

Buyers Converge At Somerset Co. Livestock Sale

GAY N. BROWNLEE
Somerset Co. Correspondent
MEYERSDALE (Somerset Co.) — The Junior Livestock Sale held here during the Somerset County Fair saw 388 animals being sold for a monetary total of \$152,101. Combined animal weight totaled 142,955 pounds. Bringing a record-breaking, per-pound sale price was the grand champion lamb owned by Heidi Svonavec of Rockwood. At \$13 per pound, the 120-pound Suffolk brought in \$1,560 from buyers, Ashland Oil Co. of Confluence and B&B Livestock of Danville, Ohio. Svonavec's 1990 grand champion lamb sold for \$10

but failed to crack the 1989 record of \$12. Greta Mostoller's 1,265-pound grand champion steer was bought by the Frank M. Sheesley Co. of Johnstown for \$8,096, or \$6.40 per pound. The Maine Cross steer was Mostoller's third grand champion and capped her nine years in 4-H. She begins nurses training this fall at a Johnstown Hospital/School. Heath Engle of Garrett had the grand champion swine, a Hampshire cross, bought by First Philson Bank for \$714, or \$3 per pound. Engle is a member of the Meyersdale FFA. The reserve grand champion

lamb owned by Erin Livengood of Boswell was sold for \$1,200 to the Frank M. Sheesley Co. of Johnstown. Kevin Stahl's reserve grand champion steer was sold to Hoss's Steak and Sea House for \$4,462. Giant Eagle Market of Somerset was the purchaser of Cara Johnston's reserve grand champion swine for \$738. She's from Fairhope. For a price tag of \$2,630, Tracy Bittner's county bred champion steer was sold to Bedford Ford Sales. Bittner is from Meyersdale. Brock Hillegass of Fairhope owned the home grown champion lamb, which was bought by Dolan Chevrolet of Somerset for \$550. Sale statistician Doyle Paul of Berlin noted that one group champion in the swine sale brought an unexplained \$2.50 more per pound than did the grand champion, which he said was unusual. Paul said he couldn't understand why, but champion swine sales showed the worst per pound decline since 1978. He said the record price for a champion swine was set in 1989 when it topped at \$10.50. On the other hand, Paul said the records, showed the champion steer price was the best in five years. The record of \$7 per pound, set by Mostoller's 1986 champion, still stands, he said. Other statistics from this year's sale showed that lamb sales averaged \$1.14 with the champion and \$.94 without. The number of lambs sold totaled 133. With the champion, steer sales averaged \$1.08 but dipped to \$.95



Shown is the grand champion swine with owner Heath Engle, center, and buyers Greg Croner, left, and George Hay right, representing the First Philson Bank.



The grand champion lamb was owned by Heidi Svonavec, and bought by John Tressler, left, for Ashland Oil Co. Confluence and B & B Livestock, Danville, Ohio.



From left, Dave Livengood and Paul Sheesley purchased Greta Mostoller's grand champion steer for the Frank M. Sheesley Co. of Johnstown.

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