

Top Prices Paid At Somerset Fair Livestock Sale

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MEYERSDALE (Somerset Co.) — It took some six and a half

hours to sell the 320 head of animals at the Somerset County Fair's Junior Livestock Sale, the receipts of which totaled \$185,656

on the Saturday of August 24. The 59 steers averaged \$1,422.30 per animal, while the 94 market lambs averaged \$277.27. Some 167 market swine ended the day with a per animal average of \$376.77 according to official records kept by statistician, John Hartman.

Walker Farm Service, the premier buyer, purchased some 15 animals for \$14,572, while hard on their heels was Lincoln Supply and Equipment, spending some \$14,517 to buy 11 animals, including the \$7,500 they paid for the 1250 pound Ma/Anj/Ch grand champion steer of Lucas Svonavec of Rockwood, at \$6 a pound.

Jason Fisher of Boswell, had the reserve grand champion steer bought by Walker Farm Service which at \$4.50 a pound brought in \$5,715. The 1270 pounder was also the county bred champion.

Tyler Anderson's county bred reserve champion, a 1320 pound crossbreed sold at \$3 a pound bringing the total paid by Hoss's Steak and Sea House to \$3,960.

Lucas Svonavec's grand champion lamb, a Suffolk Cross weighing 126 pounds sold for \$2,268, or \$18 a pound. It was bought by the Animal Medical Center of Somerset County.

The reserve grand champion lamb of Jesse Brant of Rockwood sold for \$2,292, or \$17.50 to the Somerset Trust Company. A Suffolk, the lamb weighed 131 pounds.

The home grown champion lamb, also shown by Lucas Svonavec sold for \$1,330 to the top bidder Hoss's Steak and Sea House at \$10 a pound. The Suffolk Cross weighed 133 pounds.

Meagan Schmuck, Rockwood saw her home grown reserve champion lamb bring in a fine purse at \$2,398. Animal Medical Center of Somerset County paid a tidy \$19.50 a pound for the Suffolk Cross.

Tressler's Ashland Oil Company of Confluence paid \$3,125 or \$12.50 a pound for Heidi Svonavec's grand champion swine, a Blue Butt weighing 250 pounds. Svonavec is from Rockwood.

The reserve champion swine, shown by Brock Hillegass of Fairhope was a Hampshire Cross which First Philson Bank paid \$1,799 or \$7.50 a pound. It weighed 257 pounds.

A precedent was set for the sale committee this year when three of the animals shown by Lucas Svonavec became champions.

"We've never had it happen before," said sale chairperson, Mary Ann Sorber. "We knew that it has always been a possibility. Each kid is allowed to sell two animals but they can exhibit five," she explained, "and we want all of the champions to be sold."

Sorber said, the sale committee opted to let the "sale of all champions" rule stand.

The recipients of the newly created \$1,000 scholarship that was shared by five veterans showmen went to Erica Walker, Laura Waltermire, Corby Svonavec, Lee Sines and Andrew Barron.

The money for this fund comes from animals that are donated back and resold at the end of the sale. Recipients must have shown animals in each of the preceding three years.

Auctioneers for the 1996 sale were Betty Lou Svonavec, Reed Luce, Kermit Stahl, Mike Knepfer, Bill Arnold and Scott Mostoller.



The grand champion steer at Somerset pictured with buyers from left, Bob Hay and Sidney Riggs and exhibitor Lucas Svonavec.



The grand champion lamb pictured from left, Dr. Robert Bastian, Vince Svonavec and Lucas Svonavec at the Somerset County Fair Junior Livestock Sale.



Pete Luteri and Jesse Brant are pictured with the reserve champion lamb at the Somerset County Fair.



The reserve champion steer was also the county bred champion at Somerset. Pictured left to right, Shirley and A.J. Walker and Jason Fisher.



The grand champion swine at Somerset Fair is shown with John Tressler and Heidi Svonavec.



The reserve champion swine at Somerset, pictured from left, Brock Hillegass, Greg Croner, George Hay.