WASHINGTON — Ben Curry, son of Ken and Cindy Curry of Cookeville, recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to present his award-winning research at the 2011 Experimental Biology National Conference.

Curry, a 2003 graduate of Cookeville High School, received his bachelor's degree in microbiology from the University of Tennessee in 2008 and has since been pursuing a Ph.D. in nutritional sciences.

His research involves investigating the beneficial effects of dairy components on obesity-associated inflammation.

In Washington, Ben entered his work in the Energy and Macronutrient Metabolism research contest for the American Society of Nutrition. He was chosen as one of six national winners. Ben received recognition at the wards banquet during the conference, a cash prize and an invitation to serve on the graduate student research interest section advisory board for the American Society of Nutrition.

After finishing his degree, Ben plans to develop a medical device testing company.

Ben Curry presents his research to national audience in Washington, D.C.