

Pa. sheep top three KILE breeding shows

BY SUZANNE KEENE AND JACK HUBLEY

HARRISBURG — With open breeding sheep competition kicking off the 28th Annual Keystone International Livestock Exposition on Nov. 2, more than 250 sheep exhibitors converged on Harrisburg's Farm Show complex to watch judges pick and choose their way through a field of some 1500 sheep during four days of judging.

Six states shared top honors in the breeding show, with Pennsylvania breeders taking championship awards in three breeds.

The only Pa. exhibitor to take top breed honors in both the ram and ewe classes was well-known Dorset exhibitor, Margaret Herr, of Narvon. Her home-bred champion ewe had been named supreme champion sheep at this year's Elizabethtown Fair, and will now be heading for the North American International Livestock Expo in Louisville.

Judge Gary Ricketts, sheep specialist at the University of Illinois, also named Herr's ram to the championship position, and presented the Garden Spot High School senior with the J.R. Henderson Memorial Plaque for exhibiting the champion flock.

Though Charles Smith swept the Cheviot show, he had to travel a far greater distance than Herr to get the job done. Traveling south from Skowhegan, Maine, Smith exhibited sheep owned by Robert and Edith Kelley, winning both champion ewe and champion ram rosettes. The Kelley flock took top honors in all but one class of Cheviot competition.

A Pa. exhibitor shared the spotlight with Ohio in the Shropshire show. Bradford County's Kenneth Moore, of Rome, showed his ram all the way to the winner's circle, and also exhibited the reserve champion ewe.

Keeping Moore from the champion ewe position was Janis Kennedy of Kennedy Farms in Fremont, Ohio, who exhibited the champion Shropshire and took home three first-place wins in class competition.

In the Oxford show, Robert Elander of Saugerties, N.Y. proved unbeatable in the drive for champion ewe honors. Along with six first-place awards, Elander also showed the reserve champion ewe and ram, and was named premier breeder.

Exhibitor of the champion Oxford ram was Clarence Williamson and Sons, of Xenia, Ohio, a familiar name in the KILE winner's circle.

A ewe owned by B&B Livestock of Danville, Ohio, was named champion of both the open show and sale categories in Hampshire competition.

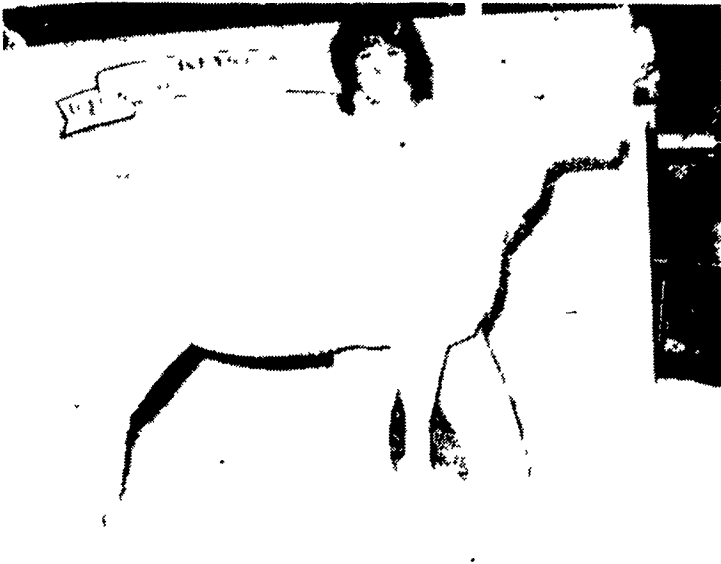
Rebecca Hope of Knoxville, Md., exhibited the champion Hampshire ram, and took top exhibitor's flock honors. Showing the second-place flock were Tim and Sarah Fleener of Lancaster.

The Corriedale competition was dominated by Jagger Brothers of Mt. Gilead, Ohio. Jagger Brothers showed both the champion ram and champion ewe.

The champion ram was a fall ram lamb, and the champion ewe, a yearling.

Show judge John Landers, a retired extension sheep specialist and secretary of the American Romney Association, was most impressed with the uniformity of wool on the champions. "We do have good fleeces," said Dick Matlack, who showed the cham-

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Margaret Herr of Narvon proved unbeatable in Dorset competition, exhibiting both the champion ewe...



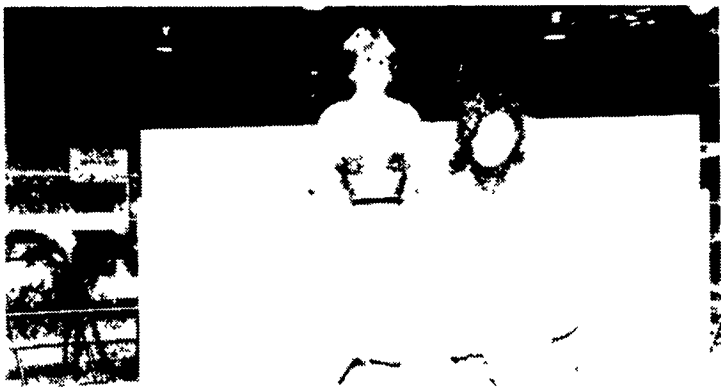
...and champion Dorset ram.



Century Farm's Bob Elander and champion Oxford ewe. Century was the Oxford Show's premier breeder.



Charles Clouser, Nova; Ohio, with champion Merino ewe.



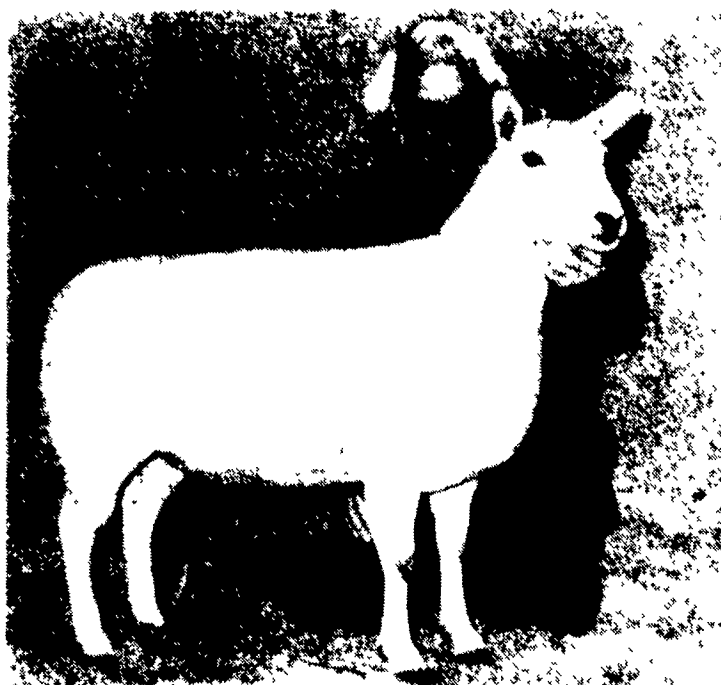
Doris Powell and her son, Richie, with the Rambouillet ewe. Doris is the daughter of Kenneth Moore, Rome, Pa., who owns the champion.



Dick Matlack, right, and Sam Dean show the champion Corriedale ram and ewe, owned by Jagger Brothers of Mt. Gilead, Ohio.



Janis Kennedy, Fremont, Ohio, and the champion Shropshire ewe.



The champion Cheviot ewe exhibited here by Charles Smith is owned by Robert and Edith Kelley of Skowhegan, Maine.