

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 18 No. 31

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, June 23, 1973

\$2.00 Per Year

Miss Donna Bennetch. . . .

Crowning Dairy Princess Climaxes Lebanon's Dairy Day Activities



Miss Donna Bennetch, Lebanon County Dairy Princess

Pretty, vivacious Donna Bennetch was crowned the 1973 Lebanon County Dairy Princess last Saturday night, climaxing the second annual dairy festival held at the Lebanon Area Fairgrounds.

The festival was a happy combination of beauty, food and fun, held to promote the dairy industry among all segments of the community. To gain widespread interest there were sundaes, ice cream cones and free milk, a dairy foods contest, a cow coloring contest and a poster contest for the younger set and a cow milking contest!

The new Dairy Princess is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Luther Bennetch, Newmanstown RD1. She also won the coveted title of Miss Congeniality, voted on by all the contestants. She was crowned by last year's princess, Patricia Krall, Lebanon RD1. Donna will represent Lebanon County in the state Dairy Princess contest in September in Harrisburg.

Donna graduated from Eastern Lebanon County High School in 1972, and is working at Farr's Nursery in Womelsdorf where she does "a little of everything." She is an active 4-H'er and likes to make ceramics. Her parents milk about 50 Holsteins. She attends the Richland Church of the Brethren.

Nelda Geesaman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Geesaman, Fredericksburg RD1, was named first runner-up. Seventeen-year-old Nelda is a senior at Northern Lebanon and Lebanon Vo-Tech School, where she is studying textile and design. She was named sweetheart of the Northern Lebanon FFA Chapter. Her parents milk 55 Holstein cows. Other contestants were:

Lucille Elsie Berger, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Berger, Fredericksburg RD1, is a

graduate of Tulpehocken High School where she majored in home economics. Her parents milk about 48 Holsteins.

Cheryl Blatt is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Blatt, Jonestown RD1, and is a graduate of Northern Lebanon High School. She is 17 and enjoys decorating cakes in her bakery business. She studied cosmetology at the Lebanon Vo-Tech School and would like to work in a beauty shop and some day be an airline stewardess. Her parents own 37 Holstein cows.

Seventeen-year-old Sharon Zeigler is a graduate of Eastern Lebanon County High school where she majored in business. She was very active in high

school, having been president of the Future Business Leaders Association, vice-president of FHA and a member of the school chorus. She plans to be a legal secretary. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Zeigler, Myerstown RD2, own 250 Holsteins.

Judges for the contest were Miss Rynell Sorensen, Miss Lebanon Valley, Mrs. Robert Kauffman, affiliated with the Lancaster County Dairy Princess committee; and N. Alan Bair, Lancaster County assistant Extension Agent. The judges interviewed the girls individually and observed them as they answered questions during the contest.

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Dairy Student Says Relief Milking Pays

"Relief milking is a good way to earn money over the summer," Roger Campbell says. "But you've got to know milking equipment, and you've got to know what to charge."

Campbell, who grew up on a Kirkwood RD2 dairy farm, is a junior at Delaware Valley College, majoring in dairy

husbandry. He is in his second summer of relief milking, and says that this year he's made a few changes in the way he operates. "Last year I made the mistake of not charging enough," he said.

Depending on the size of the herd, Campbell charges on a sliding scale from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per hour, plus a charge of 5 cents to 15 cents for each cow in the

herd. "I figure that a relief milker isn't just milking and feeding cows," he said. "He's got to make sure everything works, and when the owner gets back, things should be running just as smoothly as when he left."

For most of this summer, Campbell will be working at the Lewis Shore farm near Washington Boro. He also has commitments to two or three more farmers for periods ranging up to a week at a time. "Farmers are taking more vacations, now, so I think there's

always going to be a demand for good relief milkers," Campbell said.

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Poultry Queen Contest Entries Due July 15

The Lancaster County Poultry Association is accepting applications for the 1973 Poultry Queen Contest, to succeed reigning queen Miss Barbara Gehman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Gehman, East Petersburg.

John Melhorn, member of the board of directors for the Lancaster County Poultry Association, is in charge of this year's Poultry Queen contest. Potential candidates can contact Melhorn by phone at 653-1102, Mount Joy, or Jack Huber, Lititz, president of the Lancaster County Poultry Association, at 626-8634. Deadline for entries is July 15.

Candidates must reside in Lancaster County, be single and between the ages of 17 and 23. They must also be an employee of, or related to (daughter, sister, niece or in-law) an employee of the poultry or allied industries, or of a producer of eggs, turkeys, broilers, or other poultry products.



Lebanon County Commissioner Thomas Behney is intent on working on the business end of this docile Holstein cow.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, June 23
6:30 p.m. - Lancaster County Dairy Princess Pageant, Farm and Home Center

Monday, June 25
National Holstein Convention and Sale, Detroit, Mich., June 25 - 28.

Tuesday, June 26
Pennsylvania State Grange Leadership School, Gettysburg College, June 26 - 28.

Wednesday, June 27
1 p.m. - Brown Swiss Canton No. 4 Show, Don Trimble farm, Peach Bottom RD2.
FFA Activities Week, Penn State University, June 27 - 29.

Thursday, June 28
9:15 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Penmarva Young Cooperators Day, Hunt Valley, Md.

2 - 4:15 p.m. - Grain Crisis Workshop, Sheraton-Conestoga Motor Inn, Lancaster.

Lancaster County Swine Producers board of Directors meeting, Farm and Home Center

1973 Dairy Princess To Be Named Tonight

The reign of the 1973 Lancaster County Dairy Princess will begin this evening when one of the five contestants is chosen to succeed Miss Donna Book, the 1972 ambassador for the dairy industry.

The activities, to be held at the Farm and Home Center, will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m., the banquet at 7 p.m., followed by the pageant.

The five contestants entered in this year's contest are: Cheryl Balmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Balmer, Lititz RD4; Dorothea George, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David George, 242 Pitney Road, Lancaster; Raelene Harbold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Harbold, Elizabethtown RD3, and Rhoda Stauffer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stauffer, Ephrata RD1.

Master of ceremonies will be David Yoder of Atlantic Breeders. Judges will be Mrs. Jess Erway, women's editor of LANCASTER FARMING, Gary Martin, public relations department, Sperry New Holland, and Charles Suloff, associate County Agent, Berks County. Mrs. Robert Gregory serves as general chairman.