

# Homestead Notes

Pat Erway, Editor



Meet Miss Raelene Harbold.

## Newest Official Spokeswoman For Dairy Industry

Raelene Harbold has a contagious smile, accented sharply by dimples, a sparkling personality and knows a lot about the dairy industry. She's Lancaster County's new Dairy Princess and plans to spend the next year telling all she knows about the virtues of milk.

Nineteen-year-old Raelene is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Harbold, Elizabethtown RD3 and was crowned the 1973 Dairy Princess over four other contestants Saturday night.

Raelene says, "Someone has to promote milk, and if a farmer talks about it people think he is promoting it just because it is his product. Outsiders seem to listen better to someone else, especially someone who has a title."

She'd like to talk to many service clubs during the year, but a unique idea she has is to visit elementary schools and talk to students about the importance of milk in the diet. She said, "If you can get children enthused about drinking milk, their parents will certainly not refuse them milk if they request it. Children will look up to someone who is a 'princess.'"

Raelene has been working for the past year as a dental assistant to Dr. Werner Z. Fetter in Elizabethtown, so she certainly has firsthand knowledge about some of the important reasons for drinking milk. She can probably put in a good word for milk every day.

The new Dairy Princess said she was "very much surprised" when her name was announced as winner of the contest. She said,

"It's hard to explain, but you see things like this on television and you think it is something you will never experience. Even though it is a small pageant, it really means a lot."

When asked if she can milk a cow, Raelene laughed, "Heavens, yes!" She said she always used to help her father with the milking. Now he raises heifers for dairy herd replacements and she still does work around the farm. They presently live on a 17-acre farm which is all in pasture. Her father is a technician for Curtiss Breeding Service in addition to his farming chores.

The Harbolds have three other girls and a son: Lorae (Mrs. Larry Niehaus), 24; Marilyn, 20; Marlene, 17, and Russell, 5.

Public speaking ability comes easily for Raelene, and through 4-H she's had a chance to prove she can really "talk". She participated in the state dairy judging contest for three years, and the third year helped the team take first place. She was one of the top four individuals in the state, all of whom just happened to be girls. She then traveled to the national contest in Columbus, Ohio with the all-girl team where they placed fifth, and Raelene was fifth high individual. But in the oral reasons part of the contest she placed second in the country, quite a tribute for being able to describe things as they are.

About dairy judging Raelene says, "I feel it's very valuable. I think type goes a long way in production, so it's important to be



Raelene poses in the Harbold living room with some of the prizes she won as dairy princess -- a suitcase, a travel alarm,

gloves, and, of course, the Dairy Princess crown.

Lancaster Farming Photos



A two-week-old orphan colt is a source of great pleasure to the Harbold family. Here Raelene demonstrates that it doesn't lack for affection.

able to look at a cow, break down her body parts and know her faults and her strengths. This is also a help in breeding a cow." As for giving reasons, Raelene said, "It helped a lot in speaking, as well as helping you remember what you saw. It makes you learn terminology, too."

Raelene is in her tenth year of 4-H work and has had five project animals in this time. Being in 4-H is something she says she really enjoyed, and one reason she gives is that it helps you get to know people in the dairy industry. She added, "I love showing Showmanship is something you must be able to do yourself."

An active member of Congregational Bible Church in Marietta, Raelene has just finished teaching Bible school, something she has done for the past two years. She has also been a counselor at church camp in the summer and hopes to spend one week there this summer. Raelene

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Raelene works with her 4-H heifer which she'll show at Round-Up in July.