

Novice showman has top steer

(Continued from Page 1) reaching a climax when the various class champions are

called into the ring for final judging. Dr. David Hawkins,

associate professor of animal husbandry at Michigan State University,

judged the show for the second consecutive year. As many other judges have done before him, he looked them over carefully and then walked to the microphone to address the crowd which anxiously awaited his verdict. The short speech is an acknowledgement of the show's quality and the hard work exhibitors and organizers put into it. It's a ploy to stretch the anticipation for just a moment or two.

A brisk walk back into the show ring followed the short speech, and during those seconds a hush fell over the crowd. Then each mind wonders who it'll be. Many have made their choice, and afterwards they'll stand willing to defend or argue the official's decision.

Hawkins walked to the left, then turned rapidly to the right. His right hand, meanwhile, is ready to deliver the traditional slap on the rump, designating grand champion!

A quick about face brought Hawkins back to the left and the rear of Holzauer's steer. Hawkins' hand came down and the crowd's silence exploded into cheers. Cameramen and reporters rushed to the scene, each more eager than the other to conduct the first interview. Television camera lights beamed down on the young Lancaster Countian. There was some shoving, and possibly even more confusion. The contest was over, but the big story was just in the making.

Perhaps somewhat disappointed, the contenders for top honors faded out of the picture. Despite their efforts and achievements, they were all but forgotten. The moment of glory belonged to Brett Holzauer.

Brett's introduction into the show ring took place last August 20 when the Northeastern Chianina Association held its annual field day at Lauxmont Farms, Wrightsville. The young man's steer placed third in his weight class that day.

Other shows followed for Brett and his Chianina-Angus crossbred, named "Snowball," strangely

enough. He was grand champion at the Solanco Fair, third in the Lancaster County 4-H Beef Round-up, and fist in his weight class at the Keystone Exposition.

Holzauer, who lives on a 117 acre farm near Holtwood, said he had some confidence for winning. It's a victory every boy thinks about when he enters an animal in the Baby Beef Contest. He knew he had a good steer, and he figured his had as good a chance as any.

Holzauer is quick to give most of the credit to "Snowball" himself. "It's mainly him," he said, "he was a really good calf." He purchased the animal from Fred Frey, noted Lancaster County beef cattle breeder.

Weighing 1250 pounds for the Farm Show contest, "Snowball" won his weight class and stood as lightheavyweight champion. In naming him grand champion, Judge Hawkins described him "as the outstanding steer of the show; very muscular with an adequate finish to get into the choice grade. He's the kind that would be profitable for all segments of the industry."

Hawkins placed the animal over his number two steer because of the champions longer body and thicker, more muscular body.

The grand champion was born May 24, 1976 and was fed corn, oats, and Calf Manna, a product of the Carnation Company. Asked whether the animal gave him any difficulties, Brett answered "no," adding that he represented some hard work, but that it's been fun. He wants to return next year and keep right on showing.

Hawkins, in summing up the show, called it one of high quality. Readers may find his placings for the various weight classes in the following paragraphs. Home counties follow exhibitors' names.

Lightweight 900-1035

1. Chris Kinsley, York; 2. John Kinsley, York; 3. Robert Bricker, York; 4. Donna Wilson, York; 5. David McElhaney, Beaver.

Lightweight 1040-1085

1. Kim Brackbill, Cumberland; 2. Douglas Romberger, Montgomery; 3. Brenda Walter, York; 4. Tim Kinsley, York; 5. Dawn Musser, York.

Lightweight 1090-1115

1. Janice Kaylor, Dauphin; 2. Robert Livingston, York; 3. Joan Anderson, Chester; 4. Michelle Dean, Lancaster; 5. Judy Zimmerman, Lancaster.

Lightweight Champions

1. Janice Kaylor, 2. Robert Livingston

Middleweight 1120-1140

1. Karen Fought, Cumberland; 2. Matt Keiter, Dauphin; 3. Patti Shaffer, Fayette; 4. Debbie Darlington, Chester; 5. David Holzauer, Lancaster.

Middleweight 1145-1170

1. Kaye Sweigard, Dauphin; 2. Andy Wagner, Northampton; 3. Brenda Werner, York; 4. Cecil Teets, Beaver; 5. Jere Brubaker, Lancaster.

Middleweight 1175-1200

1. Stacie Kline, Franklin; 2. Larry Bowles, York; 3. Mary Huepenbecker, Lancaster; 4. Darrell Harper, Fayette; 5. Lee Bomberger, York.

Middleweight Champions

1. Karen Fought, 2. Kaye Sweigard

Lightheavyweight 1205-1225

1. Steve Upperman, Franklin; 2. Steven Gross, York; 3. Jed Hoffer, Lebanon; 4. Gordon Smith, Chester; 5. Kathy Miller, Dauphin.

Lightheavyweight 1230-1245

1. Barbara Sickler, Chester; 2. Jamie Kohr, York; 3. Dave Strickler, Cambria; 4. Lione Haas, Berks; 5. Karen Keiter, Dauphin.

Lightheavyweight 1250-1265

1. Brett Holzauer, Lancaster; 2. David Grosvenor, Susquehanna; 3. Deborah Carmean, Lancaster; 4. Monique Sweigard, Dauphin; 5. Bob Hess, Lancaster.

Lightheavyweight Champions

1. Brett Holzauer, 2. Steve Upperman

Heavyweight 1270-1295

1. Tim Hess, Lancaster; 2. Fritz Frey, Lancaster; 3. Brenton Upperman, Franklin; 4. Tom Sheeringer, York; 5. Tom Baum, Lancaster.

Heavyweight 1300-1320

1. James Kohr, York; 2. Ken Brubaker, Lancaster; 3. Larry Yorlets, Cumberland; 4. Dora Geib, Lancaster; 5. Scott Templeton, Cambria.

Heavyweight 1325-1400

1. Sarah Brubaker, Lancaster; 2. Jeff Walker, Chester; 3. Emily Weaver, Lancaster; 4. Linda Deitch, Cumberland; 5. Dave Brubaker, Lancaster.

Heavyweight Champions

1. Tim Hess, 2. Fritz Frey. Lancaster County had four animals represented in the final round of competition, while York, and Dauphin Counties each had two, and Cumberland and Franklin Counties had one each.

In trio competition by counties, the Dauphin County group placed first, followed by Chester, Cumberland, York, and Lancaster. Red Rose steers won the heavyweight division in that contest and subsequently grand championship status. York, a second Lancaster County group, Dauphin, and Chester followed in that order.

Farm Show steers were sold yesterday afternoon, results of which became available too late for publication this week.



Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Kent Shelhamer takes pleasure in congratulating the winner of the most celebrated event of the Farm Show. Brett Holzauer of Holtwood had the top honor this year.



Janice Kaylor had the reserve grand champion baby beef at the Farm Show. The steer, named Archie II, came close to winning it all for the 16-year old girl from Elizabethtown. Had she won, it would have been her second baby beef victory in as many years. Jim Glass of the Chianina Association was on hand to congratulate the young lady. Archie is an Angus-Chianina crossbred.



The champion trio at the Farm Show this year was owned by Brett Holzauer, Fritz Frey and Tim Hess, all of Lancaster County.

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