

This Solanco Champion Hog Should've Been Named 'Reciprocation'

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff

QUARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — Allison Hughes knew she had to return a favor to her brother Andy.

After all, Andy had shown her hog at the county 4-H swine roundup a month ago. And since they both work on each other's hog, it was only expected that the favor would come during the Solanco market hog show.

Little did Allison expect her brother's heavyweight champion hog, which she paraded in the show ring, to become grand champion market hog Thursday evening at the Solanco Fair.

Andy, 10, is the son of Chet and Marie Hughes, Lancaster. The Hans Herr fourth grader also showed the light heavyweight champion hog, "Miss Imac," named in honor of the hog's sire, Imax, and also after the new Apple computer.

But as for the champion, Andy said, "I bought the pig from my uncle," he said — Keith Bard, Portage.

Andy also won champion beginner showman at the fair.

The 266-pound Hampshire crossbred gilt was named grand champion in tough competition with gilts from three other classes. This was Andy's first grand champion at Solanco.

Allison, 12, is in the 7th grade at Martin Meylin Middle School. Allison, who plans to attend West Lampeter Community Farm Show and the state Farm Show, said the hog is one of 13 the family takes care of.

Negotiations on how, exactly, the brother-sister duo will handle the award honors were still under way as of presstime.

The judge, Dave Hartman, Col-

umbia County livestock agent from Bloomsburg, said he liked the "overall value, dimension and width," of the Hughes' hog.

Reserve overall was the heavy-weight reserve, a 260-pound York/Landrace/Hampshire/Duroc shown by Rachel Ranck. Judge Dave Hartman said he "liked the gray hog right from the start," citing the hog as a powerful one, with "wide-appearing shoulders" and width "from front to rear."

Rachel, 10, is the daughter of Jim and Joan Ranck, Christiana. This is her first Solanco champion. She is in the fifth grade at West Fallowfield Christian School. The 260-pound barrow was homebred, boar-sired.

Rachel's father, Jim, said that he and Rachel's brothers, Jeremy and Alex, helped select the hog for show. Rachel placed high in the county roundup this year.

There were a total of 94 hogs and about 46 exhibitors at the market swine show. Following is a list of show placings.

SOLANCO FAIR SWINE SHOW RESULTS

MARKET SWINE
Lightweight Class 1 (220-232 lbs.): 1.



Showmanship champions at Solanco were, from left, Andy Hughes, beginner; Tiffany Dean, juniors; and Allan Herr Jr., seniors.

Jeremy Ranck. 2. Ryan Stauffer. 3. Audra Wood.

Class 2 (234-236 lbs.): 1. Ryan Stauffer. 2.

Matt Kreider. 3. Mike Bollinger. Class 3 (238-240 lbs.): 1. Kristy Garrett. 2. Jessica Schmidt. 3. Tiffany Dean.

Lightweight Champion: Ryan Stauffer. Reserve: Jeremy Ranck.

Middleweight Class 1 (242-245 lbs.): 1. Allan Herr. 2. Thomas DeLong. 3. Matt Kreider.

Class 2 (246-248 lbs.): 1. Jessica Schmidt. 2. Jackie Bleacher. 3. Adam Nissley.

Class 3 (250 lbs.): 1. Rachel Ranck. 2. Allan Herr. 3. Megan Herr.

Middleweight Champion: Jessica Schmidt. Reserve: Rachel Ranck.

Light Heavyweight Class 1 (252-254 lbs.): 1. Andy Hughes. 2. Robert Garrett. 3. Allison Hughes.

Class 2 (255-258 lbs.): 1. Brad Byers. 2. Chad Harris. 3. Kristy Garrett.

Class 3 (258 lbs.): 1. Megan Herr. 2. Nicole Welk. 3. Paul Hostetter.

Light Heavyweight Champion: Andy Hughes. Reserve: Megan Herr.

Heavyweight Class 1 (260-262 lbs.): 1. Rachel Ranck. 2. Tiffany Dean. 3. Adam Enterline.

