

Linda Hershey shows top capons

By LAURIE KNOWLES LITITZ, Pa. - Linda Hershey, 14, followed in a family tradition when her two capons were recently judged grand champion in the annual 4-H County Capon

Round-up, sponsored by the Lancaster Kiwanis Club.

Linda has three sisters and one brother, all of whom have won awards in the capon roundup previous years. Linda has been en-

tering competitions for more than five years, but her family as a whole has her beat with 19 years of family competition.

Linda is the daughter of Mrs. H. Richard Hershey, 304 E. Newport Rd.

Her matched pair were selected by Dr. Kermit Birth, poultry marketing specialist at Penn State, and Dr. Birth said that this year's entries were the highest quality 4-H capons he's ever judged.

Dr. Birth's statement should make Linda feel pretty pleased since her birds were judged "the best of the best". She worked hard for the honor carefully feeding the more than 150 birds that she started with.

Later her selection was narrowed down to 75 birds. After many weeks of medicated food, grower, and a lot of special attention, Linda had the difficult task

of selecting only the two very best capons from the 75.

She had to check for uniformity, and be sure that the birds had no blemishes. Then she had to very carefully dress the two most perfect birds in preparation for the roundup.

Linda also brought along a few extra capons to sell at the roundup, and found that all her hard work paid off when her birds were selected as grand champion.

Her prize capons weighed 11 pounds and 10 and three-quarter pounds. The grand champion award is the second that Linda has received.

Linda sells some of the birds to Bombergers Store, Elm. She sells many others to regular customers who want capons for special occasions.

Besides raising capons, Linda has many other interests. She enjoys music



Linda Hershey, 14, received the grand champion award in the 4-H County Capon Roundup. After five years of competition, Linda has taken her second grand champion award.

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and attends Lancaster Mennonite High School as a freshman. Linda hasn't quite decided what she'd like to do in the future, but her interests are strong in possibly becoming a nurse or in studying music.

"I'm not sure yet, I could decide on either," she said. There's also a bit of history in her life. She lives in a large stone farmhouse on Newport Road, which is noted by the Lancaster County Historical Society because it was once known as the Jacob Huber Tavern.

It was here at this tavern that County Nicholas Von Zinzendorf, well-known patron of the renewed Moravian Church, preached in 1742.

John George Klein, Huber's nearest neighbor, failed to attend Zinzendorf's sermon at the Huber Tavern, but later attended another

preaching in Lancaster because he felt guilty.

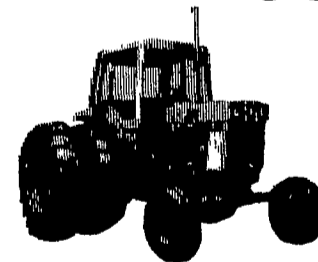
Klein ended up giving permission for the erection on his land of St. James Church. Later Klein offered his entire farm to the Moravian Church.

It seems that Linda not only has reason to be proud of her family's accomplishments, and of the history connected her family's beautiful farm, but now she's got reason to be proud of her own accomplishments as grand champion winner in the county capon roundup.

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