

Picture by Pat Hansen

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"Western Heritage Shooting Competition"

By Pat Hansen

At right, JT Hansen of Three Forks shoots under the supervision of the range officer at the 2018 National 4-H Western Heritage Championship Shooting Competition of Wednesday southwest of Deer Lodge. Meanwhile, young Martin Larson of Great Falls prepares to lead his rifles under the watchful eye of the loader. The young people competed at 10 stations under carious scenarios. Shooters compete against the clock while firing at steel targets with replicas 1860-1900 firearms, such as single action revolvers and double-barreled shotguns. Scoring is based on accuracy and the time that lapses between the initial buzzer and the last shot. If shooters hit the bonus target, their time is reduced by 10 seconds. 4-H members from across the nation also competed Thursday.