

# Young Crawford shepherds go through paces

BY NANCY KUNICK  
Staff Correspondent

MEADVILLE — The bleachers were filled for the 4-H Sheep Showmanship and Fitting classes at the Crawford County Fair, Tuesday, August 29. The youth were grouped into five

equal divisions determined by birthdate. Each division consisted of approximately ten 4-Hers.

Showmanship was judged on the showman's attentiveness to both the judge and his animal and the animal's ability to respond to the exhibitor. Each division was

judged for showmanship followed by fitting for overall cleanliness. When these classes were completed for all five divisions a blocking contest was held to determine a champion fitter.

Judging the show was Richard Kuzemchak, shepherd at Penn State. Chairpeople of the 4-H Sheep were Tom and Barb Griggs of R1 Hartstown.

Mrs. Griggs mentioned that a blocking contest had not been held for a few years at the fair. She decided to initiate it once again as "this is what they do in Harrisburg" and she wants the 4-Hers to know what they're doing when they reach the state level.

It seems that the blocking contest is a 'true test' of the 4-H members ability to clip a lamb for show. Each individual is assigned a lamb, straight from the pasture and given 45 minutes to car and clip. When the time is up they are judged on the job they've done. No outside help is allowed for this contest.

Although this takes a bit longer and is optional for the sheep showmen, almost everyone participates. By entering it is the only way to become Champion Fitter or to receive premium money for

