

# Johnston is 63rd Little I's best showman

BY SHEILA MILLER

UNIVERSITY PARK — Each year students at Penn State compete in a livestock show known as the Little International.

The show, sponsored by the Block and Bridle Club at the university, gathers students from just about every curriculum for several weeks of fun, painfully hard work, and sometimes heartbreak.

At the beginning of Spring term, students take pot luck and draw an entry in classes of either sheep, beef, swine, or horses.

Armed with brushes and enthusiasm, they groom their entries until they think they're arms will fall off. They also practice their showmanship skills, sometimes on animals



Not every contestant was able to take home a ribbon, but they were all winners, learning patience and hard work from the animals and sportsmanship in the show ring.



The 63rd Little International, sponsored by the Block and Bridle Club, was held for the second consecutive year in the new Beef and Sheep Barn at Penn State. The two year old facility was filled to overflowing with faculty, students, parents and

friends, not to mention the livestock. This annual event was the finale for over 150 students who spent many long, tiresome hours leading, washing, brushing, and clipping their entries.

that don't have the least intentions of cooperating in the effort.

Shrugging off the bumps, bruises, and aching muscles and donning their clean boots and jeans, the students prepare for the big show day.

Most of the students watch the sun rise on Saturday morning. They know they must have their animals ready for the starting time of 8 a.m.

Parents, friends and faculty watch as the students give

their best performance in the show ring — eyeing-up the bright silver tray and purple ribbons reserved for the grand champion showman.

This year the honor went to Lee Johnston, of New Alexandria. The reserve grand champion showman was Don Wilson, Summerhill.

Johnston proved he was the top showman by not only winning the championship in the swine division, but by doing the best job showing a horse, beef, and sheep.

Other winners of the day were: Dale Rains, Mercer, champion beef showman and fitter; Tracey Higgins, Chadds Ford, reserve champion beef showman and fitter; Gail Snyder, New Tripoli, champion sheep fitter; Gabriella Geiger, Doylestown, reserve champion sheep showman and fitter; Ken Brockett, Lewistown, reserve champion swine showman; Susan Hoyt, Williamsport, (Turn to Page A25)

**Students swap books for brushes**



Martha Gregory, Lititz, showed her entry Fiesta Skip to a win in the horse showmanship competition, beating 20 other contestants.



Reserve grand champion showman was Don Wilson, Summerhill. Wilson went on to be the reserve grand champion showman.



Lee Johnston, New Alexandria, displays his showmanship skills which earned him the top honors in the swine classes, and helped him on his way to becoming the 63rd Little I's grand champion showman.