

Beef Club Recognizes Members

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Franklin Co. Correspondent
KAUFFMAN STATION
(Franklin Co.) — When Dana Statler, 19, sold his first 4-H steer twelve years ago, he thought he was ready to part with the animal. "But I cried when I took the halter off him after the sale," Statler said.

"We had a long discussion in the kitchen that evening," Statler said. "I gave my dad the check and told him to go to Rupert's (Meat Market) and get the steer back."

Statler, the son of Dennis and Karen Statler of Greencastle, made his remarks at the Franklin County 4-H Baby Beef Club awards banquet, held November 3 at Kauffman's Community Center.

Now a sophomore Christian education major at Messiah College, Statler said that, "The first year, we cried over our checks. This year, I was concerned that I'd get to the Mac machine in time."

Statler was honored at the banquet as one of the club's three graduating members. He showed several weight class champions during his 4-H career, and always showed steers from his family's Charolais herd.

He concluded his remarks by thanking club leader Leon Lebo and Penn State Cooperative Extension Agent William Reagan. "It was a pleasure being in a club with a leader and agent who gave us so much support."

Another graduating member, Jody Hawbaker, 19, also spoke about her 4-H experiences. The Mercersburg resident said that when she joined the club five years ago, "I didn't know what I was getting into. One steer ran through the cornfield for me, and one kept going in circles at round-up." Her years in 4-H were "a fun learning experience," she said. Hawbaker is presently a secretary at Foremost Industries.

Also graduating from the club was Eric Sheiss, Chambersburg, a freshman biology major at Johns Hopkins. Sheiss, 18, who was a 4-H member for 10 years, was unable to attend the dinner. The Baby Beef Club holds the dinner annually to thank the buyers of its steers and the sponsors of its awards.

Receiving daily gain awards were Lorinda Hawbaker 2.83 pounds/day; Michael Schellhase 2.78 pounds/day; Darren Meyers 2.53 pounds/day; Cheryl Hawbaker 2.47 pounds/day; and Karen Eshleman 2.17 pounds/day.

Best Project Book awards went to: Cheryl Hawbaker, David

Sheiss, Nicole Lebo, Eric Sheiss, and Michael Schellhase.

Cheryl Hawbaker, 13, received the Best Project Book Award from the Franklin County 4-H Baby Beef Club. Her book included a eulogy she wrote for her steer, Tuffy.

Tuffy

What a nice steer you were.
You liked to be called Sir—
I know that for sure.
You were nice, long and tall—
That's all I saw.
Those nice long legs
Just tipped it all.

Shows soon came
And you were very tame.
The round-up flew by
And I gave a big sigh
And thought, Must I?
I said good-bye
And was glad to know
You were mine!

I loved you, Tuffy.

- Cheryl Hawbaker, 1990



Dana Statler, 19, and Jody Hawbaker, 19, were honored at the Beef Club's banquet upon their graduation from 4-H. Also graduating was Eric Sheiss, not pictured.



Crystal Meyers, 12, of Greencastle, received the club's first Rookie of the Year Award.



Club leader Leon Lebo, left, presented awards to Lorinda Hawbaker, middle, for the highest daily gain, and to Cheryl Hawbaker for the best project book.



Nicole Lebo, president of the 4-H Baby Beef Club, presented an appreciation gift to her father, club leader Leon Lebo, from the Baby Beef Club members. Nicole showed the grand champion steer at the club's roundup in October.

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