

FFA Steer Is Solanco Fair Overall Champion

BY JACK HUBLEY
QUARRYVILLE — Bob's career as a show steer got off to a slow start one frigid January day in 1985. Beef cattle are made of pretty stout stuff, but when this purebred Angus calf hit the ground the wind chill was hovering between minus 10 and minus 20. Part of Bob's tail froze and later fell off.

The steer's bob-tailed appearance didn't concern his owner, Fritz Frey, who realized full well that consumers couldn't care less about the part that goes over the fence last.

Chester County extension livestock agent, Cheryl Fairbairn must not be very impressed with meticulously sprayed and teased tails, either. Judging the Solanco Fair's steer show on Thursday night, Fairbairn slapped Bob for champion FFA honors before naming him grand champion over the FFA and 4-H beef shows.

The son of Fred and June Frey of Quarryville, 19-year-old Fritz has

been a perennial winner at Solanco, as well as at other beef events throughout the county and state. Managing the show and sale cattle at Twin Oak Farms, the family beef operation, has helped him to develop the practiced eye necessary for evaluating show prospects.

Frey's winning steer was a 1200-pound homebred entry sired by Continental, a Twin Oak bull and a previous reserve national champion. The young showman wasn't at all deterred by Bob's tail last fall when he selected him for this year's show season. "I liked it," he grinned. "I thought it made him look wider."

And bob-tailed steers might appeal to young showing contenders for yet another reason. "It saved me 10 minutes of fitting time," said Fritz.

Fairbairn went to her champion 4-H steer for reserve grand champion honors. This was the third year of competition for 4-H'er

Jimmy Landis, who campaigned his 1145-pound mediumweight entry named Sirloin to the evening's number-two spot.

The son of James and Linda Landis, Quarryville, Jimmy bought his Chianina-Angus steer from York County cattleman Don Walters at last year's district show and sale.

Also a repeat winner, Landis took grand champion honors in 1984. Some of his stiffest competition often comes from his sister Tracey, who was last year's grand champion exhibitor and came close to repeating the feat by taking reserve honors in the FFA show on Thursday. Her entry was a purebred Angus sired by Independence and bred by Ken Walker of West Chester.

Exhibiting the reserve champion in the 4-H division was Stacey Linton, Kirkwood, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Linton.

Following are the placings in the
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Fritz Frey's champion FFA steer went on to be named grand champion of the overall steer show at the Solanco Fair on Thursday.

Martin Tops First Sheep Show

QUARRYVILLE — An elusive goal became a reality for Deb Martin on Wednesday at the Solanco Fair. She showed the grand champion market lamb in her final year as a 4-H member.

Although Deb, 19, won many honors during her 4-H career, the top spot was unattainable until this

year. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Martin, Conestoga, won the championship with a 122-pound homebred Suffolk.

Lyndon Reiff, 12, captured the reserve championship with a 120-pound Dorset wether. A first year 4-H member, he is the son of Lloyd and Laura Reiff.

In the breeding sheep classes, Donna MacCauley, 15, claimed the championships for the Suffolk and Cheviot breeds.

The daughter of William and Joan MacCauley, Atglen, notes that her entire show string, with the exception of the champion cheviot, is homebred. Donna won



Champions of the Solanco sheep show are: from right, Donna MacCauley, Suffolk; Deb Martin, market lamb; Jennifer Kooker, Hampshire; and Corey Eberly with MacCauley's Dorset.

the Cheviot in the John Rock Memorial Fund Contest last year. The Octorara High School sophomore said that Cheviots are her preference of the two breeds since "they are smaller and easier to handle."

A brother and sister team of first-year showmen achieved champion and reserve champion Hampshire honors. Jennifer, 12, and her brother Jonathan, 8, are the children of Harley and Kate Kooker, Christiana. They purchased their sheep from Henry Showalter, Akron, and plan to compete again at the Lampeter Fair next week.

Ken Brubaker, West Chester, judged the afternoon show. Results from the show follow.

