

York youths among top livestock judges

BY JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent
WELLSVILLE — York County youth livestock judges took three out of the four top judging spots during regional judging competition last week at Warrington Green Farms, owned by the Drs. George and Lois Kushner.

Top-placing junior judge overall was Susan Wenger, of Cumberland

County, and York County's Melissa Trostle topped the senior age category. First place junior team was the trio of Kerri Kohr, Joanne Rishel and Greg Bankert, representing York, while York's senior team of Melissa Trostle, Bob Livingston and Bill Wise won their division.

Junior winner Susan Wenger, of Cumberland County, also took top



Senior team award at York Invitational went to York trio, from left, Bill Wise, Melissa Trostle and Bob Livingston.



York County Junior Livestock Team, which topped runner-up Lancaster by two points, include, from left, Joann Rishel, Kerri Kohr and Greg Bankert.



Four senior 4-H'ers who won top individual honors include, from left, Bill Wise, York; Seth Gruber, Lehigh; Rod Stoltzfus, Chester; and Bob Livingston, York.

honors in the junior beef judging division. Scott Hazlet of Centre County was high individual in sheep placings, and York's Joann Rishel topped the swine judging category.

In the senior individual categories, Bob Livingston, of York, Chris Chapman, of Lancaster County, and Betsy Colket, of Chester County, tied for first in the oral reasons competition, with matching scores of 122 points. Just one point below was York's Bill Wise, topping teammate Chris Shive with 120 points.

High individual judge in beef placing was Chester County team member Rod Stoltzfus, with Bill Wise of York, earning top spot in sheep judging, and Seth Gruber, of Lehigh County, winning out in the swine judging division.

This year's turnout of junior judges surpassed any previous year in the 25-year history of the (Turn to Page A35)



Susan Wenger, left, topped the field of 45 juniors as top judge at York Invitational; while Melissa Trostle was first among 53 senior competitors.

Burgard ends 4-H hog career in style

BY JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent
STEWARTSTOWN — Mike Burgard's bank account has fattened even faster than his 4-H market hogs.

Two of the East Berlin 4-H'ers entries in the York hog roundup show on Monday garnered the pair of top ribbons for the 18-year-old in his final year of 4-H competition.

Both were Hamp-Duroc crossed hogs from the home-bred bloodlines in the Ralph Burgard family's swine herd at East Berlin R1.

When his 250-pound grand champion paraded around the sale ring at host Sechrist's Auction, the bidding took off slowly, but quickly gained momentum and grew into a heated competition between two determined buyers.

When the gavel finally crashed down, Hatfield Packing had earned another purple rosette for its collection, plus a handshade of thanks to the buyer from Burgard for the \$3.50 per pound price that had won the spirited bidding contest.

Next across the sawdust was Burgard's reserve champion, weighing in at 245 pounds and penmate to the winner.

Emerging victorious from a second round of rapidly climbing bids was buyer Rick Doyle of Ron Bradley Realtors, Shrewsbury, who firmly held out to the final bid of \$2.05 per pound.

Catching his breath back in the livestock pens after the successful sale, the youthful hog expert considered what it takes to pick and raise winning pigs.

"Look for overall length, and a good frame," advises Burgard. "And be sure to pick the healthiest animals at weaning time."

His five entries, plus those of his younger brother, Gary, went into a market hog 4-H pen at weaning time, where the brothers could monitor the progress of their projects. That, says Mike, was the only difference between raising those hogs and the others in the Burgard herd.

Winner of the champion pair honors was 14-year-old Gus Parlett of R2, Airville, exhibiting a matched duo of Purebred Spots averaging 220 pounds each.

Bob Powl, of Powl's Feed Service in Peach Bottom, was the successful bidder for the pair winners, paying 90 cents per pound for both.

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Purple ribbon and \$3.50 a pound for his Hamp-Duroc cross went to Mike Burgard. Bob Sechrist of the host sales arena represented Hatfield Packing Co. in the bidding.



Gus Parlett topped the market pair class with a purebred Spotted duo, which sold to Bob Powl, of Powl's Feed Service, Peach Bottom, for 90 cents per pound.



Kristine Miller's reserve champion pair also went to Hatfield represented by Bob Sechrist.