1983 contest. At the national judging, she competed with other first place winners from 41 states.

Using a Simplicity basic pattern, Tracy created a garment like one she had seen in a ready-to-wear store. She has been sewing since she was nine years of age and has won many ribbons and honors in 4-H Club competition.

"I joined the 4-H clothing group when I was nine, and I have been very fortunate in winning the County Fashion Revue and going on to district competition each year," she said. "In 1982 I won district, but due to my age, I wasn't eligible to compete at State. Our county has an annual fair and I have entered each time and won in my division, as well as, Grand Champion of the Junior Division."

Tracy is involved in school activities and will be a freshman in Lampasas High School in the fall. She plays basketball, runs track and is a member of the choir. In junior high school she was a member of the student council, the National Junior Honor Society, and Junior Historians.

SHE BELONGS to First United Methodist Church where she participates in the young people's choir and handbell choir. She is president of Methodist Youth Fellowship and assists in teaching kindergarten and first grade classes at the church.

She also holds a Junior Lifesaving Certificate from the local chapter of American Red Cross which qualifies her as a life guard.

"I have been interested in clothing and sewing since I was very young," Tracy said. "I watched my mother and my aunt do machine and hand work, and as I grew older my aunt was helping with 4-H sewing classes. I joined as soon as I could.

"I feel that my being able to sew and design my own clothing will enable me to have a larger wardrobe and save money too. My experiences in sewing, so far, have inspired me to go into Fashion design and Merchandising as a career," she said.

Tracy will be recognized for her achievement during the Grange Rural Texas Appreciation Day Banquet on August 3 preceding the State Grange Convention which will be in session in Lampasas August 4-6.

Tracy is 14 years of age and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Griffin.