

First sheep shearing contest big attraction at county fair

Display by BU gets attention in art hall

By SUE DANIELS
E-G Staff Writer

A first-time sheep shearing contest, a bottle-neck in Art Hall traffic and a popular country band interested many folks who spent Rural-Urban Day at the Fairfield County Fair Thursday.

Whirling whirring shears, seven men and one woman stripped about 40 sheep of their wooly coats during a first-ever county fair competition. A few hundred people watched various parts of the contest which challenged the entrants to be the quickest and wisest.

Shearers are judged on how much time it takes to completely shear three or four animals, the neatness of the coat, lack of nicks and cuts, and the quality of the shorn wool.

Bob Foster of Pleasantville saw the event for the first time when he competed in his first heat. Foster also walked away the winner in the "no-stalk" division. Clifford Scott of Sycamore, who had competed in state level events, won his division.

The crowd seemed dazzled and amazed when Chuck Hausenbaldt, Kenon, wiked the fuzzy wrapping from a Suffolk in one minute and 22 seconds.

They weren't looking for sheep in the Art Hall, but a bottle-neck in traffic there is the result of Bruce-Urban's booth.

Displaying pictures of nearly every BU graduate from 1922 to the present and the class of 2000, the cove has caused curious fair-goers to scan the photos to find friends and loved ones. The booth was built using the theme "Building Good Citizens Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."

Tim Klingler, county schools curriculum consultant, said BU



(E-G Photo by Sue Daniels)

CLIFFORD SCOTT of Sycamore controlled his half-sheep during last night's sheep shearing contest, a first

Superintendent Hoy Seckinger knew where many of the old pictures were and gave it a lot of support and enthusiasm.

All of the pictures, some of which had to be hunted and borrowed from the community, are carefully mounted and protected by plexiglass. The booth itself was engineered by the industrial arts department. Research was done to correctly identify those whose names were not already part of the photos.

As the sun sank into the horizon, a grandstand crowd listened to the country-gospel tunes of The Fox Brothers.

at the fair. Scott won the two-beat race in the division of those who had competed at the state level.

One of the popular country music groups, McGuffey Lane, will appear tonight at 8 at the grandstand. Manicists include Terry Ely, Stephen Reis, John Schwab, Dave Bangeler, Casey McGuffey.

Over the past 10 years, McGuffey Lane's career has grown steadily. Their performance includes rock and country music.

Grandstand entertainment is free. The fair concludes tomorrow night.

FAIR SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct. 16
Homecoming Day

Harness races.....1 p.m.
Judging of horses, ponies.....1 p.m.
4-H Club, wo-og auction sale, market ovine and sheep.....1 p.m.
4-H Club, wo-og auction market beef cattle.....7 p.m.
McGuffey Lane (grandstand).....8 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 17
Round-Up Day

Adelphi Community Band (featuring Roderick Shaw)
Mammoth livestock parade.....10:30 a.m.
Harness races.....1 p.m.
Open class feeder calf show.....1 p.m.
Santa Gertrudis sale.....1 p.m.
Demolition derby.....7:30 p.m.



(E-G Photo by Sue Daniels)

GRAND CHAMPION Santa Gertrudis heifer was shown Thursday morning by Michelle Tidd of Jamnstown. The cow

she calls Strawberry can grow to weigh about one ton, like the grand champion bull which was shown by Robert Castle.

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Sat, Mar 23, 2019