

# Berks Holds All-Species Showmanship Clinic

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — On Saturday, April 30, 52 4-H'ers and 12 leaders participated in a showmanship clinic at the Kutztown Fairgrounds.

The showmanship clinic was a combined effort of the beef, sheep, swine, and dairy clubs in Berks County.

Teen leaders from each of the clubs took time out of their busy schedules to plan the event and share their showmanship skills with their fellow 4-H'ers. The event was sponsored by the Berks County 4-H Livestock and Dairy councils, the Kutztown Fair Association, and Clover Farms Dairy.

Younger 4-H'ers watched as an experienced teen leader showed the animals and gave hints on good showmanship skills. Then the younger 4-H'ers were given the opportunity to show the animals themselves.

When watching Amanda Gaucher, age eight of Fleetwood, take the lead of an 800-pound heifer, you could tell it was a bit scary, especially since she is used to showing 50 pound lambs. The teen leaders also compiled a hand-out for the 4-H'ers to take home, entitled "Showing All-Species".

Did you know that you should always brush your goats teeth before entering the show ring? Well, not really, but a goat judge will check the animals bite so the showman has to be prepared for that, according to Jennifer Neiman of Fleetwood.

Teen leader Richard Kerper, Jr. of Fleetwood, told his fellow 4-H'ers that showing hogs is like being part of a "ham sandwich". You and the judge are the pieces of bread and your hog is the ham. Always keep the ham between the

two pieces of bread.

Erica Davis of Kutztown demonstrated that when showing dairy cattle, you walk backward. Troy Gelsinger of Wernersville showed the 4-H'ers that when you are showing beef cattle, walk forward. As for the sheep showing, Stephanie Bowman of Lenhartsville observed that you need a strong pair of knees, because you do a lot of deep knee bends when

showing sheep.

The 4-H'ers will be able to use all of this newly acquired knowledge at the Kutztown Fair on August 12, when the fair has its grand champion showmanship contest. In this contest, the champion showman from each species must show an animal from all five species. The 4-H'er that does the best job is the grand champion showman.

## FFA HAPPENINGS

(Continued from Page B25)

Nursery. A senior at Cumberland Regional High School, he will attend Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pa. this fall to major in ornamental horticulture. He plans to become a nursery owner and manager.

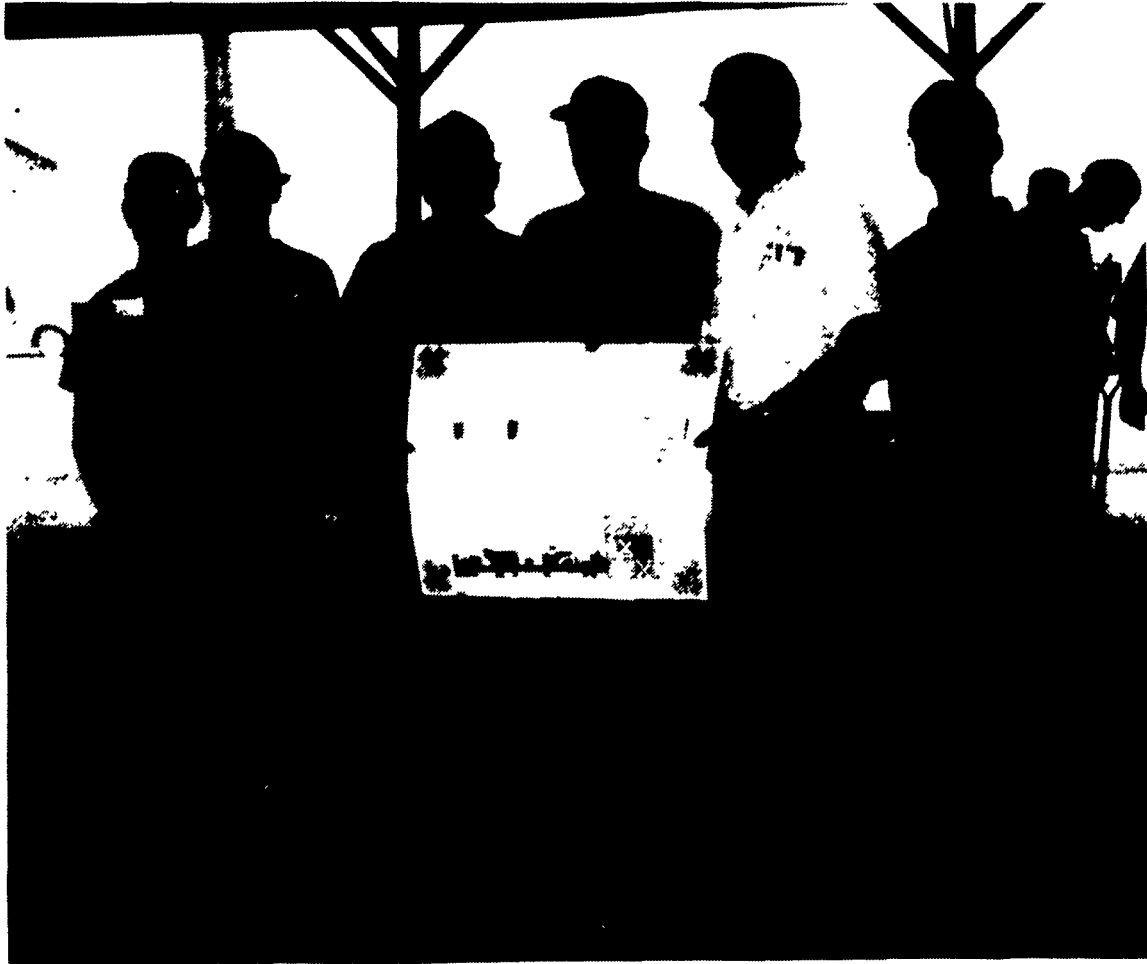
New State FFA Secretary, Tammie Kenney, of Stockton, N.J. is a member of the Hunterdon Central FFA chapter, Hunterdon Central Regional High School, Flemington, N.J. in Hunterdon County. Her adviser is Pat Hilton. The 18-year-old daughter of Thomas and Laurel Kenney, she has been active as a chapter officer and has competed in two national judging contests. Her supervised agricultural experience program has varied from raising and caring for pheasants and horses to working as a veterinary assistant. A senior at Hunterdon Central Regional High School, Kenney will be attending Cook College, Rutgers University this fall to study pre-veterinary medicine. Her career goal is to become a veterinarian or wildlife biologist.

