

Pfautz Wins National Title, Hopes Farm Show Trophy

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — Kevin Pfautz knows a good hog when he sees one.
In fact, the 17-year-old recently placed first in swine judging during the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held in Louisville, Ky. He's put everything he knows

into raising a champion hog for the Pennsylvania Farm Show.
But the competition is flooded with outstanding hogs. When it comes down to the wire, it's the judge's decision. And what he determines is the most outstanding hog may not be everyone's choice.
Kevin's choice for the competition is a Hamp-Duroc cross from

stock that his 21-year-old brother Corey and he have worked hard to perfect.
"It's genetics — all the genetics," Kevin said of raising champion stock.
Feed, exercise, care — all have little influence on the outcome of a

genetically sound hog, Kevin believes.
Kevin said a champion hog should demonstrate soundness, be free moving, and have structural make up with a long and level rump, and flex and cushion in the hocks.

Recognizing positive and negative characteristics of hogs comes easy to Kevin, who has been around pigs most of his life. His parents Rick and Sue raised hogs as an extension of Rick's own involvement in showing in 4-H.
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At the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, from left, are Wendall Landis, coach, and Chester Hughes, extension agent, with team members, Jessica Schmidt, Kevin Pfautz, Geoffrey Rohrer, and John Hess.

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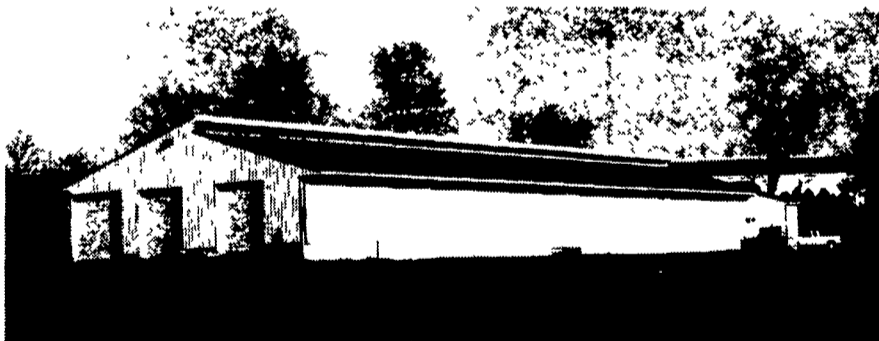
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