Class 2 (264-265 lbs.): 1. Allison Hughes. 2. Andy Burkholder. 3. Brian Mull.

Class 3 (266-270 lbs.): 1. Andy Hughes. 2. Anna Mary Henry. 3. Alex Ranck.

Heavyweight Champion: Andy Hughes. Reserve: Rachel Ranck.

GRAND CHAMPION MARKET SWINE
Andy Hughes
RESERVE
Rachel Ranck

SHOWMANSHIP
Seniors (16 And Over): 1. Allan Herr Jr. 2. Adam Enterline. 3. Andy Burkholder.
Juniors (11-15 Years): 1. Tiffany Dean. 2. Andy Herr. 3. Jackie Bleacher.
Beginners (10 And Under): 1. Andy Hughes. 2. Nicole Welk. 3. Rachel Ranck.



Grand champion hog at the Solanco Fair was owned by Andy Hughes, center, and show by his sister, Allison, left. At right is show judge Dave Hartman.



Reserve champion hog at the Solanco Fair went to Rachel Ranck, right. Dave Hartman judged the show.



Market steer champions at the Solanco Fair. From left, grand champion Jessica Schmidt and reserve shown by Jim Mullen.



A special award at the Solanco Fair went to the top placing purebred Angus, shown by Katrina Frey, 8, Quarryville. Katrina is the daughter of Nancy and Fritz Frey. Katrina is flanked by award sponsors Bobbi and Joe McMullen, Wakefield Angus.

Jessica Shows 'Oliver' To Champion

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff

QUARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — An Angus/Simmental calf that "looks like an Oliver" was named grand champion of the market steer show at the Solanco Fair Thursday night.

Exhibitor Jessica Schmidt, who nicknamed the 1,300-pound steer, walked away with the champion heavyweight and grand champion overall steer at the show.

This was the first grand champion steer at Solanco for Jessica, 16, daughter of Laurie and Peter

Schmidt, Drumore. Jessica, a junior at Solanco High School, purchased the steer from Tim Fitzgerald, Aldie, Va.

Jessica, a champion fitter at Solanco, said the champion was the result of feeding and exercise. Her feeding program is simple — barley and corn and oats.

The judge, Zeb O'Boyle, manager of Jackson Hole Farm, Upperco, Md., said the steer was "really deep in lower quarters, thick the whole way through, a real long calf — thick through the front end with a super shoulder."

O'Boyle said the finish on the steer was enough, not overdone, a "really nice calf."

Jessica, who won reserve champion at the fair last year, took Oliver to the Pennsylvania Beef Expo, the county 4-H fair, and to Solanco. She said she would sell the calf at Solanco. She plans to take two purebred Angus heifers to the Farm Show.

Reserve went to Jim Mullen, who won champion of the middleweight division with a 1,220-pound Angus/Hereford crossbred. The steer, nicknamed

"Baldie," was purchased from Donny Walters, York County.

Judge O'Boyle said the reserve was "deep and decent across the top."

Jim, 17, is the son of James and Elaine Mullen, Wakefield. The Solanco High School senior said this was the first time he had ever shown steers.

There were a total of nine exhibitors and nine steers. Following is a list of show placings.

SOLANCO FAIR BEEF SHOW RESULTS

MARKET STEERS
Lightweight (1132-1178 lbs.): 1. Megan

Little. 2. Katrina Frey 3. Linford Hershey Middleweight (1220-1275 lbs.): 1. Jim Mullen. 2. Loren Hershey

Heavyweight (1295-1335 lbs.): 1. Jessica Schmidt 2. Ben Flahart 3. Justin Wimer

GRAND CHAMPION
Jessica Schmidt
RESERVE
Jim Mullen

SHOWMANSHIP
Juniors 1. Jim Mullen 2. Katrina Frey 3. Megan Little.

Seniors: 1. Loren Hershey 2. Jessica Schmidt 3. Justin Wimer

