

New Hobby Results in Two Farm Show Ribbons

BY KIMBERLY HERR

CENTERVILLE — It began when Kim Myers was bored in a high school study hall. It was sparked on by a competitive spirit between Kim and her cousin. It resulted in two winning ribbons from the Farm Show.

Kim, 20-year-old daughter of Ray and Ellen Myers, explained that when she was a student at Hempfield High School - she graduated in 1982 - she had a study hall, and she was bored. So, she decided to join a rug braiding club offered at the school.

She also explained that she and a female cousin had a long-running

competition. So, when Kim decided to enter a braided rug in the Farm Show last year, she wanted it to be the best it could be. She wanted to win. She came home with a second place ribbon.

This year, she tried again. And when she brought her blue braided rug home from Harrisburg there was a blue first place ribbon attached to it.

But Kim does not take all the credit for winning. She shares some of it with her teachers at Hempfield High School and her parents.

"Mr. Nohrenberg is basically the person who really got me started,"



Kim Myers and her father, Ray, work together on a new braided rug.

Kim said, explaining that Mr. Nohrenberg is a driver education teacher and one of the rug club instructors at Hempfield High School.

"Mom and Dad helped me on the last four rounds (of the braided rug)," Kim said. "Dad used to be the untangler."

Kim explained that as she braided the material, sometimes working with strands of material 70 feet in length, it would get tangled. Her father would sit behind her and reverse braid from the back so that the material would flow freely for Kim.

The final product, when Kim was finished braiding and her father was through untangling, was a 4 X 6 foot oblong rug, done in shades of blue, with some tan and white shades also included.

Kim said that she worked on the rug for about three months in her spare time.

What made her rug the winner out of the six rugs entered?

"I really don't know," Kim laughed, adding that she enjoys having her rugs on display at the Farm Show. "I think it's thrilling because everybody calls you up and says they saw your rug at the Farm Show."

But Kim earns the recognition she gets.

"She really has to use a lot of muscle," Kim's mother, Ellen, said, explaining that it is important to keep the braids tight and to do that Kim must constantly pull on the materials as she is braiding.

"When you first start out you really get blisters," Kim laughed.

Kim hooks the braids onto the stairway banister in their downstairs family room. This allows her to pull on the material and tighten the braid.

And in addition to muscle and tough hands, braiding rugs calls for patience. Kim explained that if the rug is made without doing enough backstitching, the ends of the rug will curl up and be unusable, making it necessary for parts of the rug to be redone.

"I actually have less patience than what most people would," Kim said modestly.

But patience or not, Kim has already started on next year's Farm Show entry, a round braided rug.

"The round rug is one of the hardest you can do," Kim said. "I want to make it as big as possible."

Since Kim has brought home ribbons both years she entered the Farm Show competition, she feels the pressure to create another ribbon-winner. She plans to keep on winning.



