

Womelsdorf Youth Has Grand Champion Hog At Berks FFA Hog Show

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Berks Co. Correspondent
LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Mark Gelsinger didn't mind one bit that it was now his turn to buy ice cream for his 14 other colleagues at the annual Berks County FFA Hog Show and Sale recently at the Leesport Farmer's Market and Auction.

Gelsinger, 15, of Womelsdorf and a member of the Conrad Weiser FFA, considered it an honor, for his cross-bred gilt hog had won grand champion.

"It's a tradition," Gelsinger said about the practice of the grand champion winner buying an ice cream cone for all the others. "I got

free ice cream other years." This was his third time at the hog show and his first grand champion.

Gelsinger's hog weighed in at 230 pounds. Hatfield Quality Meats purchased the hog for \$2 a pound for a total of \$460. Gelsinger figured that will garner about \$250 in profit.

It was not the heaviest one in the show, but it had the best volume, he noted. Good breeding was the chief factor in winning the top prize, he said. And he got his well-bred hog from his uncle Oscar Manbeck, from western Berks.

Gelsinger's cousin, Jason Manbeck, Oscar's son, won reserve

grand champion, another cross-bred gilt weighing 235 pounds. Wayne Feeds Inc. purchased Manbeck's hog for \$1.90 a pound for a total of \$446.

Manbeck is a member of the Tulpehocken High School FFA chapter.

Daniel Lynch, FFA advisor at Kutztown High School and show chairman, said the 53 hogs brought a total of \$7,156 or \$135 per animal, or 60 cents per pound at the sale.

Following is a list of show placings.

BERKS COUNTY FFA HOG SHOW AND SALE RESULTS

Weight Classes: Class I (200 pounds): 1. Jason Manbeck, Tulpehocken; 2. and 3. Randy Balthaser, Hamburg.

Class II (205): 1. Jed Vail, Tulpehocken; 2. Richard Kerper, Oley Valley; 3. Leon Hunter, Oley Valley.

Class III (210 to 215 pounds): 1. Jennifer Hess, Hamburg; 2. Troy Gelsinger, Conrad Weiser; 3. Brian Tworokoeki, Kutztown.

Class IV (220 Pounds): 1. Jason Manbeck; 2. Brian Tworokoeki; 3. Richard Kerper.

Class V (25 pounds): 1. Jennifer Rabenold, Kutztown; 2. Richard Kerper; 3. Randy Balthaser.

Class VI (230 pounds): 1. Mark Gelsinger; 2. Jason Manbeck; 3. Jed Vail.

Class VII (235 pounds): 1. Jason Manbeck; 2. and 3. Brian Tworokoeki.

Class VIII (240-245 pounds): 1. Leon Hunter; 2. Richard Kerper; 3. Brian Tworokoeki.

Class IX (250-260 pounds): 1. Jason Manbeck; 2. Jennifer Hess; 3. Jennifer Rabenold, Kutztown.

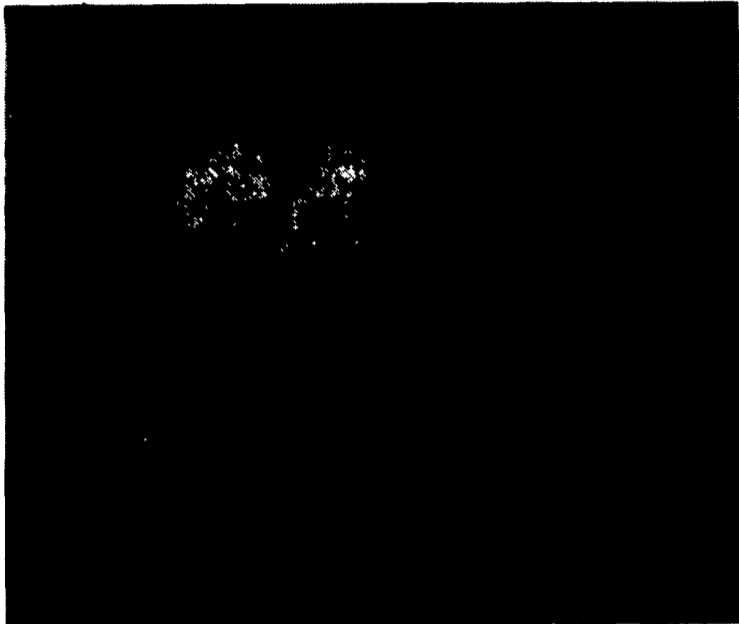
FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP

FITTING: Seniors: 1. Paula Hunter; 2. Jason Manbeck; 3. Todd Rabenold.

SHOWMANSHIP: 1. Tammy Gelsinger; 2. Todd Rabenold; 3. Eric Keller, Conrad Weiser.

Junior fitting results: 1. Richard Kerper; 2. Leon Hunter; 3. Jennifer Rabenold.

Junior showmanship results: 1. Troy Gelsinger; 2. Jennifer Hess; 3. Richard Kerper.



Jason Manbeck, left, sold the reserve grand champion to Jim Batz of Wayne Feeds, Chambersburg. Manbeck received \$1.90 a pound for his 235-pound crossbred gilt.



Mark Gelsinger of Womelsdorf, right, sold his 230-pound grand champion gilt for the Berks County FFA Market Hog Show and Sale to Hatfield Quality Meats for \$2 a pound. Kenton Good represents Hatfield.

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