- Breeding Sheep
- Cheviots
- Champion Ram
- Donna MacCauley
- Champion Ewe
- Donna MacCauley
- Pair of Lambs
- Donna MacCauley
- Suffolk
- Ram Lamb
- 1 Donna MacCauley 2 Cindy Harnish
- Champion Ram
- Donna MacCauley
- Reserve Champion
- Cindy Harnish
- Yearling Ewe
- Donna MacCauley
- Ewe Lamb
- Donna MacCauley

- Champion Ewe
- Donna MacCauley
- Reserve Champion
- Donna MacCauley
- Pair of Lambs
- Donna MacCauley
- Flock
- Donna MacCauley
- Hampshire
- Yearling Ewe
- Jonathan Kooker
- Ewe Lamb
- Jennifer Kooker
- Champion Ewe
- Jennifer Kooker
- Reserve Champion
- Jonathan Kooker
- Market Lambs
- Pen of Lambs
- Deb Martin
- Light Weight
- 1 Tom Arrowsmith 2 Donna MacCauley 3 Deb Martin
- Heavy Weight
- 1 Deb Martin 2 Lyndon Reiff 3 Tom Arrowsmith
- Champion Market Lamb
- Deb Martin
- Reserve Champion
- Lyndon Reiff
- Sale Champion Lamb
- Deb Martin
- Reserve Champion
- Tom Arrowsmith
- Fitting
- Junior Division
- 1 Lyndon Reiff 2 Jennifer Kooker 3 Jonathan Kooker
- Senior Division
- 1 Donna MacCauley 2 Deb Martin 3 Cindy Harnish
- Showmanship
- Junior Division
- 1 Corey Eberly 2 Lyndon Reiff 3 Tom Arrowsmith
- Senior Division
- 1 Donna MacCauley 2 Cindy Harnish 3 Deb Martin

Kauffman Repeats '85 Solanco Swine Show Victory

BY JACK HUBLEY
QUARRYVILLE — Spectators at this year's Solanco Fair market hog show may have experienced a bit of deja vu on Thursday afternoon, as last year's judge returned to bestow grand champion honors on a pig bred by the same breeder and shown by the same exhibitor as the 1985 champion.

Once again Beth Kauffman bought her show prospects from York County swine breeder Jim Parlett, and once again she found herself in the winners circle as judge Cheryl Fairbairn singled out her 248-pound Duroc-cross gilt for the grand champion trophy.

The 15-year-old daughter of Robert and Susan Kauffman of Peach Bottom, Beth has been showing hogs at Solanco for six years, but she didn't expect to duplicate last year's performance. "I was really surprised," she beamed after the show.

A Sophomore at Solanco High School, Beth is not associated with either the 4-H or FFA programs.

She credits the fair's many experienced showmen and organizers for helping her learn how to fit and show hogs in her early years.

Rob Rohrer, another veteran swine showman, found himself in the number-two position when Fairbairn singled out his homebred Hampshire-cross named Miss Piggy for reserve grand champion honors.

The son of Robert and Joan Rohrer, Nottingham, the 17-year-old exhibitor has been showing 4-H project hogs for eight years. "This is the best I've ever done," he smiled, adding that, while he often beats his sister, Tiffan, in steer shows, she usually manages to get the edge in hog competitions. Rohrer's 224-pound gilt was also the show's mediumweight champion.

Overall, it was a banner day for the Rohrer family. Rob, Tiffany and their brother, Ryan, brought nine pigs from the family's 90-sow farrow-to-finish operation and came away with numerous

awards. One of Tiffany's three entries was named champion in the lightweight division, and Ryan followed his brother with the reserve champion middleweight.

Results of the swine show follow.

- Market Hogs
- Lightweight Division
- Group A
- 1 Tiffany Rohrer 2 Steve Wagner 3 Mitch Pipkin
- Group B
- 1 Kyle Wenger 2 Beth Kauffman 3 Joe Delong
- Group C
- 1 Mitch Pipkin 2 Robbi Rohrer
- Champion Lightweight
- Tiffany Rohrer
- Reserve Champion
- Steve Wagner
- Middleweight Division
- Group A
- 1 Randy Risser 2 Craig Kreider 3 Roy Aument
- Group B
- 1 Robbi Rohrer 2 Ryan Rohrer 3 Mark Welk
- Group C
- 1 Keith Miller 2 Beth Kauffman 3 Jere Hoover
- Champion Middleweight
- Robbi Rohrer
- Reserve Champion
- Ryan Rohrer
- Light Heavyweight Division
- Group A
- 1 Mark Welk 2 Jeff Byers 3 Dave Metzler
- Group B
- 1 Scott Wagner 2 Jim Landis 3 Matt Walk

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Beth Kauffman duplicated her 1985 Solanco Fair performance by showing the grand champion market hog.