

All-New Lancaster 4-H Fair Debuts In Manheim

BY JACK HUBLEY

MANHEIM — Under the direction of Lancaster County 4-H agent, Zoann Parker, the county's annual 4-H Achievement Day moved to the Manheim Farm Show grounds and became a two-day 4-H Fair this year.

Previously held at the Farm and Home Center, the one-day home economics event featured crafts, clothing and foods. This year, the greatly expanded fair offered its original menu of events plus club exhibits, vegetables, a benefit auction, a therapeutic riding exhibition, a volleyball tournament, as well as steer, swine and sheep shows. About the only 4-H event not incorporated into the fair was the county's 4-H dairy show, which is held in July.

"Our ultimate goal is to get all the 4-H projects in one area so that everyone can see what 4-H has to offer," said Parker. If the increased number of spectators at the livestock shows is any measure of her success, it appears that her idea has been well received.

Completed only last year, the farm show's new livestock barn and showing provided excellent facilities for the 4-H swine show, previously held at Lancaster Stockyards. A steer show that followed the hogs on Wednesday afternoon was a new event.

4-H Hogs

When you start at the top there's always the problem of what to do for an encore. That was Chad Folker's enviable predicament in 1982 when he entered the Pennsylvania Farm Show's market hog show and walked away with grand champion honors on his first attempt.

Four years later, the son of Tony and Edith Folker of New Holland proved he was in the race for the long run; first, by taking reserve honors at the 1986 Farm Show, then by kicking off a new show season with a grand champion trophy at the 4-H Swine Show.

Actually, some of 12-year-old Chad's stiffest competition often comes from his sister, Laura, who also shows swine. Wednesday's show was no exception, with Laura's entry taking champion middleweight honors and Chad copping the heavyweight division before going to the top with his 246-pound Hampshire-Duroc cross.

Since Chad's father normally makes the decision regarding who shows what, the "loser" gets to pin it on Pop. "It always works out that I get the worst ones," Chad grinned, pointing out that Wednesday's decision by judge Cheryl Fairbairn broke his sister's winning streak. To keep the peace, the Folkers split both the work and the

spoils of victory right down the middle.

Chad's grand champion was bred by Lyle Bidner of Illinois, who's been supplying the Folkers with about two dozen show prospects annually since 1982.

While Chester County livestock agent, Cheryl Fairbairn, liked both Folker's and Greg Shipe's reserve champion, she gave the edge to Folker's entry because the hog was "just a little bit thicker and deeper. They're two good, meaty hogs," she said.

Fairbairn's choice for the number-two spot was just what Elizabethtown exhibitor Greg Shipe wanted to hear. After three years of 4-H competition, this was the 14-year-old Shipe's first major victory.

The son of Dar and Betsy Shipe, Greg raises his pigs in partnership with friend Tyler Stumpf in an empty chickenhouse on property owned by Shipe's grandfather. His reserve champion was a 244-pound Hampshire-Yorkshire cross bred by Omar Beam of Chester County. "I'm definitely surprised," grinned the Elizabethtown High School ninth-grader following his victory. "When the judge called my number I didn't know what to do." The top pigs were two of more than 70 head entered in this year's show.

In the sale that followed the hog show on Wednesday evening, Lancaster Extension livestock agent, Chet Hughes, took time out to honor those who help to make the 4-H program a success. Hughes presented a plaque to the Tony Folker family for a financial contribution to the fair. "We just wanted to give something back for what the 4-H program has given us," said Folker, following the presentation.

Also honored was Hatfield Packing Company for its continuing support of youth swine events throughout the county.

After receiving his plaque, Hatfield's Jerry Clemens bought both the show's grand and reserve champions, offering a top bid of \$3.50 per pound for Folker's grand champion and \$3.05 for Shipe's reserve. Hatfield and White Oak Mills dominated the sale, with the former buying 41 hogs and White Oak buying 21 head. Total sale volume was \$12,711, for a sale of average of 78 cents, counting the champions and 70 cents without the top two pigs.

4-H Steers

Although Ruban's namesake was a shady character, Kristin Chupp's steer by that name was on his best behavior Wednesday, taking top honors at a weight of 1,190 pounds. "I was reading a

book, and two of the bad guys were named Ruban and Rainy," said the 15-year-old New Holland 4-H'er, adding that she has another steer by the latter name.

