

# Kid's Korner

## Push That Pedal!

**BY LOU ANN GOOD**  
**HARRISBURG** — Screams filled the Farm Show arena on Sunday.

"Push!  
 Pedal!  
 Go, Go, Go!"

Fans and parents screamed and cheered as children from ages three to eight took their turn at the wheel.

It was the first state competition in the children's tractor pull division. Many of the contestants had previous experience at their county fair, but for some, it was the first time ever.

The pedal tractor race involves more than pedalling a tractor as fast as possible. A sled with weights attached is hooked to the tractor. The heavy weight slows contestants considerably. In fact, despite huffing and puffing, many are able only to move a few feet.

There were three groups each with 15 children.

### 3 to 4 year-olds

The three to four-year-olds pulled 15 pounds of weight; the 5 to 6-year-olds pulled 65 pounds; and the seven to eight-year-olds pulled 100 pounds.

The contestants huffed and puffed and strained to pull the weighted sled over the finish line. "My legs are sore," said one, "but I can still walk."

In the three to four-year-old division, Lee Kuzenchak from Clymer in Indiana County won. He is the son of Jim and Patti Kuzenchak.

Jessica Bennetch pulled in second. It was the first time in competition for the daughter of James and Dorothy of Lebanon.

Four-year-old Andrew Herr is following in his brother's footsteps. "My brother won before, but I never did," Andrew said. The

third place winner is the son of Allan and Amelia Herr of Millersville.

### 5 to 6 year-olds

Six-year-old Jaclyn Troutman, Richland, outpulled her competitors in the five to six-year-old division. She is the daughter of Nelson and Mary Troutman. If her name sounds familiar, it's probably because she was the former Li'l Miss Berks County and she was featured in "Kid's Korner" this past summer.

She said, "It was hard. I'm going to have sore legs."

Her third cousin came in third. He is Ryan Miller, 6, son of Calvin and Susan Miller, Fredericksburg. It was the first time for him and he said, "I like it."

He received a tractor for a prize. His only complaint: "It should have been a green tractor."

### 7 to 8 year-olds

The winners in the seven to eight-year-old division had to pull 150 pounds in the playoffs.

A first-timer, Corey McCauley who is eight placed first. He said, "It was fun. I might do it again if I can still walk."

He lives with his parents, Mike and Brenda McCauley in Hamburg, Berks County.

A veteran winner, Frankie Halbleich of Mount Joy placed second. He said, "I won two trophies and whole bunch of tractors before this."

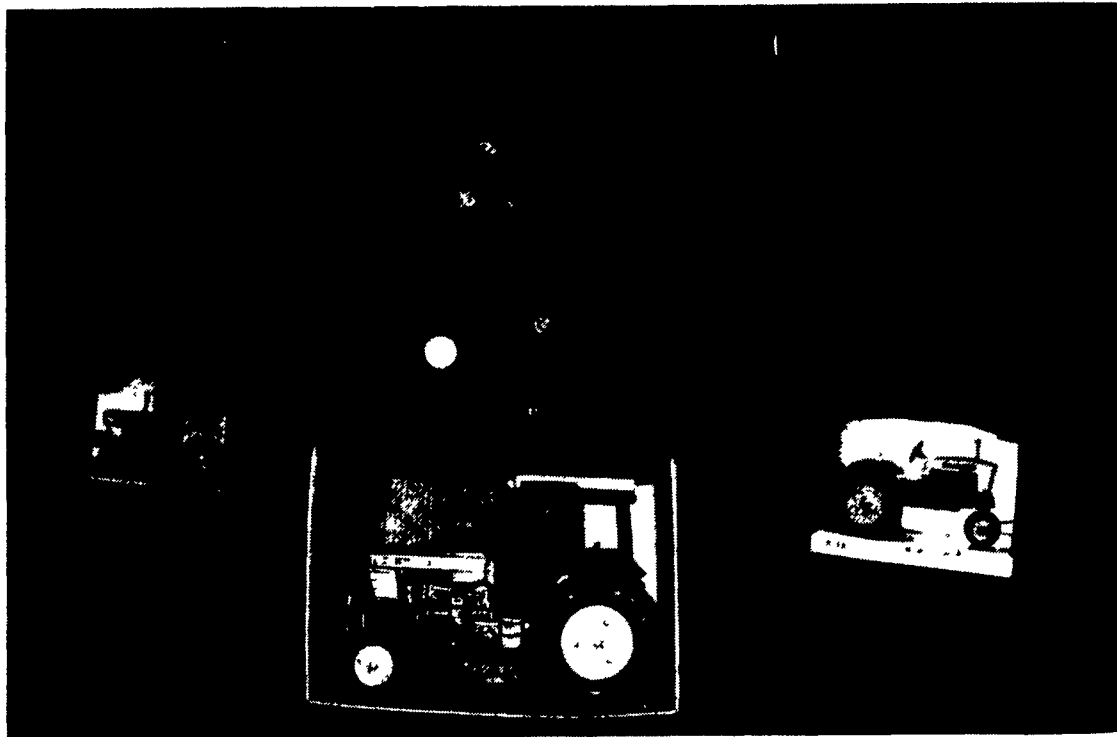
The seven-year-old is the son of Cindy and Fred Halbleich.

Pulling in third was Brian Dombach of Willow Street. The eight-year-old said it was his first time in competition and the relay was tougher than he thought it would be.

He thought he probably won because, "I lift weights at my cousin's house."



Tractor driving is no easy chore when you're hauling a hundred pounds on the sled.



To claim their prizes, these three champions of the seven to eight-year-old division needed to pull 150 pounds in the play offs. From left: Frankl Halbleich, Corey MacCauley and Brian Dombach.



"Watch out," here comes Jaclyn Troutman, tractor pull champion of the five-to-six-year-old division.

## We Want To Hear From You

Write and tell us about yourself. Do you have any pets? Did something funny or sad happen to you? What do you think of school, homework and chores? Are you

doing anything special over the holidays?

Send your letters to "Kid's Korner" 1 East Main Street; P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522.



Tractor trophies were given to the three top winners in each of the three groups. Three to four-year-old winners included Lee Kuzenchak, Jessica Bennetch and Andrew Herr.