

KILE Provides Fun For Youth

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HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Along with the beef cattle, swine, sheep and horse shows, the Pennsylvania Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) provides a lot of opportunities for youth to have fun.

For some kids, of course, bringing a show animal and helping to prepare it for the show ring and meeting other kids with similar interests is plenty of fun.

But even for those with plenty to do to have fun, there are different ways to have fun at KILE, such as throwing a part of a bale of straw, pushing a small wheelbarrow with a pumpkin in it, or competing in a pedal tractor pulling contest. There are lots of different ani-

mals to see at KILE and while it would be nice to be able to pet them, most are not for touching, since they are supposed to be busy getting ready for the show ring. But at KILE, there is a petting zoo, with small pigs, a calf, baby lambs, and ducklings walking up a ramp to eat food and jump in the water. There are also chicks hatching

under a heat lamp.

In the annual tractor pedal pull contest, there were six different ages in competition, from age 3 to age 8.

John Brigich, 8, son of Mark and Andra Brigich, of Canonsburg, tried his hand at the tractor pedal



John Brigich shows his trophy and ribbon for winning his age class in the KILE tractor pedal pull.

contest for the first time this year and won!

Brigich was at KILE, along with his parents who said they wanted to visit the show to see how the sheep shows were done. They have some Shropshire sheep, along with 200 grade Holsteins they milk on their 800-acre farm. John's father Mark said that next year they are going to show sheep at KILE.

While they were walking around, looking at all the animals, John was able to enter the tractor pulling contest, which is open to any youth aged 8 or less.

It was the first time John entered a pedal tractor pulling contest, but he has one at home and rides it all the time. Sometimes at home, he rides on the big tractor with his father, but mostly he rides his own pedal tractor, and he has lots of hills to ride up and down.

His father competes in tractor pulling contests sometimes, and in August he won the stock tractor pulling contest at the Washington County Fairgrounds. The first time he tried it, he pulled the weight the entire length of the course. The second time, he didn't get quite as far, but ended up 90 feet beyond the second place finisher.

John had an equally good pull with the pedal tractor, taking it the entire length of the course.

Katie Nolt, 7, daughter of Gene and Charlene Nolt, of New Holland, tried the pedal pull for the first time too, and she went 44 feet, also winning.

But mostly, just being able to have fun at KILE was the most important thing. There is always an official "winner" for every contest, but everyone who participates wins because they have fun.

KILE TRACTOR PEDAL PULL

AGE 3: 1.Brandon Carr; 2.Freddie Frey. AGE 4: 1.Abby Benninghoff; 2.Angel Bollinger; 3.Kara Kingsley. AGE 5: 1.Ben Bard; 2.Tyler Yost; 3.Ben

Weinbrecht. AGE 6' 1.Ronnie Ferguson; 2 Chad Waltersdoff; 3.Anv Metlock.

AGE 8: 1 John Brigght: 2 Left Acker

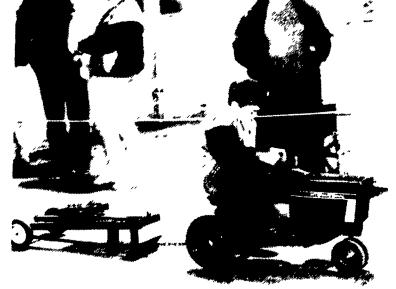
AGE 8: 1.John Brigich; 2.Jeff Askey; 3.Harrison Frantz.



Emily Hunter, daughter of Frank and Barbara Hunter, of Cassadaga, N.Y., throws a bale of straw in the KILE Ag Olympics. Her parents shows Dorset sheep.



Andy Matlock, son of Tim and Ellen Matlock, of Ohio, shows his trophy and ribbon he receives from John Eaton, with Lebanon Valley National Bank, for winning his age class in the KILE Ag Olympics hay bale toss contest.



John Brigich shows his winning KILE tractor pedal pulling technique. He and his father are both tractor pulling champions this year.



Katie Nolt, daughter of Gene and Charlene Nolt, of New Holland, pedals her way to victory.