

Youthful Competitors Show Champions In Junior Breeding Sheep Show

BY SUZANNE KEENE
HARRISBURG — For some exhibitors the Keystone Junior Breeding Sheep Show Sunday marked the end of successful show careers as juniors. Their years of youthful competition over, a few will continue showing in open divisions, while others will turn their interests elsewhere.

But just as surely as the elders move onward, new young faces take their places among the ranks of expectant competitors. They will continue the tradition of exhibiting only their finest animals, fitted to perfection for the judge's scrutiny.

But exhibitor age seemed no factor in this year's competition as retiring juniors claimed some championships and first-year members copped others.

Dorset

In the Dorset division, veteran exhibitor Margaret Herr of Narvon ended her junior career with a flourish. She claimed the champion and reserve champion ram honors as well as the champion ewe rosette. Her only concession was to Alicia Strausbaugh of York, who captured the reserve ewe honors.

"It was a tough show," Margaret remarked, noting that the competition was the toughest she had encountered here for several years.

But her homebred entries fared well in the eyes of judge Ron Guenther. "They both have a lot of size and scale," Margaret said of her champions.

In the large ewe classes, Margaret encountered competition from Joyce Harpster of Boalsburg, who won the spring ewe lamb class, and from Alicia Strausbaugh, who topped Margaret's entries in the fall lamb class.

Margaret, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Herr, Narvon, is currently a sophomore at Penn State University.

Hampshire

Rebecca Hopes' yearling ewe continued a winning streak by claiming the championship in the Hampshire show. Her ewe was undefeated last year and earned the supreme championship honor at Maryland Fair earlier this year for the second consecutive year.

The ewe's success story includes a reserve championship at the Virginia State Fair and another reserve placing in the Keystone open show earlier in the week.

Rebecca is the 15-year-old daughter of Marvin and Betty Hope, who own Hope's Hampshires near Brunswick, Md.

In ram competition, Rebecca had to settle for reserve champion. The champion honor went to a homebred entry owned by Debbie Gengler of Pittstown, N.J. Debbie reported that her spring lamb had taken the reserve championship at Eastern National and at the open show here earlier.

Debbie is the 19-year-old daughter of Steve and Verna Gengler.

The reserve champion ewe belonged to Robert Dinsmore of Jefferson, Md.

Oxford

Kendra Lay of Ridgewood, Ohio, knew she had a "pretty good" spring lamb, so she packed her up and brought her to KILE to see how she would stack up against the competition. Apparently the judge agreed with Kendra's assessment of her lamb and named her champion ewe of the show.

Kendra, the 15-year-old daughter of Bob and Beddie Lay, purchased her champion from Michigan breeder Charles Cryderman. She showed another of her ewes to the reserve spot.

The champion Oxford ram belonged to Glenn Heffner, the 16-year-old son of Wilson and Mary Heffner of Fleetwood. Glenn's



In the junior Southdown show, Melissa Trostle of Red Lion had the champion ewe, while Lee Hayes, left, showed the champion ram.



In the junior Dorset show Margaret Herr of Narvon, right, showed both the champion ewe and ram. Here she gets a hand with her champion from David Diffenbach.



Rebecca Hope, right, showed the champion Hampshire ewe in the junior show, while Debbie Gengler, left, had the champion ram.



The champion Oxford ewe in the junior show belonged to Kendra Lay, right, and the champion ram went to Glenn Heffner, left.



Geoff Powell, right, earned the champion Shropshire ewe in his first year of competition. The champion ram belonged to Dennis Kendall Jr., left.



Tracy Brookover of Mt. Morris, left, showed the champion Suffolk ram. The champion ewe belonged to Jason Heeg, right.

homebred spring lamb won at county shows earlier this fall and placed first in its class at the New Jersey State Fair, he reported.

"I kind of figured he'd do well today considering the other shows," Glenn said of his champion.

Amy Eshelman of Sinking Springs provided plenty of competition in the ram contest with her entry that claimed the reserve championship.

Shropshire

Although he wasn't much taller than his ewe, 9-year-old Geoff Powell of Rome showed his entry to the championship in the Shropshire show. Competing in his first Keystone sheep show, Geoff had little to say to after the show, but the smile on his face indicated he may be back next year.

Earlier in the show season Geoff's ewe was named county supreme champion 4-H ewe.

The champion ram was a homebred spring lamb owned by Dennis Kendall Jr. of Hydes, Md. The son of Dennis and Kathy Kendall, Dennis said he purchased his ram's grandmother at the Keystone sale three years ago.

Earlier this year, Dennis' ram was supreme champion at the Baltimore County 4-H Fair and at the Hereford Fair.

Robert Dinsmore of Jefferson, Md., claimed both the reserve champion ewe and ram.

Southdown

Melissa Trostle of Red Lion ended her junior show career with a win in the the Southdown show. Her stylish spring lamb caught the judge's eye long enough to earn the champion ewe rosette. Melissa is the 19-year-old daughter Ronald and Yvonne Trostle.

The reserve champion ewe was a yearling ewe owned by Deanna Stumbo of Honeoye, N.Y.

Entries owned by Lee Hayes of Tyrone dominated the ram competition. He claimed the championship with a fall lamb and the reserve with a spring lamb.

Hayes said he purchased the champion from Oklahoma breeder Duron Howard at the Eastern Stud Ram Sale in Staunton, Va. this spring. Earlier this year, the ram was champion at Huntingdon County Fair and reserve champion at Bedford and Shippensburg Fairs.

The 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Hayes, Lee owns 17 Southdowns.

Suffolk

Twelve-year-old Jason Heeg of Tully, N.Y. earned champion ewe honors in the Suffolk show with his homebred fall lamb. Jason said he expected her to do well at the show since earlier in the year she had been named supreme champion at the New York State Fair. His ewe was also first in its class in the open show and at the Big E.

The champion ram belonged to 20-year-old Tracy Brookover, who claimed her first championship in her final year of junior competition.

Tracy, the daughter of Tim and Joanne Brookover of Mt. Morris, said her homebred ram was also champion at the Fayette County Farm Show

Tracy also received reserve champion ewe with her fall ewe lamb, while the reserve champion ram belonged to Nancy MacCauley of Atglen.

DORSET

- Spring Ram Lamb
 - 1 Margaret Herr 2 Joyce Harpster 3 Alicia Strausbaugh
- Fall Ram Lamb
 - 1 Margaret Herr 2 John Eaton Jr 3 Beth Stumbo
- Champion Ram
 - Margaret Herr
- Reserve Champion Ram
 - Margaret Herr
- Spring Ewe Lambs
 - 1 Joyce Harpster 2 Margaret Herr 3 Jeff Strausbaugh