

# Heifer Becomes Premier Champion At Somerset Beef Show

**GAY BROWNLEE**

**Somerset Co. Correspondent**  
**MEYERSDALE** (Somerset Co.) — For the first time, a premier champion was named at the Somerset County Beef Jackpot Show at the county fairgrounds here.

Facing off for it were the grand champion steer, exhibited by Nick DeChristofaro, Niles, Ohio, and the grand champion heifer, exhibited by Andy Campbell, Eaton, Ohio. Judge Jim Dill, Tennessee chose Campbell's heifer.

Campbell, 19, from Breble County, Ohio, has come to the Somerset Beef Jackpot Show for the last three years. He said, "It's a great opportunity and it pays well. It's also neat to get out of Ohio," he laughed.

With trophies for his heifers and steers accruing at a lively pace, Campbell said the heifer also won the 1994 Pennsylvania Beef Expo earlier this spring at Harrisburg. She was born in Somerset County and purchased from Ralph Kincaid Farms, Rockwood.

"You have to know how to breed the right kind of heifer to the right kind of bull to get good calves," said Campbell, who picks his own steers by shopping around with his only sister, Christy.

He said other important factors in having top notch show animals are rinsing them, keeping them in front of the fans, and taking them to shows to give them experience.

His family — dad, John, mother, Beth and sister — raise corn and soybeans on their 500-acre farm.

DeChristofaro's grand champion steer, by winning at Somerset County, landed his third grand champion title this season. Urbanized DeChristofaro, aged 15, isn't complaining.

In fact, he said, "I wouldn't mind doing it again."

He lives with his mother Mariann DeChristofaro and says he's been showing since he was age 8. He's in 4-H and also shows lambs.

"It's kind of hard because I live in the middle of the city. I keep my animals at my grandfathers."

Mom happily adds that Nick is an honor student at Niles McKinley High School where he will be a sophomore.

The reserve grand champion steer was shown by exhibitor Casey High, 16, from Lititz. Earlier, his was also the grand champion at a Fayette County show. He's the son of Larry and Mae High.

A member of the Red Rose Baby Beef 4-H club, High said he's been showing animals for nine years. The family lives on a small

farm, he said, but their livelihood comes from a car dealership where High often helps his dad.

He'll be a sophomore in the fall at the Warwick High School and has one older sibling.

The Somerset County exhibitor champion was Jerry Ferko, 17 from Central City, and the reserve county exhibitor champion was Kevin Stahl, 20, from Somerset.

Their parents are John J. and Nina Ferko and Robert and Doris Stahl.

Jennifer Callihan exhibited the county club calf sale champion and Erin Livengood exhibited the reserve champion.

The Somerset County Jackpot Show is sponsored by the Somerset County Beef Producers and Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association. This year's event saw 21 heifers and some 66 steers from Ohio, New Jersey, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, model their muscle and dimension for Judge Dill.

He was impressed with the power and uniformity he saw repeated in almost every class. "I get to judge 20 to 30 of these shows a year and it's seldom I see a show with the quality of these steers," he said. "This has been a tremendous show and that's a compliment to the breeders and the exhibitors," he added.

Following is a partial listing of class winners:

