

Lebanon Beef Championship

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However, Long, farm manger of Nittany Farms in Centre Hall, said the hardest class to judge came from the 8/9-year-old division of the 4-H showmanship. "I think this may be the toughest class I've ever judged," said Long, because of the high quality of the steers shown and the surprising expertise of the exhibitors. But the 14/15-year-old and 16-19-year-old classes garnered the 4-H showmanship championship, Roxanne Kirst and brother Chris Kirst picking up champion and reserve showmanship, respectively.

The championship blocking exhibitors did their best to make sure he animals were well-groomed, and hair used to best advantage to show off the best part

of the steers, according to Long. Fluffing up the poll and keeping the steer clean and head level on rump is important to achieve the "straightness and balance" so crucial to showing the steer, said Long.

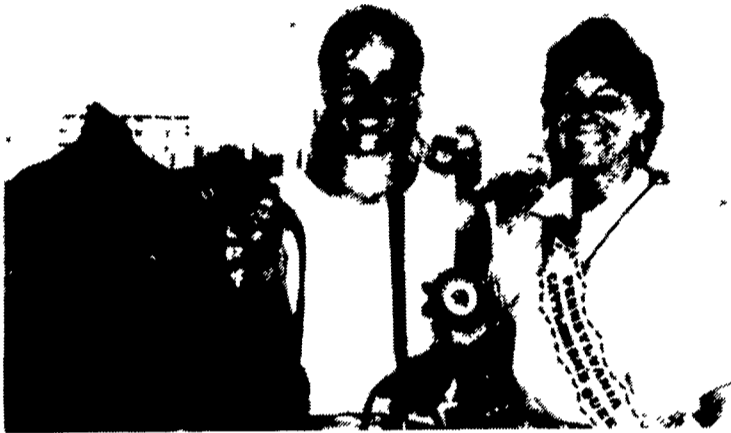
In showing animals, Long said that it is hard keeping the steer in line, and cantankerous animals make the exhibitor's job that much tougher. The combination of the heat and the fact the steers were brought in only a day before the show contributed to problems in controlling the animals.

The market classes, including lightweight, are important, and exhibitors should keep in mind "calves that will grade." The champion exhibited the thick,

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Farm show steer honors went to, from left to right, Brian Kreider, first; Daryl Bomgardner, second; and Dan Atkins, third.



Grand champion overall market steer honors went to Leigh Hitz, left. The award was presented by Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association Queen Kelly Shearer. Leigh's steer weighs 1,230 pounds, and is a Chlanina/Angus April 14 calf from a commercial herd. Photo by Andy Andrews.



Roxanne Kirst, left, picked up champion 4-H showman at the Lebanon Fair Beef Show. Her brother, Chris, picked up reserve champion at the show on Wednesday.



Roxanne Kirst won champion Angus breed with this summer yearling heifer.



First place in the medium weight class went to Leigh Hitz, left. Second place went to Daryl Bomgardner, center and Roxanne Kirst picked up third place.



Second place in the the fair market lightweight class went to John Risser.



4-H blocking champion Leigh Hitz, left and reserve champion Roxanne Kirst at the Lebanon Fair Beef Show.