

Montgomery 4-H's to host dog frisbee competition at fair

NORRISTOWN — The 4-H Clubs of Montgomery County will host the Gaines Ashley Whippet Invitational for disc catching dogs on Saturday, August 18th at 1 p.m. at the Montgomery County 4-H Center. The center is located on Snyder Road just off Rt. 363 between Allentown Road and Sumnerstown Pike in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

All dog owners with trained dogs

are encouraged to compete and everyone is invited to view the proceedings. In addition to the contest, there will be a clinic open to any dog owner. The clinic will teach owners how to train their pets in the art of frisbee catching. There is no charge for any of the activities.

Also included in the show will be a demonstration given by two top dogs in the county. The first dog,

Isis, is owned by Mike and Debbie Smith. She has competed in these contests for the past five years and has been playing frisbee since she was 6 months old. Isis has won first place 13 times in her career. In 1982 she was Regional Champion and went on to place seventh in the world. In 1983 she was third in Pennsylvania and is the current 1984 Delaware State Champion. Isis has also participated in many

demonstrations throughout her career such as the World Frisbee Competition at Rutgers, the Smithsonian Frisbee Festival in Washington, D.C. and most recently at Susquehanna University. Even though she has been so active, she is best known for her back flip which won her a spot on "Those Amazing Animals."

The second dog, Sheba, is owned by Rick Pierson. She is a seven-year-old German Shepherd who has been competing for 4½ years. She has been in the top 3 placings at many local competitions. In addition to her competitions, Sheba has given many demonstrations for local organizations.

The Ashley Whippet Invitational is named for Ashley Whippet, a three time world champion, celebrated canine athlete and TV and film star and is sponsored by Gaines Dog Foods. There is no entry fee.

The event is open to any dog who can catch a frisbee disc. The competition will be judged by

Canine Officer Neff of the Hatfield Township Police Department. Trophies will be awarded to the top three places and a tee shirt to the first place winner. Everyone who participates will receive some type of prize which has been donated by North Penn Feeds of Lansdale. Certificates and frisbees will also be provided.

If you have a dog to enter or would like to train, come on out and join in the fun. For more information or to register for the contest, contact Jim Nitterauer, 4-H Summer Assistant at 277-0574. Advance registration is requested for the contest participants.

This is only one of the many fun events which are part of our county 4-H Fair. The Fair runs August 16-18, and is open to the public. Other events on Saturday, August 18th include a small pet parade, fun olympics and a celebrity goat milking contest. For a complete schedule of the Fair events contact the County Extension Office at the above number and plan to come out to the Fair for a day of fun!

Wool research in Phila.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture will relocate its wool research to its Philadelphia laboratories to share technology and cut operating costs, a research official said today.

Terry B. Kinney, Jr., administrator of USDA's Agricultural Research Service, said USDA will move the wool research program immediately from U.S. Army facilities at Natick, Mass., to the research agency's Eastern Regional Research Center in Philadelphia.

Kinney said a research leader will be selected for the unit. It will become part of the Animal Biomaterials Laboratory, headed by Stephen H. Fearheller.

Kinney said the relocation will:

— Allow wool research scientists to work jointly with ERRC scientists doing related research and to use existing laboratory equipment;

— Increase cooperation between wool research and textile research institutions, such as the Philadelphia College of Textile and Science and the Textile Research Institute in Princeton, N.J., while continuing joint research with Southeastern Massachusetts University; and

— Eliminate a portion of proposed renovation costs for laboratory space at the U.S. Army's Natick Research and Development Center.

In the next few months, the research unit will undertake two major investigations of wool's properties, Kinney said.

One will seek a new way of removing foreign material — thistles, burs and pigments — from raw wool without resorting to a potentially damaging treatment known as carbonizing.

The other will try to help buyers identify the best wool for felt making. Traditionally,

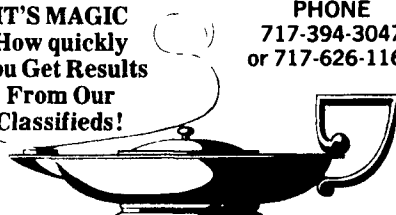
manufacturers purchase wool they think will make good felt, but with

little understanding of what fiber characteristics are chemically

and physically responsible for superior felting, Kinney said.

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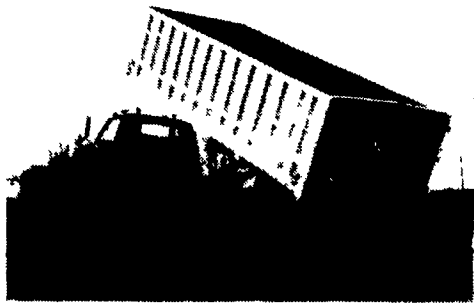
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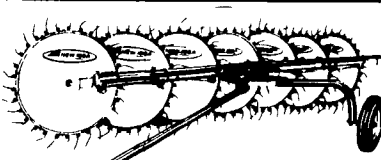
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