

# Club Honors Members



Jordan Conner, Spencer Walk  
Justin Conner, front.



Spencer Walk, left, showed the grand champion steer at the club's roundup in October. Crystal Meyers showed the reserve champion and was named champion showman. Justin Conner received the champion fitting plaque.



Extension agent Bill Reagan, left, presents retiring club leader from Leon Lebo with a plaque of appreciation from the membership.

### BONNIE BRECHBILL

Franklin Co. Correspondent

KAUFFMAN STATION (Franklin Co.) — "Our 4-H club is a family," graduating Beef Club member Daren Statler said in his farewell remarks at the Franklin County 4-H Baby Beef Awards Banquet.

Statler, a preveterinary student at Messiah College, was a member of the club for 11 years. He is the son of Dennis and Karen Statler of Greencastle.

Statler said that he didn't know how many friends he had until his steer misbehaved at one of the shows, throwing him to the ground. He left the ring, embarrassed and disappointed. "For an hour afterward, people kept coming over to me and asking if I was OK," he said.

Also graduating from the club is Karen Eshelman, the daughter of Dorothy and Carl Eshelman, Greencastle. She was a member for eight years, and served as the club's treasurer.

Retiring club leader Leon Lebo continued the theme of family in his speech at the November 6 event, held at the Kauffman Community Center.

Lebo said that one of the club's best rules is the one permitting parents to help fit the steers. "It means a lot to me to see families working together."

"Each of you has a contribution to make to the club," he continued. "You get along with each other. It's competitive at times, but you share in each others' successes and failures. I challenge each of you to stay in the club and be involved with a good, clean group of youth."

Lebo, who had been leader for ten years, received a standing ovation from the 130 members, buyers, sponsors and guests present.

Club president Spencer Walk presented Lebo with a model truck from the membership. Walk cited the "dedication and love this man has for young people" in presenting the award.

Special awards went to Dr. Alan Oliver of the Greencastle Veterinary Hospital for TB testing the steers free of charge, and to Judy Lebo for her assistance to the club during the years her husband was leader.

Lebo expressed appreciation to the sponsors of the club and the buyers of the steers, saying that without them, there would be no 4-H Baby Beef Club. He noted that a first-year member, Cassie Lowams, wrote in her project book, "I owe great thanks to E.L.M. Garage for buying Rusty from me. This makes it possible for me to be in 4-H again next year."

Project leader Duane Hawbaker gave out the club's yearly awards.

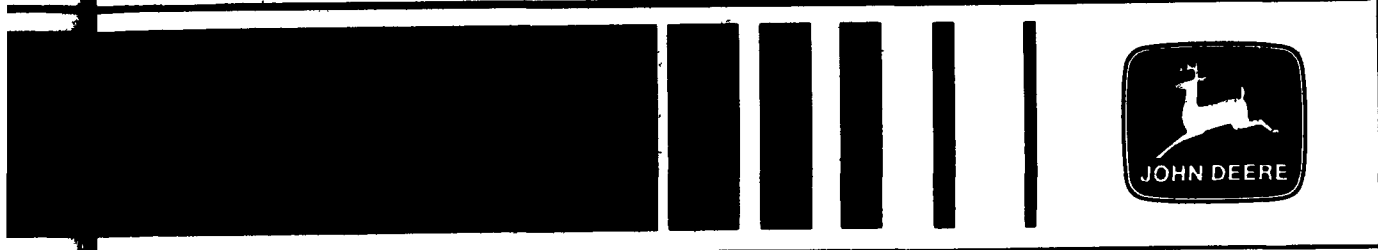
Showing the champions at the club's round-up in October were:

Grand Champion, Spencer Walk; Reserve Champion, Crystal Meyers; Heavy Weight Champion, Jordan Conner; Medium Weight Champion, Tim Mackey; Light Weight Champion, Brad Rife.

Daily Gain Awards, 181 Days: 1. David Grove, 3.45 lbs./day; 2. Daren Statler, 3.23 lbs./day; 3. Chad Grove, 3.14 lbs./day; 4. Micah Hawbaker, 3.03 lbs./day; 5. Seth Walk, 2.79 lbs./day.

Best Project Book Awards: 1. Jordan Conner, 99%; 2. Spencer Walk, 98.5%; 3. Justin Conner, 97.5%; 4. Crystal Meyers, 97%; 4. Brad Rife, 97%.

Champion Fitting Plaque, Justin Conner; Champion showing Plaque, Crystal Meyers.

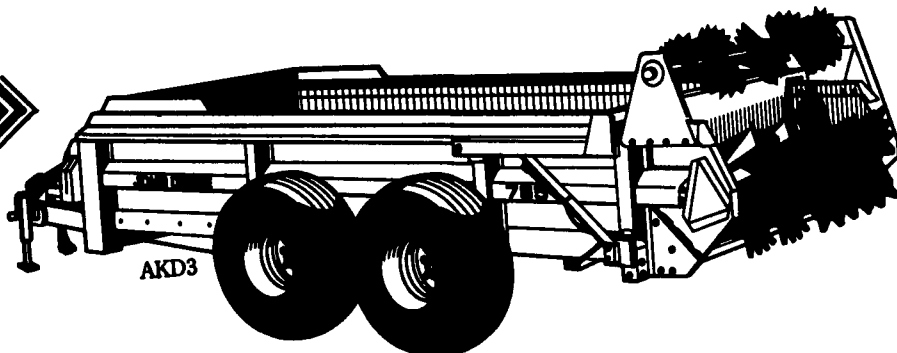


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