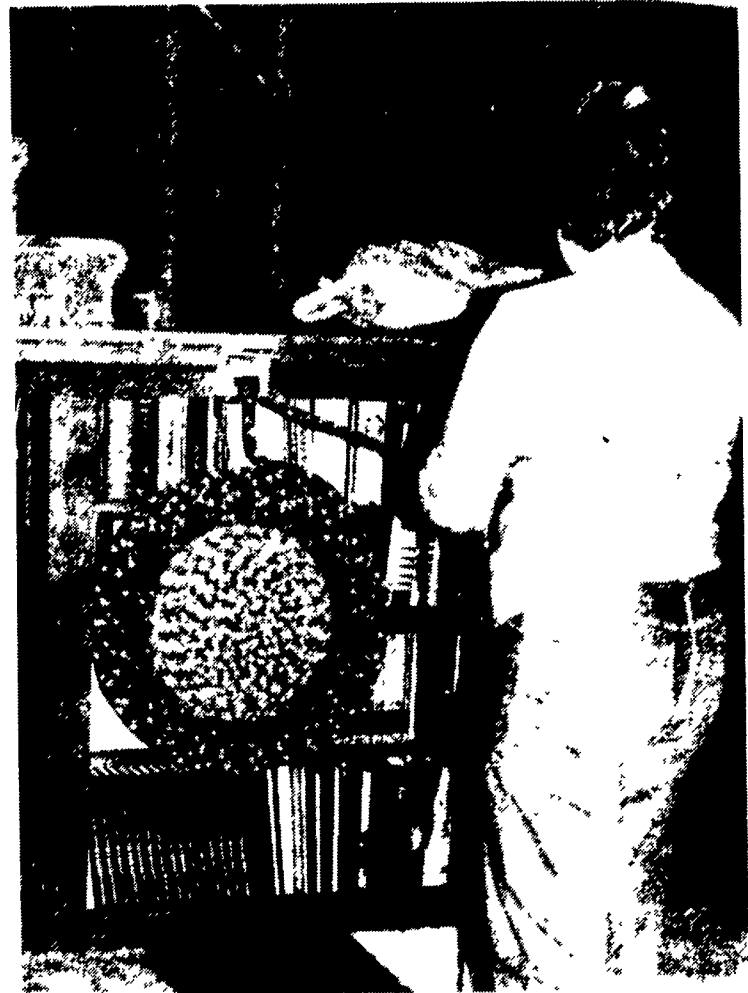
First-place Farm Show rug is displayed by Kim Myers.

Clothing Winners

(Continued from Page B12)

- Pants or Shorts**
District I
1 Emily Ross Marion Center 2 Judy Foster Enon Valley
- District II
1 Beth Brandt Palmyra
- Other**
District I
1 Susan Mishrell Waterfall 2 Regina Good Marion Ctr 3 Jennifer Brown Garrett
- District II
1 Amy Strausbaugh Manheim 2 Susanne Brendle Mercersburg 3 Lisa Shenk Litzitz
- Sweepstakes**
1 Amy Jo Strausbaugh Manheim 2 Bety Garrity Saegertown 3 Susan Mishrell Waterford
- Clothing and Textiles 5th Year**
Top
District I
1 Susan Grove Greensburg
- District II
1 Laurie Welsh Sugarloaf 2 Jennifer Compton Mifflintown
- Simple Dress**
District I
1 Dawn Gilliland Franklin
- District II
1 Karen Chronister York
- Jumper**
District I
1 Kathy McWilliams Washington 2 Carol Spicher Rossiter 3 Diane Bell Blairsville
- District II
1 Stephanie Moyer Harleysville 2 Julie Prusakowski Harleysville 3 Heidi Zendt Mifflintown
- Other**
District I
1 Jane Anne Strong Smock 2 Kevin Carson Franklin 3 Jennifer Belford Commodore
- District II
1 Tanya Rohrer Litzitz 2 Pam Kimmel Hegins 3 Jennifer Stacktish Jermy
- Sweepstakes**
1 Tanya Rohrer Litzitz 2 Kathy McWilliams Washington 3 Pam Kimmel Higgins
- Clothing and Textiles 6th Year**
Pants and Top
District I
1 Sherrie Mishrell Waterford 3 Laura Robinson Baden
- District II
1 Julie Longenbach Northampton 2 Christine McDonald Shippensburg 3 Catherine Cesanek Northampton
- Jumpsuit**
District I
1 Kelly Bail Rea 2 Cheryl Rieg Chester Springs
- Other**
District I
1 Dawn Methang, Washington
- District II
1 Lynelle Stutzman Schwenkville 2 Jody Carney, Lansdale 3 Jung Park N Wales
- Sweepstakes**
1 Kelly Bail Rea 2 Dawn Methang

