

# First Annual Eastern Jr. Simmental Expo a success

Deborah Stiles-Renzi

JACKSONS MILL, W.Va. — It was definitely a "family affair" at the Eastern Junior Simmental Expo May 31, June 1-3, as two pairs of sisters and their heifers took the top four places in the heifer competition, which concluded the contest portion of this four-day gathering of Eastern Region American Junior Simmental Association (AJSA) members and their parents. Shelley and Nikki Overpeck of Clinton, Indiana had the top two heifers, while the Stough sisters, Jann and Greta, of Charlotte, Michigan, placed third and fourth overall in the show which highlighted the first regional expo held under the auspices of the American Simmental Association (ASA).

With sixty young people in attendance, a total of nine states of the Eastern region, including West Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina were represented at the competition and educational event held at Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp in Lewis county.

Throughout the weekend junior members up to age twenty-one attended workshops and seminars on topics ranging from youth leadership to beef production, in addition to competing in the heifer show and showmanship, cattle judging, sire summary/herdsman

quiz, "Beef Bowl", public speaking and sales talk contests.

Winners in the judging competition were, senior division, Terry Burkes, of Glasgow, Kentucky, and in Junior Division, Jill Moore of Fairmount, West Virginia. Entrants were required to judge five classes of livestock, including heifers, keep/cull, cow/calf, steers and bulls.

The sire summary/herdsman quiz winners were Mikki Overpeck of Indiana in the jr. division and Dan Bates of Michigan in sr. division. Mr. Bates also led the Sr. Michigan "Beef Bowl" team to a first place victory in that competition, a contest styled similarly to the "College Bowl" or Jr. High bowls seen on television. Junior division winner in the Beef Bowl was the Maryland team, while the Ohio/Pennsylvania sr. and jr. teams each took second place in their contests.

Terry Burkes of Kentucky, an AJSA trustee of the organization, swept the public speaking and sales talk contests with two first place finishes in the sr. division. The jr. division awards in these areas went to Trisanne Wrightson of Maryland in public speaking and Nikki Overpeck of Indiana for sales talk.

Saturday morning 48 heifers were shown by an equal number of well-prepared youngsters in the heifer competition and



Shelley Overpeck of Clinton, Indiana showed the top heifer at the Eastern Junior Simmental Expo. The two Overpeck sisters proved unbeatable in the heifer competition.

showmanship contest, the final event for which points were given to Expo participants. Ten classes were slated; however, due to the large size of Class VI, it was divided, making a total of eleven. After all eleven classes had been shown and judged, the top animal in each individual class was brought back and the overall top ten females of the show were selected through a continual addition of second place finishers to this class (perpetually judging eleven animals).

Of these top ten animals, most were older heifers, but Judge Johnny Hooks of Illinois made a surprise pick of the youngest female in the show for the number three slot. Hooks stated that perhaps he was "...sticking his neck out on this one, but I think this heifer has great potential." Calved November 7, 1983, the heifer was shown by Jann Stough of Charlotte, Michigan. The overall top ten heifers were show by the following:

- 1) Shelley Overpeck, Clinton, Ind.
- 2) Nikki Overpeck, Clinton, Ind.
- 3) Jann Stough, Charlotte, Mich.
- 4) Greta Stough, Charlotte, Mich.
- 5) Tim Warvel, Dansville, Mich.
- 6) Tim Seedorf, Deshler, OH
- 7) Brent Swain, Louisville, Ky.
- 8) John Callebs, Lexington, Ky.
- 9) Todd Eastep, Yanceyville, N.C.
- 10) Chan Phillips, Maysville, Ky.

Showmanship was conducted a little differently in that all participants were judged during their individual heifer classes on their response to Heifer Judge Johnny Hooks by Showmanship Judge Ed Brown of Virginia. A Lewis county, West Virginia native, Brown selected the top ten individuals in each of jr. and sr. divisions, and these twenty competed for showmanship champion awards in their respective divisions.

Chan Phillips of Maysville,

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Senior showmanship champion at the first AJSA Expo was Chan Phillips of Maysville, Kentucky.




Expo's number-two heifer was shown by Nikki Overpeck...



...who also took first-place showmanship honors in the junior division.

## Livestock Ledger

By  
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Recent information from Penn State University beef specialists points out that most fertility problems in Pennsylvania beef herds can be blamed on improper nutrition at the critical stages. Too much poor-quality, over-mature hay is fed to beef cattle in late winter and early spring (during lactation), when nutrient requirements are highest for the beef herd.

After calving, the average milking cow needs 30 to 35 percent more energy and over 100 percent more protein, calcium, and phosphorus. A cow cannot consume enough low-quality hay to meet these needs. Because low-quality hay passes through the digestive tract more slowly than high-quality hay, she will consume more high quality hay per day. Cows can and should utilize low-quality roughages, but not in the last 60 days before calving or in the first 120 days after calving. Now is the time to plan for feeding in these critical periods when storing hay for next winter.

Another major reason for poor reproduction in Pennsylvania cow herds is the common practice for running the bull with the cow herd all year rather than having a controlled breeding season. Most cattle producers wean all their

calves at the same time. Naturally, the older calves are heavier. A cow that weans a calf 200 to 300 pounds lighter than the average calf does not pay her way.

Progressive cattle producers should aim to have as many cows as possible calve in the first three weeks of the calving season. Cows calving early in the calving season have more time to reach estrus before the start of the breeding season. Data indicates that mature cows require fifty to sixty days after calving to reach their maximum conception rates. Two and three-year-old cows require a seventy to eighty-day interval for maximum conception.

Only with a combination of all management factors can you have and keep a group of cows on a short calving season. Select early calving replacements, feed all groups adequately, turn the bull in for a short breeding season, and test for pregnancy forty-five to ninety days after the end of the breeding season.

For additional information on improving reproduction in your beef herd, ask your county extension agent for special circular 299. Penn State provides information to anyone regardless of race, color, religion, or national origin.

## LIVESTOCK LATEST

