



Champion Senior Meats Judging Team members, from left, are Radell Peters, second individual; Jimmy Zimmerman; Derick Bollinger, third individual; and Ryan Donough, first individual. Team members will compete in national competition to be held in Kansas City in November.

Lancaster 4-H Excels In State Competition

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

— Lancaster County 4-H'ers returned tired but ecstatic after three days of intense competition during the annual 4-H State Days, University Park, last week.

"It's the first time we won both meats and livestock competitions in the same year," said Chet Hughes, livestock extension agent.

Katina Showman, extension 4-H agent, said that she believes Lancaster County 4-H members won more top awards than in any previous years, and that Lancaster had more winners than any other county. More than 1,100 4-H'ers competed in competition during the three-day event.

In addition to senior teams in livestock judging and in meats judging sweeping the state titles, the junior horse judging team also placed first.

The county also had the highest individual scoring with Mila Pilz winning female archery; Jimmy Mullen, male physical fitness; Kevin Pfautz, first individual in livestock judging; Johnathon Henson, first in junior horse judging; and Ryan Donough, first in senior meats judging.

Second and third placing individuals also peppered the winning scoring.

Despite this outstanding achievement, members of the livestock and meats judging team won't have long to regale in victory. Both teams need to study hard to compete at national competition in November. Livestock members, Jessica Schmidt, Kevin Pfautz, Geoffrey Rohrer, and John Hess will compete in Louisville. Meat judging team members Radell Peters, Jimmy Zimmerman, Derick Bollinger, and Ryan Donough will compete at Kansas City.

"Winning means more work and intense practice," Hughes said.

Showman countered, "But it's pretty special to have so many winning teams."

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First in the state in 4-H female archery competition is Mila Pilz. Jimmy Mullen swept 4-H male physical fitness competition to place first in the state. Both are members of Lancaster County 4-H.

What's Happening At Lancaster Extension

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ship in which I was constantly begging it to help me find that one person who knew how to judge the 4-H project of decoupage or woodworking.

This year's 4-H fair featured more than 30 different 4-H projects. Each was different in its own way, and yes, each of them needed to be judged. That was where I, and my trusty ivory colored phone, came in. Day after day we would sit together calling possible judges and imploring them to come judge at the 4-H Fair. I must point out that, for the most part, many of the people I called said "yes" without giving it a second thought.

But as with every project, I encountered some pretty interesting facts that were unearthed

along the way. For instance, I discovered that the first week in August just happens to be the most popular time to take a vacation during the summer. It also seemed to be the most popular time to plan picnics and other summer events. OK, so I realized that people take vacations all summer, and picnics happen all the time, but it did kind of sound like something off of "Unexplained Mysteries."

As I sit here at my desk exhausted and still trying to recover from the past week, I realize that no amount of training I could receive would have totally prepared me for the full force of the 4-H Fair. I'd like to tell you more about my adventures but I think I need to get a little sleep. Wake me up in one week!

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