

Heavyweights Are Top Picks At Reading Fair Beef Show

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) — Like a one-two punch last week, the heavyweights in the market steer competition at Reading Fair took the show, winning overall grand champion and reserve here at the Kutztown Fairgrounds.

Grand champion market steer went to Ben Weist, 15, son of Darlene and Bill Weist, Leesport. Ben showed the heavyweight champion, a 1,324-pound Simmental/Charolais crossbred steer nicknamed "Jed." Jed was the brother of Mark, which allowed Ben to win a wide range of area fairs, according to Ben.

Ben, a sophomore at Schuylkill Valley High School, said the steer is out of his family's 40-head cow/calf operation (about 15 cows). Ben will be showing at Farm Show.

Show judge Brian Kreider, Lebanon, who identified the middleweight champions of the competition as "definitely showy steers," noted the heavyweights despite their finish stood above the rest.

Reserve went to Kelly Dietrich, 16, daughter of Jim and Donna

Dietrich, Hamburg. Kelly showed a 1,315-pound Angus/Maine Anjou crossbred steer nicknamed "J.W." for the noted bull rider, J.W. Hart.

As a calf, Kelly said J.W. the steer looked "pretty." The steer, she said, was "obtained from Mr. Eberly, Newmanstown."

Kelly, a junior at Tulpehocken High School, is a member of the Berks County 4-H Beef Club and has won before at the Kutztown Fair. She said she'll be showing at state Farm Show.

In the heifer show, grand champion 4-H went to Ben Weist and FFA champion to Lynette Heffner.

There were a total of 30 steers in the market classes and about another 30 heifers. In all, there were about 40 exhibitors.

Following is a list of show placings.

READING FAIR BEEF SHOW RESULTS

SHOWMANSHIP AND FITTING

9-12 Year Olds: 1. Renee Phillips. 2. Jason Levan. 3. Amanda Gauker.
12-13 Year Olds: 1. Emilie Miller. 2. Cathy Levan. 3. Kelly Phillips.



Ben Weist, second from left, won grand champion market steer at the Reading Fair last week. From left, Heather Fuls, Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Princess; Weist; Kelly Dietrich, reserve; and Brian Kreider, show judge.

13-15 Year Olds: 1. Ben Weist. 2. Kelly Dietrich. 3. Matt Manbeck.

16-18 Year Olds: 1. Lynette Heffner. 2. Kyle Zerba. 3. Elizabeth Wisser.

CHAMPION FITTER RESERVE

Emilie Miller

Benjamin Weist

SHOWMANSHIP

9-12 Year Olds: 1. Amanda Gauker. 2. Jason Levan. 3. Nathan Stump.

12-13 Year Olds: 1. Kristy Dietrich. 2. Cathy Levan. 3. Kelly Phillips.

13-15 Year Olds: 1. Kelly Dietrich. 2. Ben Weist. 3. Brian Hartman.

16-18 Year Olds: 1. Lynette Heffner. 2. Mark Marwiller. 3. Elizabeth Wisser.

CHAMPION SHOWMAN

Kelly Dietrich

RESERVE

Lynette Heffner

MARKET STEERS

Light Lightweight (903-1,030 lbs.): 1. Brian M. Hartman. 2. Jill Neiman. 3. Nicholas Strause.

Middle Lightweight (1,048-1,105 lbs.): 1. Mark Marwiller. 2. Jason Levan. 3. Justin Levan.

Heavy Lightweight (1,118-1,155 lbs.): 1. Amanda Gauker. 2. Cathy Levan. 3. Tyler Bolton.

Champion Lightweight: Amanda Gauker. Reserve: Cathy Levan.

Light Middleweight (1,171-1,225 lbs.): 1. Kyle Zerba. 2. Nathan Stump. 3. John L. Hartman.

Middle Middleweight (1,247-1,289 lbs.): 1. Kristy Dietrich. 2. Lynette J. Heffner. 3. Renee Phillips.

Heavy Middleweight (1,278-1,295 lbs.): 1. Michael Holcombe. 2. Elizabeth Wisser. 3. Kelly Phillips.

Champion Middleweight: Kristy Dietrich. Reserve: Lynette Heffner.

Light Heavyweight (1,309-1,315 lbs.): 1. Kelly Dietrich. 2. Melissa Leiby. 3. Lee J. Gauker.

Medium Heavyweight (1,324-1,375 lbs.): 1. Benjamin Weist. 2. Matt Manbeck. 3. William Willits.

Heavy Heavyweight (1,385-1,413 lbs.): 1. Emilie C. Miller. 2. Josh Krill. 3. Lisa Phillips.

Champion Heavyweight: Benjamin Weist. Reserve: Kelly Dietrich.

GRAND CHAMPION

Benjamin Weist

RESERVE

Kelly Dietrich

HEIFER SHOW

ANGUS

Summer Yearling: 1. Ben Weist. Junior Yearling: 1. Michael Holcombe. 2. Matt Manbeck. 3. Nathan Stump. Champion: Ben Weist. Reserve: Michael Holcombe.

CHAROLAIS

Junior Calf: 1. Ashley Shollenberger. Summer Yearling: 1. Justin Shollenberger. Senior Yearling: 1. Cathryn Levan. Champion: Cathryn Levan. Reserve: Justin Shollenberger.

LIMOUSIN

Junior Yearling: 1. Kristy Dietrich. Champion: Kristy Dietrich.

SIMMENTAL

Senior Calf: 1. Lynette Heffner. Junior Yearling: 1. Troy Gelsinger. Champion: Lynette Heffner. Reserve: Troy Gelsinger.

OTHER

Junior Heifer Calf: 1. Tyler Bolton. 2. Jill Neiman. Champion: Tyler Bolton. Reserve: Jill Neiman.

FFA CHAMPION

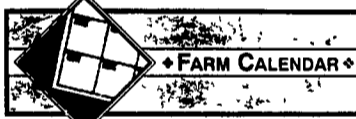
Lynette Heffner

4-H CHAMPION

Ben Weist



Heifer champions at Reading last week. From left, Heather Fuls, Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Princess; Lynette Heffner, champion FFA heifer; Ben Weist, 4-H champion heifer; and Brian Kreider, show judge.



Continued from Page A10

Lot J, Harrisburg, 7:30 a.m., returns Harrisburg approx. 7 p.m.
Berks County 4-H Beef Club

Roundup, Leesport Farmers Market, show 9 a.m., sale 4 p.m.

Thursday, October 15
Berks County Grazing Walk, Dr. Robert and Helene Dreisbach, Shartlesville, 10 a.m.-noon.
Md. and Va. Milk Producers Meeting, Pleasant Valley Restaurant, Ft. Littleton, 7 p.m.

Friday, October 16
Uniontown Poultry and Farm Show, Uniontown, thru Oct. 16.
Md. and Va. Milk Producers Meeting, 4-H Activities Center, Frederick, Md., 7 p.m.

Saturday, October 17
Southeastern Pa. 4-H Leaders Forum, Montgomery County 4-H Center, Creamery, 9 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

Maryland's First Limousin Club Calf Sale, Four States Livestock Sale Grounds, Hagerstown, Md., 7 p.m.

Northwest Pa. Nursery Tour, Johnston's Evergreen Nursery, Erie, 9 a.m.-noon.

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