

# Cousins top Berks County FFA Swine Show

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS  
Staff Correspondent

LEESPORT — The top spots at the recent Berks County FFA Market Hog Show and Sale went to a pair of cousins from R2 Elverson. From the Twin Valley FFA Chapter, Rod Stoltzfus, R2

Elverson, with his 230-pound market swine, garnered the Grand Championship trophy and ribbons. Nelson Beam, his cousin and also neighbor, took the reserve championship at the show on Wednesday, Aug. 1.

Judging the event, Kenneth

Winebark, associate agent for Lebanon County and previous coach of the Penn State Livestock Judging Team, stated, "these pigs are really good on the top end." "I'm pretty proud of this set of pigs," he continued. "They maintained a high degree of efficiency." The champion, according to Winebark was "a really long, meaty kind of a barrow."

The buyer for Hatfield Packing also liked what he saw as he purchased 12 of the market hogs, in addition to bidding the top dollar for the grand and reserve champions. The champion sold for \$2.85 at the sale held that evening for a total dollar value for his owner of \$669.75. The reserve champion sold for \$1.60, also on the bid from Jerry Clemens of Hatfield Packing. The champions brought the average of the 54 hogs selling to 65 cents a pound.

"Our company this year will support between 50 to 60 of these sales in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and New York," Clemens stated about Hatfield Packing. "We do it mainly to keep the kids interested in raising livestock. We tend to support the whole sale," he continued. A buyer with the company for the last 15 years, Clemens says that he enjoys this way of rewarding the youth for all the time and work put into their livestock projects.

According to Nelson Beam, owner of the reserve grand champion purchased by Hatfield, "we really appreciate his support." Beam is the 21-year-old son of Omar and Ruth Beam. A student at Penn State majoring in animal production, Beam plans to use the proceeds from this sale towards his college expenses. Showing pigs since he was eight years old, Beam credits his father's breeding stock for his success. "My dad has good pigs," he states about his father's pig farm.

The grand champion hog of Rod Stoltzfus also comes from home bred stock. From his father, J. Wilmer Stoltzfus' farrow-to-finish operation, Rod gets to pick his future projects.

"I look for length, muscle, and size," the 17-year-old youth says.

Sixteen exhibitors representing seven FFA chapters showed their hogs for the placings in fitting and showmanship and the market hog classes. Trophies were donated by Elton Muth, Alburts, The Eastern Pennsylvania Pork Producers Association, and One-Way Farms, Kempton. Other buyers who supported the sale included: Ed Fishburn, R3 Wernersville; Ben Martin, R1 Denver; Kenneth Leiby, R2 Hamburg; Leesport Auction, Herfurth Brothers, Gilbert; Newswengers Luncheonette, Leesport; Daniel Mostetler, R1 Morgantown;

George Fry, R2 Douglassville; Oscar Baumer, Herndon; and Morgantown Feeds, R1 Morgantown.

Top three placers in the classes of competition:

Grand Champion Rod Stoltzfus R2 Elverson Twin Valley  
Reserve Champion Nelson Beam R2 Elverson Twin Valley

Lightweight, 170 to 250  
1 Henry Seidel R1 Lenhartsville, Hamburg 2  
Greg Stricker R1 Bernville Hamburg 3 Mark  
Rohrbach R1 Shoemakersville Hamburg

Light Mediumweight, 210 to 215  
1 Henry Seidel R1 Lenhartsville, Hamburg  
Greg Stricker R1 Bernville Hamburg 3 Henry  
Seidel

Medium Mediumweight, 220  
1 2 Nelson Beam R2 Elverson Twin Valley 3  
Kirk Fisher R1 Oley Valley

Heavy Mediumweight 225 to 235  
1 Tammy Balthaser R1 Bernville Hamburg 2  
Nelson Beam 3 Rod Stoltzfus R2 Elverson Twin  
Valley

Heavy Mediumweight, 225 to 235  
1 3 Rod Stoltzfus R2 Elverson Twin Valley 2  
Charles Seidel R1 Lenhartsville Hamburg

Light Heavyweight 240  
1 2 Nedison Beam 3 Charles Seidel

Medium Heavyweight, 250 to 260  
1 Susie Burkhart R1 Mohnton Twin Valley 2  
Andy Murphy R2 Kempton Kurtztown 3 Henry  
Seidel