Elected as the state FFA treasurer was Dominique Bender, of Clarksburg, N.J. The 19-year-old daughter of Frederick and Susan Bender, she is a three-year member of the Allentown FFA Chapter, Allentown High School, Allentown, N.J., in Monmouth County. Her advisers are Jacque and Cindi Roszel. She served as chapter vice president and competed in three national contests. Her supervised agricultural experience program included working at her family's horse boarding facility and as a veterinary assis-

tant for an equine clinic. Completing her freshman year at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pa., she is studying large animal science. Bender's future career goals are to work as a research scientist for the United States Department of Agriculture or as a teacher of agriculture.

Gabrielle Gordon, of Andover, N.J. was elected state FFA reporter. The 18-year-old daughter of Robert and Constance Gordon, she has been a member of the Newton FFA chapter, Newton High School, Newton, N.J., for four years. Her advisers are David Pede and Michael Ridge. She has served as a chapter officer for two years and participated in regional, state and national public speaking contests. She will be representing New Jersey in the National Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest in November at the National FFA Convention. Her supervised agricultural experience program is in the area of aquaculture. She was recognized as the 1994 winner of the state agriscience competition. A senior at Newton High School, Gordon will attend Cook College, Rutgers University, in the fall to study environmental science. Her plans are to receive a masters degree and doctorate in environmental science.

The 1994-1995 State FFA Officer team was elected at the 65th New Jersey State FFA Convention held annually at Cook College, Rutgers University. More than 325 FFA members, advisers and guests from 31 chapters attended this event.



Teen leaders who served on the planning committee presented a hand-made thank you card to the Kutztown Fair Association, who Don Reinert represented. The card was made by 4-H artist Michael Holcombe.

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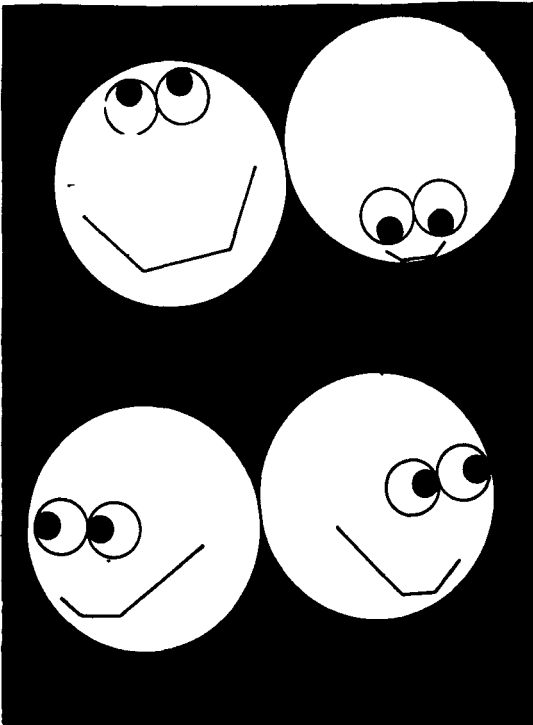
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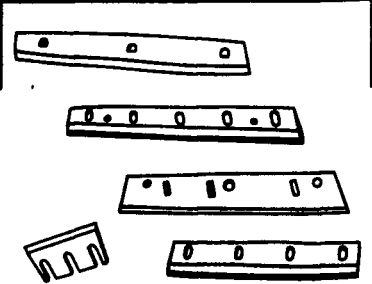


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