## HEIFERS

**Class 1:** 1. Scott Mullinex, 2. Jerry Ferko, 3. Jason Knotts.

**Class 2:** 1. Jerry Ferko, 2. David Stickley, 3. Chadwick Alt.

**Class 3:** 1. Andy Campbell, 2. Bree Taggart, 3. Tim Bishop.

**Class 4:** 1. Bree Taggart, 2. Michelle Stickley, 3. David Lafferty.

**Grand champion:** Andy Campbell

**Reserve:** Bree Taggart.

**County grand and reserve champion:** Jerry Ferko.

## STEERS

**Class 1:** 1. Danny Miller, 2. Blaze Cambruzzi, 3. Michelle Gundon

**Class 2:** 1. Eric Berkheimer, 2. Sara Campbell, 3. Kevin Campbell

**Class 3:** 1. David Lafferty, 2. Nick Faber, 3. Susie Shipley.

**Div. champion:** Eric Berkheimer.

**Reserve:** Sara Campbell

**Class 4:** 1. Andy Campbell, 2. Michelle Griffith, 3. Chadwick Alt

**Class 5:** 1. Jerry Ferko, 2. Robert Faber, 3. Eric Berkheimer

**Class 6:** 1. Casey High, 2. Alicia Bodnar, 3. Angela Livengood

**Div. champion:** Casey High

**Reserve:** Alicia Bodnar

**Class 7:** 1. Justin Fuls, 2. Ryan Luellen, 3. Jeanette Hildreth

**Class 8:** 1. Nick DeChristofaro, 2. Ryan Luellen, 3. R. Lee Sines.

**Class 9:** 1. Andy Campbell, 2. Scott Mullinex, 3. Heather Fuls.

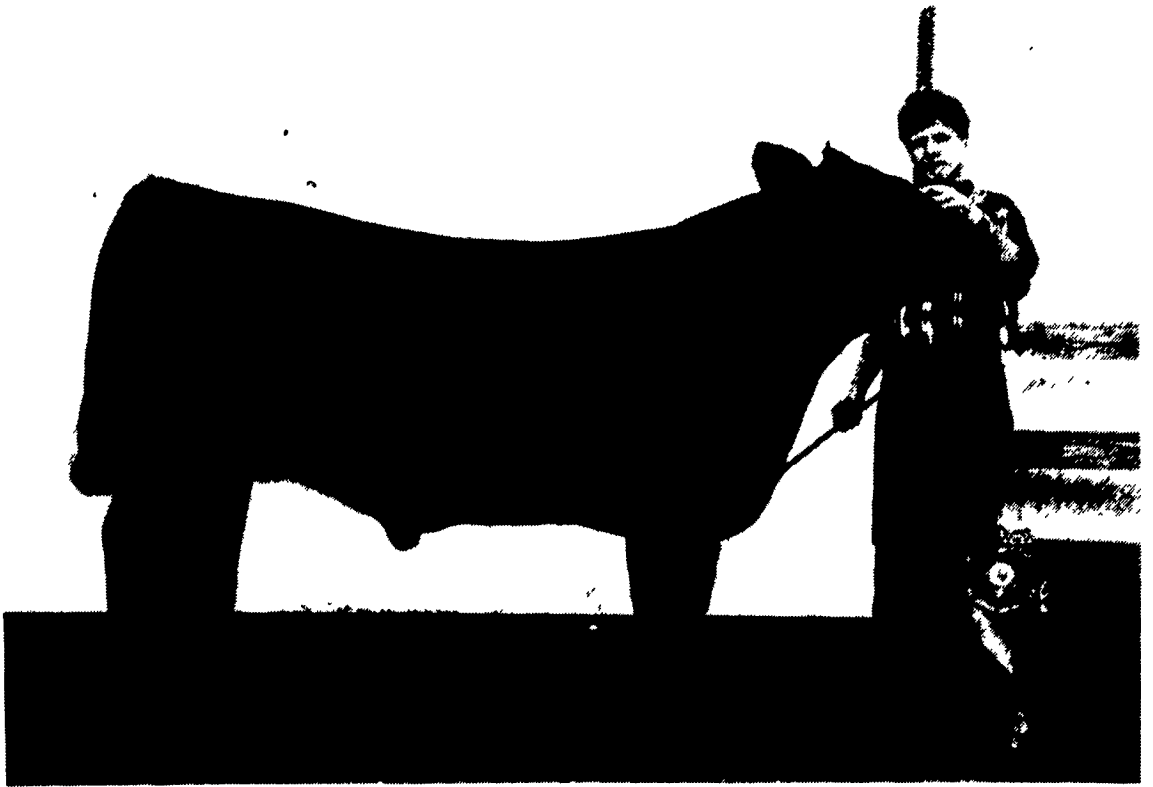
**Div. champion:** Nick DeChristofaro

**Reserve:** Justin Fuls

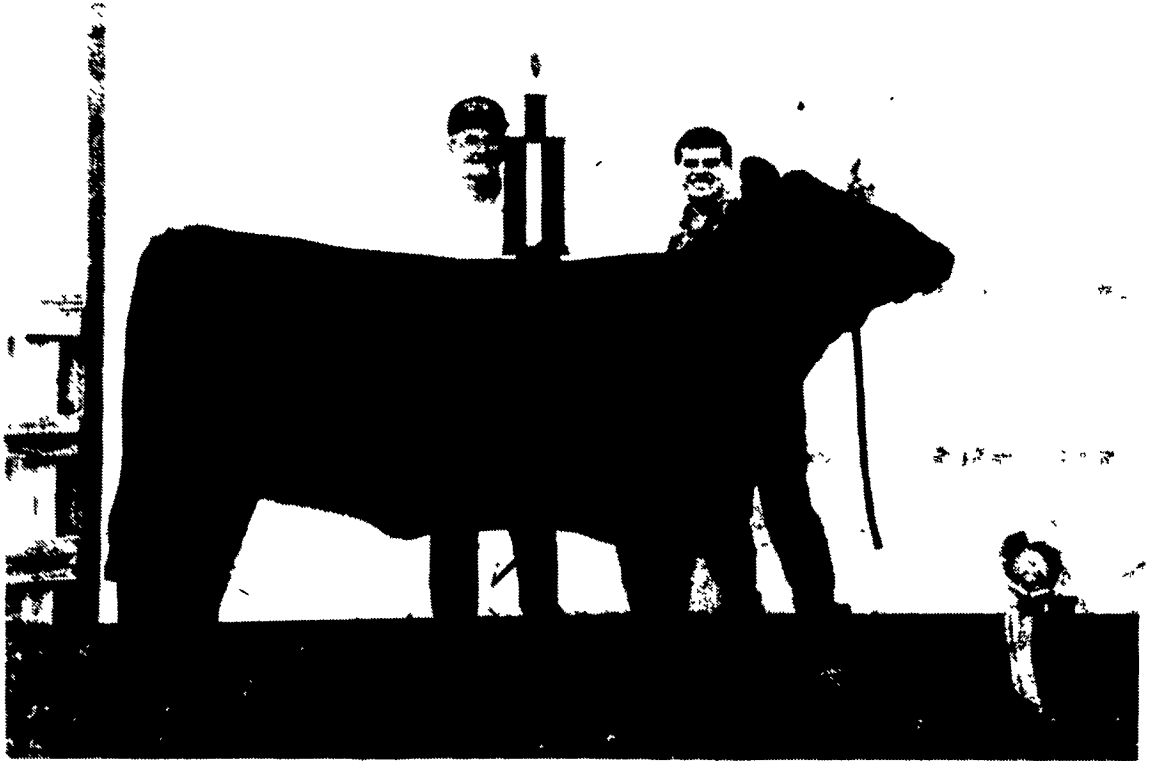
**Class 10:** 1. Jennifer Callihan, 2. Stacy Hildreth, 3. Tim Bishop