- Washington 3 Lynelle Stutzman Schwenkville
- Dress-up Outfit - Dress or Pants**
District I
1 Marty Boman Indiana 2 Dawn Gilliland Franklin 3 Diane Dickey Kittanning
- District II
1 Sylvia Royer Lebanon 2 Melanie Shenk Litzitz 3 Natalie Wagner Litzitz
- Sweepstakes**
1 Sylvia Royer Lebanon 2 Melanie Shenk Litzitz 3 Marty Boman Indiana
- Tailored Outfit**
District I
1 Pam Shugars Latrobe 2 Judy Bates Derry 3 Ellen Nebgen Altoona
- District II
1 Michelle Rohrer Litzitz 2 Renee Haldeman Manheim 3 Rhonda Witmer Litzitz
- Sweepstakes**
1 Pam Shugars Latrobe 2 Michelle Rohrer Litzitz 3 Renee Haldeman Manheim
- Tailored Suit**
District I
1 Bret Reyburn State College 2 Kelly Wible Three Springs 3 Beverly Diehl
- District II
1 Linda Justick Avoca 2 Gail Partington Sugarloaf 3 Lori Reesor Lebanon
- Sweepstakes**
1 Bret Reyburn State College 2 Kelly Wible Three Springs 3 Linda Justick Avoca
- Tailored Coat**
District I
1 Sherri Bensink Corry
- District II
1 Holly Bachert Annville 2 Susan Eck Muncy
- Sweepstakes**
1 Sherri Bensink Corry 2 Holly Bachert Annville 3 Susan Eck Muncy
- Party Gown**
Short Gown
District I
1 Carol Ann Hall Franklin 2 Karen Daum State College
- District II
1 Cindy Harnish Lancaster
- Long Gown**
District I
1 Janet Rudy Sewickley 2 Joanne Morrill Leechburg
- District II
1 Dawn Raubenstine Hanover 2 Robin Staudenmeier Conynghan 3 Melissa Hayhurst Northumberland
- Sweepstakes**
1 Carol Ann Hall Franklin 2 Cindy Harnish Lancaster 3 Dawn Raubenstine Hanover
- Free Lance**
District I
1 Beth Sarver Greensburg 2 Nina Lonchar Enon Valley 3 Brenda McCrecken Homer City
- District II
1 Diane Schoenberger Palmerton 2 Lori Dotter Leighton 3 Janet Carney Lansdale
- Sweepstakes**
1 Beth Sarver Greensburg 2 Diane Schoenberger Palmerton 3 Lori Dotter Leighton



Rug is attached to bookcase so that Kim Myers can pull braid tight.

4-H'ers Grade and Identify Potatoes

HARRISBURG — Lehigh and Schuylkill County 4-H members won top team awards in the potato grading and identification contest during the 68th Pennsylvania Farm Show.

The Lehigh County team captured the top award in the division for experienced judges, receiving 1266 points out of a possible 1500. Team members were Seth Gruber, New Tripoli; Debra Krause, RD 3, Slatyngdon; Tim Hoch, RD 3, New Tripoli; and Doug Peichtel, Briemsgville. Debra Krause was the overall individual contest winner.

In the division for experienced judges, the 4-H team for Union County placed second, and the team from Lycoming County was third.

In the division for novice judges, the winning team was from Schuylkill County. Judges included

Amy Hetherington, Joanne Careyva, and Kelly and Chris Murray, all from Ringtown. The team from Northampton County placed second in the novice division, and the York County judging team placed third.

Twenty-five teams competed in the contest.

- Individuals**
1 Debra Krause Lehigh Co. 2 Pattie Snook Union Co. 3 Tim Hoch Lehigh Co
- Team A Potato Grading**
1st Bob Leiby (Agent) Seth Gruber Debra Krause Tim Hoch Doug Feichtel Lehigh County
2nd Kay Humbert (Agent, Sally Kieffer Patti Snook Abra Kieffer Crystal Zechman Union County
3rd John Carr (Agent) Jennifer Eakin Tod Eakin Richard Styer Kevin Styer Lycoming County
- Team B Potato Grading**
1st George Perry (Agent) Amy Hetherington Kelly Murray Chris Murray Joanne Careyva Schuylkill Co
2nd Joel Simmons (Agent) Cathy Fasching Theresa Fasching Kim Brown Tracey Brown Northampton Co
3rd Denise Chase (Agent) Rob Haskins Jon Haskins Mike Fetrow York Co