

# Rookies revel in Expo wins



Although it's a far cry from chickens, Poultry Management major Tom Schaffer found a niche in the Dairy Expo. The Versailles native was named Reserve Champion Amateur Showman.



Susan Grubb of Royersford said she found the going tough when she first met her Ayrshire companion. But the amateur showman and veteran cow worked things out as Susan placed first in the amateur Ayrshire Showman competition.

UNIVERSITY PARK — Greenhorns, rookies, novices or just plain beginners are found in all walks of life

The first day on the job can transform temporarily the most graceful and sophisticated person into a bungling idiot

Recently, several Penn State rookies, in search of adventure, met their ultimate challenge — how to create a well-groomed, well-mannered halter-broke cow from a sly, stubborn and shaggy creature.

It became a question of who's teaching who, when students and cattle began preparing for the recent 57th Dairy Expo. The cattle had been shown before, the students had not

Sue Brandt, a marketing major from Harrisburg had the unenviable task of working with a temperamental and sometimes moody Holstein.

"She had her stubborn streaks," Sue recalls. "But it was a neat experience" So neat, in fact, that

Sue topped all amateurs and captured the title of Champion Amateur Fitter.

A Tioga County pre-vet major also found the competition rewarding. Linda Webster of Wellsboro lead her big Black and White into a Champion Showman title.

Pittsburgh produced the Reserve Amateur Fitter and overall Ayrshire Reserve Fitter. Mark Stephens said working with his Ayrshire was a nice diversion from his Biology books and that he'll definitely be back next year.

Tom Schaffer, the Reserve Amateur Showman, admitted he had his work cut out or rather "clipped out" for him. His partner, a very pregnant, very round dark-coated Brown Swiss, was hard to fit, said the Versailles native. After the Expo, the poultry management major said good-bye cows and hello chickens since he will be working for Purdue after graduation.

The majority of the novices will

return next year only to enter the professional ranks when some will come face to face with that wily, unpredictable creature — the first calf heifer.

As for their partners this year, they're all back in the barn contemplating, between cuds, new tactics for next year's rookies. — DT

Additional results of the amateur competition follow. Note: showman placings appear first, followed by fitter placings

- Jersey**
- Karen Shannon 1 2 Michele Rosenbaum 2 1
- Sally Berhel 3 5 Katharine McDuffee 4 6 Marie
- Doletski 5 3 Patty Owens 6 4
- Guernsey**
- Karen Stell 1 3 Margaret Harkins 2 1 Miram
- Lovelle 3 2
- Brown Swiss**
- Thomas Schaffer 1 2 Deborah Miller 2 3 Nancy
- Berkey 3 6 Diane Miller 4 4 Brooke Seelye 5 1
- Rosemarie Miznak 6 5
- Ayrshire**
- Susan Grubb 1 2 Mark Stephens 2 1
- Holstein class 1**
- Linda Webster 1 2 — champion showman
- Cheryl Porter 2 3 Linda Kilmer 3 1 Bruce Weaver
- 4 7 Susan Blanco 5 4 Kris Verdi 6 5
- Holstein class 2**
- Linda Moyer 1 2 Kathleen Lescisin 2 3 Sue
- Brandt 3 1 — champion fitter David Unger 4 4



Sue Brandt and Mark Stephens are two happy amateurs following big Expo wins. Brandt, a marketing major from Harrisburg, said she was so excited about showing she was awake at 3 a.m. Insomina paid off, Brandt

captured Grand Champion Amateur Fitter. Stephens found showing, "a nice diversion from school," and was named Reserve Champion Amateur Fitter. Stephens is a Biology major from Pittsburgh.



Linda Webster, right, finds that first time is the charm. The Amateur from Wellsboro said she "loved" showing the big black cow. Webster's enthusiasm was evident as she captured the Grand Champion Amateur

Showman title. Linda Moyer, a rookie from Johnston, admitted that clipping her Holstein was difficult, but that didn't stop her from taking the Reserve Champion Amateur Fitter and Showman title for the breed.

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