The daughter of Larry and Barbara Weaver, Kristin bought her grand champion from Rally farms of New York. The purebred Angus is a Pine Drive Big Sky son.

Another purebred Angus, this one shown by 13-year-old Nikki High of Lititz, took the reserve champion trophy. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry High of Lititz, Nikki bought her steer from Big Brook Farm of New Jersey. The 1,245-pound entry is a JR Bold Image son that Nikki campaigned to reserve champion honors at the Northeast Regional Junior Angus Show held in Massachusetts in June.

Following are the results of the beef and hog shows.

- 4-H Hogs**
Lightweight Div
 Class 1
 1 Craig Kreider 2 Tracy Bollinger 3 Heidi Fisher
 Class 2
 1 Theda Good 2 Christopher Zeager 3 Jason Wolgemuth
 Class 3
 1 Kurt Good 2 Jason Cox 3 Steve Heisey
 Class 4
 1 Chad Folker 2 Jason Cox 3 Steve Wagner
Lightweight Champion
 Kurt Good
Lightweight Reserve
 Craig Kreider
Mediumweight Div
 Class 5
 1 Andrew Groff 2 Sheldon Heisey 3 Theda Good
 Class 6
 1 Laura Folker 2 Greg Shipe 3 Andrew Groff
 Class 7
 1 Steve Wagner 2 Kent Good 3 Kent Good
 Class 8
 1 Steve Wagner 2 Linda Baum 3 Tracy Bollinger
Mediumweight Champion
 Laura Folker
Mediumweight Reserve
 Greg Shipe
 Class 9
 1 Steve Heisey 2 Heidi Fisher 3 Heidi Fisher
 Class 10
 1 Greg Shipe 2 Laura Folker 3 Jason Cox
 Class 11
 1 Chad Folker 2 Scott Wagner 3 Brad Wagner
 Class 12
 1 Brad Wagner 2 Craig Kreider 3 Tyler Stumpf
Heavyweight Champion
 Chad Folker
Heavyweight Reserve
 Greg Shipe
Grand Champion Hog
 Chad Folker
Reserve Grand Champion
 Greg Shipe
Showmanship
 Class 1
 1 Tracy Bollinger 2 Linda Baum 3 Tracy



A pair of purebred Angus steers took top honors in 4-H Beef Show. At left is Nikki High with reserve and Kristin Chupp with grand champion.



Jerry Clemens (left), of Hatfield Packing, received a plaque from Manheim Farm Show's Marlin Becker for the firm's support of 4-H program. Hatfield bought 41 of the farm show's 71 market hogs, including champion and reserve.

- 4-H Steers**
 Class 1
 1 Deb Wolgemuth 2 Lloyd Reiff 3 Fred Weaver
 Class 2
 1 Doug Musser 2 Diane Musser 3 Anita Meck
 Class 3
 1 Heather Yoder 2 John Hess 3 Angie Longenecker
 Class 4
 1 Kristin Chupp 2 Nikki High 3 Emily Weaver
Grand Champion
 Kristin Chupp
Reserve Grand Champion
 Nikki High
- Class 2**
 1 Karen Becker 2 Chris Zeager 3 Jason Cox
Class 3
 1 Chad Folker 2 Heather Haldeman 3 Kurt Good
Class 4
 1 Steve Wagner 2 Laura Folker 3 Tod Neifert
Class 5
 1 Heidi Fisher 2 Sheldon Heisey 3 Andy Groff
Class 6
 1 Theda Good 2 Steve Heisey 3 Gwen Myer
Champion Showman
 Steve Wagner
Reserve Champion Showman
 Laura Folker



Chad Folker (left) took grand champion honors in Lancaster County's 4-H Swine Show with his Hamp-Duroc cross. Also pictured are judge Cheryl Fairbairn and county livestock

Damaged Tobacco Crop



Sections of Lancaster County have been hit with devastating hail and wind storms in recent weeks that have left some tobacco and corn fields in ruin. Reports that as much as 200 acres of tobacco have been damaged south of New Holland. This area has concentrated tobacco acreage. The photo of damaged tobacco above was taken near the covered bridge east of Oregon Dairy off Snake Hill Road. County Agent Arnold Lueck said the corn fields can recover to some extent by the end of the growing season but the tobacco crop for these farmers is mostly a salvage operation.