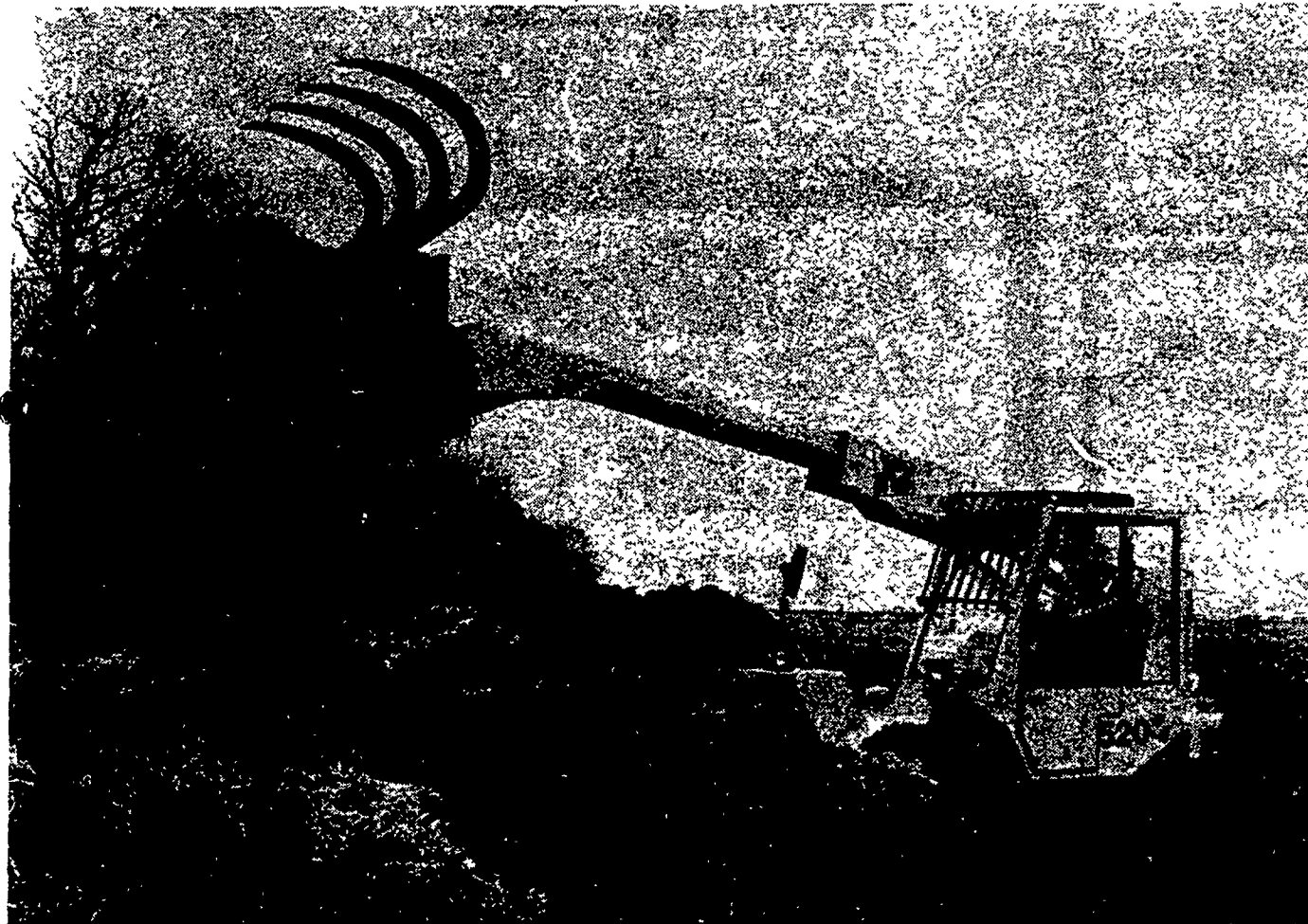


Champion sheep showmen at Crawford Fair include Tom Trace and Emily Obberath, intermediate division winner; and April Lorenz, junior intermediate.

	Showmanship	Fitting	Blocking
SR DIV	1 Tom Trace 2 Dana Kelly 3 Ron Brown	Sue McClelland Tom Trace Dana Kelly	Rob Brown Tom Trace Ron Brown
SR INT DIV	1 Mike Ernst 2 Deb Lang 3 Betty Miller	Deb Lang Betty Miller Bobbi Foreman	Betty Miller Tina Mook Deb Lang
INT DIV	1 Emily Obberath 2 Irene Horne 3 Heidi Szymkowski	Emily Obberath Joe Cribbs Heidi Szymkowski	Joe Cribbs Brenda Mook Bobbi Foreman
JR INT DIV	1 April Lorenz 2 Brian Trace 3 Laura Holsopple	Morgan Millard April Lorenz Kandice Calvert	Kandice Clavert Kelly McDonald April Lorenz
JR DIV	1 Robin Ernst 2 Tracey Dengler 3 Adam Szymkowski	Steve McDonald Adam Szymkowski Robin Ernst	Gwen Smith Steve McDonald Jason Gillette

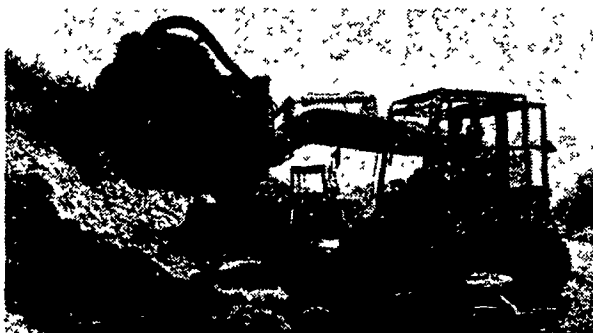


Top 4-H sheep fitter at Crawford is Rob Brown, selected from five divisional winners in blocking contest.



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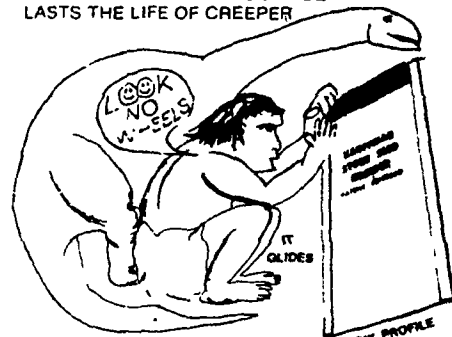
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