

Youths show lambs at fair Saturday

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Mary had a little lamb
whose fleece was white
as snow.

Anna Brooke Taylor's
little lamb has a blue
ribbon.

The 10-year-old
competed in the Junior
Lamb Show Saturday at
the Wayne Regional
Agricultural Fair. It is her
third year of showing
lambs.

By her side was 6-month-
old Gunner.

Anna Brooke and Gunner
sported matching fuchsia
accessories.

But it was more than their fashion taste that clinched the first place
prize.

"Make the lamb look the best it can," said Dr. Jimmy Reber, judge of
the junior lamb competition. "It doesn't have to be the best looking
lamb."

He selected the winner based on the consistency of the lamb's behavior.
He was looking for straight backs, squared legs and good eye contact
from the participants.

The showmen led their lambs around the ring before lining them up so
the judge could inspect them more closely.

"It's like she has a remote for her sheep. When she stops, it stops,"
Reber said after watching Anna Brooke.

In second place in the 9-13 category was Tanner Bentley.

Tanner and his sister both show lambs around the state.

In the senior division, the victory was bittersweet for older sister Kelsey
Bentley.

She has been showing in the eastern North Carolina lamb circuit for 10
years.

This is her last year.

She said she has loved showing lambs.

"Lambs are very sweet and very docile," she said. "They're quick to
please."

The 18-year-old from Micro is applying to North Carolina State
University to become a veterinarian.

Lillie Medlin came in second place in the senior division.

In the last show, the novice category had sheep as tall as the showmen.

In some cases, Reber noted the lamb was too much for them.

But that didn't stop Travis Cox from staring Reber down while showing
off his lamb. To Travis' delight, he won first place.

John Owens came in second place.

"Any of these kids can show my lamb any day of the week," Reber said.

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 Full Size



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Anna Brooke Taylor, 10, gives her lamb Gunner a kiss
before their showing in the Junior Lamb Show. Anna
Brooke won the first place ribbon in her age group.

