Supreme champion ewe in both open and junior shows went to a homebred South-down shown by Jennifer Flinchbaugh. The grand champion Southdown ram was also named Supreme in the Junior show. Travis Flory helps hold the supreme champions.

Judge Lee Wagner selects a Dorset ram owned by John Eaton and shown by Melissa Trostle as the Supreme Champion Breeding Ram.

Hundreds At York Fair Compete In Open, Junior Sheep Shows

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff

YORK (York Co.) — At the York Fair this week, things kept getting better and better for 17-year-old Jennifer Flinchbaugh during the two-day sheep competition.

First she showed the supreme champion ram and ewe in South-down competition in the Junior Show against 117 entries. The following day the ram and ewe were proclaimed Southdown champ-ions in the Open Show against 167 entries. On Monday evening, the champion Southdown ewe com-peted against champions in all other breeds for the Supreme Breeding Sheep title.

"It's more difficult to pick a supreme champion ewe than a ram because there are a number of great contenders," said Les Wagner, judge of the event. But for the most correct and stylish, Wagner said he would go with the Southdown ewe.

"She is homebred," Jennifer proudly repeated over and over.

Championships run in the bloodlines. The ewe's mother was the reserve champion at the National Show held in Louisville and the ewe was sired by a ram that was a grand champion twice at Keystone International Livestock Exposition and at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Jennifer also showed the reserve grand champion market lamb and won showmanship in her age division.

The Flinchbaugh family has been breeding Southdown for the last 12 years. Because her dad had raised sheep during his teen years, he drew from a wealth of know-ledge into putting together an out-standing flock at the family's Wal-nut Lane Farms in York.

Dorset

In the Open Breeding Sheep Division, John Eaton Junior's Dorset ram was named Supreme Champion Breeding Sheep over all other breeds, Judge Lee Wagner selected the Dorset ram for its frame size, correctness, and styl-ishness.

Since 1982, Eaton has been rais-ing sheep. He now has 25 Dorsets and 25 Cheviots on his Windsor farm.

Eaton has had three previous supreme championships at York Fair. "I'm real selective on breed-ing," said Eaton, who works for People's Bank.

Cheviot

In the Cheviot competition, Eaton swept all the major awards in the Open show. In the Junior Cheviot competition, Tony Haugh of Red Lion swept all major awards. Tony is the son of Denny and Irene Haugh. Although it was only the second year he showed at York Fair, championships are common. Tony showed previous champions at Keystone Interna-tional Livestock Exposition, and the State Farm Show.

Dorset

Although Eaton captured the open show competition, Junior Show exhibitor Matthew Banker showed the grand champion ewe and reserve ram in the Dorset com-petition. He and his dad Brian raise 35 head at their Hanover Farm. Matthew received the Rookie of the Year award as a first-year member of 4-H.

The grand champion Cheviot Ram and ewe are shown by Tony Haugh and his dad Denny of Red Lion.

In the Junior Show, Paul Kitz-miller showed the grand champion Dorset ram and ewe. Paul also showed the champion Montadale ewe.

It is Paul's last year of showing since he began pre-vet studies at Delaware Valley College recently. His mother Thelma plans to care for the 30 head at Wooly Breezes until Paul becomes a veterinarian and can again take charge of the flock. Paul is also the state star farmer.
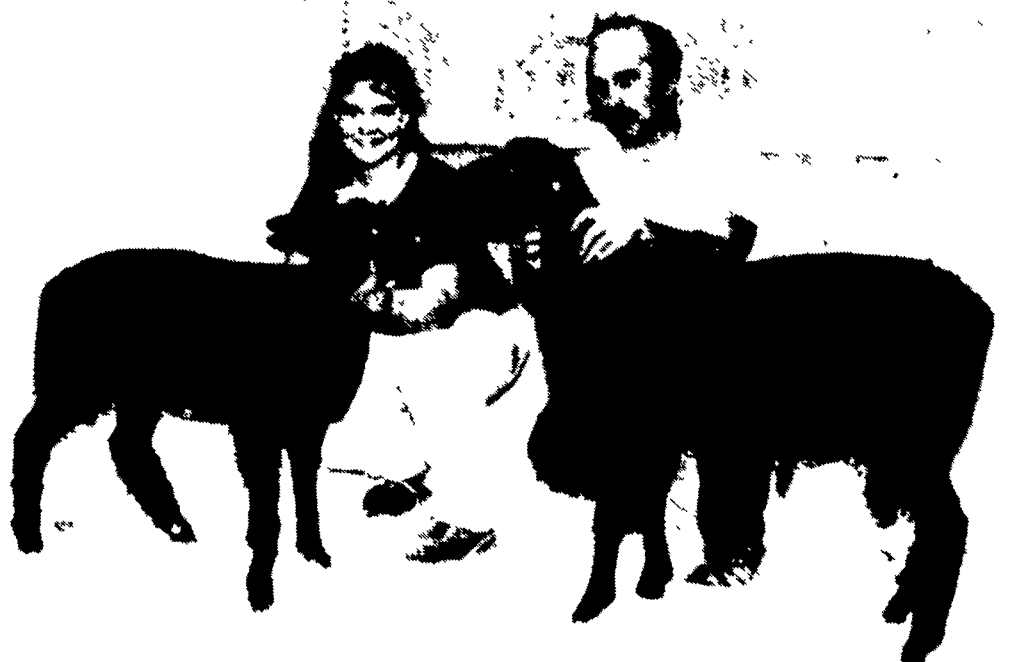
Hampshire

Jay Rishel showed the champ-ion Hampshire ewe in the Junior division and the champion Hamp-shire ram in both Junior and Open shows. His family operates RJR Hampshires at Seven Valleys.

The reserve champion ram was shown by Matt Trostle and the reserve champion ewe by Carrie Beth Ness of Felton.

Standing in for his brother Matthew is Andy Bankert, who shows the champion Dorset ewe with his dad Brian Bankert of Hanover.

Emily Bankert with the help of her dad shows the grand champion Corriedale ram and ewe, which won in the natural-colored division.