

Dairy youth tug, push and pull

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO

LANCASTER — Although most schools have ended for the summer, a group of area youngsters found themselves in class once again.

Toting halters and clippers instead of textbooks, 55 boys and girls ranging in age from eight to 17 attended the Eastern Regional Fitting and Showing Workshop, Co-sponsored by the Penn. Guernsey Breeders' Assoc. and the Penna. Holstein Assoc. this past Thursday.

The workshop, held at the Guernsey Sales Pavilion on Route 30, provided the youths with an opportunity to halter-break, clip, wash and finally show dairy heifers.

Jeffrey Welk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Welk of Lancaster won the eight to 10 years of age class. Beverly and Rodney Meyers, daughter and son of Mr.

and Mrs. Alvin Meyers of Chambersburg placed first in the 11 to 13 and over 14 classes, respectively.

Highlighting the morning's activities, four separate demonstrations on showing, clipping, hoof trimming and packing a tack box helped prepare the group for the upcoming show.

"Practice, practice, practice," said Ruth Ann Benedict in her demonstration on showmanship.

"Good showmanship begins before you ever enter the show ring," she said. Benedict, representing the Penna. Guernsey Breeders' Assoc. advised the youths to practice leading their heifers with a well-fitting halter at least 15 to 30 minutes a day for six weeks prior to show date.

She emphasized that refined showmanship begins only after the animal is taught to lead. Benedict

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Jeffrey Welk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Welk proudly displays his winning form with this Guernsey heifer. Jeffrey placed first in the 8 to 10 year old class.



Rodney Meyers of Chambersburg and this division. Rodney is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Holstein calf places first in the over 14 Alvin Meyers.

The wash rack was the scene of much activity on Thursday at the Guernsey Pavilion.



Beverly Meyers of Aldina Farms, Chambersburg, found that hard work pays off as she captures first place in the 11 to 13 class.



Richie Shuman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Duane Shuman adds the finishing touch on his calf before showtime.