**Class 11:** 1. Bret Fogle, 2. Chadwick Alt, 3. David Stickley

**Class 12:** 1. Kevin Stahl, 2. Erin Livengood, 3. Michelle Stickley



Nick DeChristofaro, 15, Niles, Ohio had the grand champion steer at the Somerset County Beef Jackpot Show, held at the county fairgrounds in Meyersdale. He's having a good year showing despite the fact that he lives in the middle of a city and keeps his animals at his grandfather's place in the country.



The premier champion of the Somerset County Beef Jackpot Show held in Meyersdale was shown by Andy Campbell, 19, Eaton, Ohio. He purchased the heifer from Ralph Kincaid, Rockwood, who holds the trophy in the center. This was the first time a premier show champion was named in Somerset's Beef Jackpot Show.

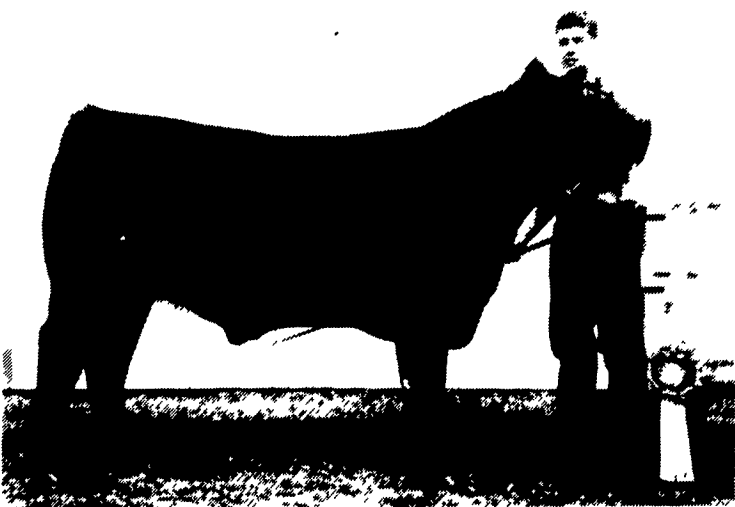


FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 10

**GOOD WEEK FOR FIELDWORK:** There were 5 days suitable for fieldwork. Scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred during most days of the week. There was widespread thunderstorm activity on Wednesday with high winds and heavy rains causing some crop damage. The average temperature for the state was above normal for the 18th week in a row. Soil moisture was rated short by 26 percent of our respondents, adequate by 57 percent, and surplus by 17 percent. Soil moisture conditions reflected the localized nature of the thunderstorms. Some farmers had surplus soil moisture while others in the same county had short soil moisture conditions. This was especially evident in the central regions. Activities included harvesting small grains, making hay, spraying corn, spreading fertilizer, hauling manure, and caring for livestock.

**CROPS:** Barley and wheat harvest continued. A few farmers started harvesting oats. Corn growth was spurred by the precipitation received last week. The corn height averaged 39 inches across the Commonwealth compared to the 5-year average of 30 inches. The precipitation also helped hay growth in most areas. Leaf hoppers were starting to show up on some hay fields.

**LIVESTOCK:** Many pastures were helped by the precipitation this past week but conditions statewide were generally poor to fair. Livestock were also suffering from the hot conditions.



Casey High, Lititz had the reserve grand champion steer last Sunday at the Somerset County Beef Jackpot Show, held in Meyersdale. He's 16 and belongs to the Red Rose Baby Beef 4-H Club.

*Milk* IT DOES A BODY GOOD.