

What's Happening At Lancaster Extension by Elizabeth Smith Summer Intern

August 3, 1999 — a day I will never forget, a day that will live in infamy.

It was Aug. 3 that began the week of the 1999 Lancaster County 4-H Fair. A week that was full of thrills, surprises, and blue ribbons. This is the week that pushed me to my limit as Lancaster's 4-H summer assistant, testing me every step of the way. The 4-H Fair was the event that I had been planning for all summer. I did not go in unprepared, for I had hours of training from the best of coaches and even some help from friendly office supplies.

Held at the Lampeter Fairground, the 4-H Fair started with project check-in on Tuesday, Aug. 3 and ended with the final teardown on Saturday, Aug. 7.

I can only describe what went on during that week as a combination of complete exhaustion and absolute fun. As you know, the 4-H Fair is the culmination of my job as summer assistant. Everything I have done so far this summer was leading up to this one week. This was a week that provided me with tons of work and memories that will last a lifetime.

Of course before the fair could even begin, millions of things had to be done - but planning for the fair is not something that can be done by just one person. It takes the whole 4-H staff working as a team to ensure that an event of this magnitude comes together and runs smoothly. Preparations for

the 1999 4-H Fair began one week after the completion of the 1998 fair.

Katina Showman is the coordinator of the event, and as her assistant I am given many jobs, including phone solicitor. It was my responsibility to contact and locate the many judges and other helpers who keep the fair running.

During the weeks that lead up to the fair, my best friend in the office was none other than my desk telephone! The phone and I shared a special relation-

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