



— Staff Photo by Jim Beckel

Jill Copus poses with her grand champion steer and purchaser Ferdie Deering, representing *The Oklahoman*.

Show's Top Steer Brings Big Bucks for Eakly Girl

By Jim Etter

Jill Copus grinned nearly as broadly as her dad Tuesday night when the Maine-Anjou she had hauled from Eakly took the honor of being auctioned as the Grand Champion Steer of the 72nd annual Oklahoma 4-H and FFA Junior Livestock Show.

The 1,275-pound steer brought \$10,000 from Ferdie Deering, representing *The Oklahoman*.

It was the first of many animals to enter the auction ring as the premium sale wound up the five-day stock show, an exposition this year of about 5,530 animals, at the state fairgrounds in Oklahoma City.

Copus, a 4-H exhibitor, said she hadn't counted on winning the big title, and was grinning long after she led the animal out of the sale ring.

Her father, Allan Copus, said his daughter's steer had made good showings at earlier expositions, so the Grand Champion honor "wasn't a complete surprise — but it's still a big thrill."

The Grand Champion Barrow, a 260-pound duroc was shown by Justin Erring, a Future Farmers of America member from Vici. The duroc sold for \$7,000 to Blue & Gold Sausage of Jones.

The Grand Champion Lamb, a 139-pound Hampshire shown by Margie Mayer, a Guymon 4-H member, brought \$3,500 from Wayne Hood of HK&S Iron of Oklahoma City.

The Reserve Grand Champion Steer, a Polled Hereford exhibited by Robert Jones of Pauls Valley FFA, brought \$1,800 from Award Design Metal of Noble and Ted Davis Yamaha of Oklahoma City.

The Reserve Grand Champion Barrow, a 260-pound duroc shown by Charryse McCune of Buffalo 4-H, sold for \$1,650 to Tener's Western Outfitters of Oklahoma City.

The Reserve Grand Champion Lamb, a 138-pound crossbreed shown by Brian Johnson, a 4-H member from Gotebo, brought \$2,300 from the Park Suite Hotel, Oklahoma City.