

Hevner brothers dominate Timonium 4-H sheep competition



Jeff Hevner, front left, 14, of Keymar, won the senior division of the 4-H and FFA shepherd competition at this year's Maryland State Fair with his Suffolk wether Oscar, while his brother Greg, 10, won the junior competition with his Suffolk wether, Leroy. Also pictured, standing left to right are: John Gurken, this year's junior sheep show judge; Mrs. James R. Moxley, Jr., of West Friendship, co-sponsor of the shepherd competition, and Natalie Schley, 17, of Myersville, this year's Maryland Lamb and Wool Queen. Photo by Geoffrey Nelson.

TIMONIUM — Since he started his 4-H career at age 9 in 1975, Jeff Hevner, now 14, of Keymar has dominated 4-H and FFA sheep shows in both county and state fair competition with his purebred Suffolks.

Now he is being joined by his brother, Greg, 10, in what could be a formidable team of junior sheep exhibitors.

Jeff showed the grand champion market lamb again this year at the Maryland State Fair in Timonium, marking the fourth time in six years that

he has won this honor.

He also placed first in the fitting and showing competition for his age group, and he was named champion senior shepherd. His younger brother, Greg, placed first in the fitting and showing competition for 10 to 11-year-olds and was named champion junior shepherd.

Hughy F. Salfner, Jr., 17, of Rossville, won the 16 to 19-year-old senior championship for fitting and showing last week at the Maryland State Fair. He was

also the senior winner in an earlier event, the 4-H and FFA washed lamb fitting and showing contest.

Ann Boyer, 15, of Walkersville, won the regular sheep fitting and showing senior contest for 15-year-olds.

In the junior class, Mary Hope, 12, of Knoxville won first place for the 12 to 13-year-olds, and Matt McFann, 11, of Lisbon won first place in the category for nine-year-olds or first-year contestants.

Judge supports hogmen in turkey ham fight

DES MOINES, IOWA — USDA's request for a one year delay in complying with a federal court ruling ordering accurate labeling of cured turkey meat, was denied last Friday by federal court judge Richard Kellan.

The National Pork Producers Council, which joined the American Meat Institute in a suit against USDA for mislabeling the product and misleading the public, had vigorously opposed the requested delay, calling it a "bureaucratic stall".

Concerning today's announcement, NPPC's Executive Vice President, Orville Sweet said, "The

pork industry is pleased and gratified that the courts are sensitive to the problems that unreasonable regulations can pose for producers and consumers."

"In my opinion, the ruling preventing turkey thigh meats from being sold under the label of turkey ham is not only fair, but lenient," said Sweet.

According to Sweet, the ruling poses no penalty to the turkey producer because it allows all turkey not in the sales channel, to be sold as labeled. All producers and processors need to do now is use the already approved "turkey-thigh meats" label for that product.

"Turkey is a good product and can compete for its share of the market, but under its right name — turkey," Sweet added.

In handing down his decision, Judge Kellan ruled that it is contrary to the public interest to use the "turkey ham" label after November 3, therefore, no product can be produced with this label after that date.

Judge Kellan did indicate "cured turkey thigh meat" was an acceptable alternative, and such a label could be used to allow marketing of the product after November 3.

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