Super Heavyweight, Over 260  
1 2 3 Steve Rohrbach R1 Shoemakersville  
Hamburg

Showmanship - Senior  
1 Nelson Beam 2 Rod Stoltzfus 3 Mark  
Rohrbach R1 Shoemakersville Hamburg

Showmanship Junior  
1 Steve Rohrbach 2 Tammy Balthaser R1  
Bernville Hamburg 3 Susie Burkhart

Grand Champion Showman Nelson Beam  
Reserve Champion Showman Steve Rohrbach  
Fitting Junior Division  
1 Tammy Balthaser 2 Steve Rohrbach 3 Susie  
Burkhart

Fitting Senior Division  
1 Kirk Fisher Oley Valley 2 Nelson Beam 3  
Mark Rohrbach Hamburg

Champion Fitter Tammy Balthaser Hamburg  
Reserve Champion Fitter Kirk Fisher Oley Valley



Rod Stoltzfus, R2 Elverson, showed the grand champion at the Berks County FFA Swine Show. He is shown with judge Kenneth Winebark, of Lebanon County Extension.



Reserve champion market hog of Berks County FFA'ers belongs to Nelson Beam, R2 Elverson.



Top fitting honors at Berks FFA Swine Show went to Tammy Balthaser, of Hamburg.

## Troy Fair livestock sales are big success

TROY — The grand champion market lamb sold for \$6.00 a pound at an auction held at the Troy Fair 4-H and FFA Sheep Show on July 25. Marx Brothers, Shrewsbury, N.J., purchased the 116-pound lamb from Richard Powell, Rome.

The 95-pound reserve champion brought \$3.25 a pound for its owner, Melissa Horton, Ulster. Roger and Carole Hickok were the purchasers.

The remaining fifteen lambs in the sale sold at prices ranging from \$2.75 to \$2.00 a pound.

Both the grand and reserve champion market pigs were owned and shown by Betsy Cumbring, East Canton. Troy Meat Plant paid \$5.25 a pound for the 220-pound first-place animal while Lynn Chubbuck of Farm Credit picked up the tab for the 218-pound reserve at \$3.25. The third place pig, at 212 pound, owned by Gail Campbell, Milan, was purchased by Judson's Inc., Columbia CrossRoads, at \$1.25.

The sale of the 17 market lambs was a highlight of the annual 4-H and FFA Sheep Show and Wool Day, an annual event at the Troy Fair. The sale attracted buyers from a wide area. For the first time, the show was managed by the Bradford County 4-H.

Robert Shaylor, president of Robert M. Shaylor Sales, of Troy, and Bennett, N.Y., who served as auctioneer, said he was pleased at the good price paid for the top lamb. Shaylor was assisted in his duties by Robert Garrison.

In addition to the sale of the market lambs, breeding stock owned by the youth was judged for conformation and fitting during the day.

Also, demonstrations of working sheep dogs were performed by the Walt Jagger family of Hop Bottom, who put their four Border Collies through an intricate set of exercises.

The proper procedure for shearing sheep was demonstrated by Tom Horton, of Ulster.

Demonstrations of crafts

associated with the use of wool were held throughout the day in a tent near the arena.

Owners and purchasers of the other lambs:

John Saylor, Towanda 91#, purchased by Tom Thiede at \$2.25; Nichole Eastman, Rome, 110#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.25; Kelly Smith, Wyalusing, 92#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.25; Kim Stewart, Rome, 116#, purchased by Formula I Feeds at \$2.75; Ruth Ann Saylor, Towanda, 68# purchased by Utica Veal, Utica, N.Y., at \$2.00.

Karrie Bowen, Rome, 116#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.25; Stephen Saylor, Towanda, 67#, purchased by Rockwell's Feed

Mill at \$2.50; Brian Bowen, Rome, 98# purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.25; Kimberly Smith, Wyalusing, 83#, purchased by Robert Rathbun at \$2.25; Joanna Fricker, LeRaysville, 118#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.00.

Teresa Gobeia, Columbia CrossRoads, 91#, purchased by Judson's Inc. at \$2.25; Myron Eastman, Rome, 108#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.00; Jeff Seiker, Wyalusing, 86#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant at \$2.00; Jim Eastman, Rome, 128#, purchased by Leona Meat Plant, at \$2.00; Kerry Smith, Wyalusing, 96#, purchased by CrossRoads Equipment, at \$2.25.

See additional photo on D11.



Betsy Cumbring showed the Grand Champion market hog at Troy Fair. With her is buyer Don Bastion of Troy Meats.