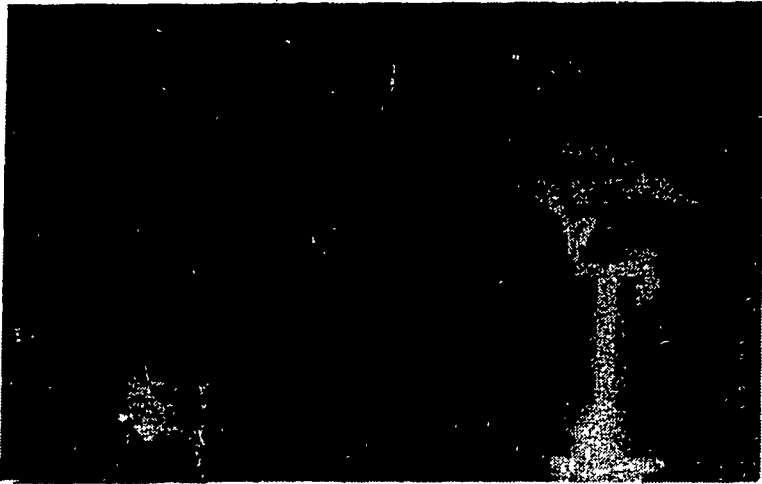


## Solanco beef champ seeks meat cutter job



After eight years of competition, Tom Herr, R2 Quarryville, stands in the grand championship winner's circle at the Solanco Fair Beef Show on Thursday night.

QUARRYVILLE — Already at 18, Tom Herr has been a champion in two phases of the meat industry. Now, he'd like to get into a third.

Thursday night, his 1145-pound Limousin-Angus steer was crowned grand champion of the beef show at the Solanco Fair.

During his FFA career at Solanco High School, Tom's many achievements included a gold medal in livestock judging in statewide competition held on the Penn State campus.

Now, as a graduate of Solanco, he'd like to get into meat cutting.

(Are there any butchers or store owners out there interested in a young man who, not only has the eye for a good animal, but can raise one, too?)

Judge Conrad Grove, of the

Devereux-Soleil Farms Angus operation, slapped the rump of the husky, meaty red steer and picked it over the 4-H champion, shown by 12-year-old Tracey Landis, of R2 Quarryville.

And Herr, who served as president of the Solanco FFA Chapter last year as well as county secretary, had his first grand champion in eight years of showing.

His best previous showing had been a lightweight class champion.

This year's champ came after the Herr family moved off the farm, too. The farm, owned by his grandfather, was sold during the past year and Tom boarded "Red" at neighbor, Lester Hanck.

The meaty red steer was purchased from the York County

operation of Donny Walters at a sale held last November at Fite's sales arena. It likely came out of the hills of West Virginia.

Results of the FFA show:

Lightweight -- 1, Brett Holzhauser; 2, Mike Miller; 3, Steve Aument; 4, Robert Findley; 5, Wayne Shubert.

Middleweight -- 1, Tom Herr; 2, Fritz Frey; 3, Ken Trout; 4, Tom Herr; 5, Jamie Frey.

Heavyweight -- 1, Ernie Frey; 2, Tim Hanks; 3, Fritz Frey; 4, Jack Heidelbaugh; 5, Jim Strawser.

FFA champion, Tom Herr; reserve, Brett Holzhauser.

4-H results:

Lightweight -- 1, John Frey; 2, Rita Frey; 3, Ernie Frey; 4, Fritz Frey; 5, Andy Herr.

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