

Montgomery County DHIA banquet held

# 1976 dairy princess chosen



Montgomery County's dairy princess for 1976 — Deborah McDonnell.

CENTRE POINT — Deborah Jean McDonnell, a 19-year old brunette from East Greenville was crowned Montgomery County Dairy Princess last Saturday night during the annual Montgomery County DHIA banquet.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McDonnell, Miss McDonnell was one of six girls to compete for the crown. The others were:

Miss Sherrie Allebach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Allebach, Telford; Miss Rose Marie Hayes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hayes, Gilbertsville; Miss Eileen Knechel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Knechel, Harleysville; Miss Judy Krazek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Krazek; and Miss Nancy Suloman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Suloman, Gilbertsville. Miss Hayes was unable to attend the banquet.

Chosen as runner-up in the contest was Judy Krazek, 17, a senior from Upper Perkiomen High School. Sixteen year-old Sherrie Allebach was voted to be Miss Congeniality.

The new dairy princess, who will reign until next year at this time, succeeds Miss Judy Battista, the 1974-75 winner. Miss McDonnell comes from a dairy farm of 137 Holsteins and works at the family's dairy store in addition to preparing herself for a secretarial job.

The runner-up, Judy Krazek, also comes from a dairy farm, where she helps part time in between working at the East Greenville Pizza Villa. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has ambitions of studying communication arts at Shippensburg State College.

Held in the Central Schwenkfelder Church, near here, the banquet drew more than 340 dairy farmers and their families, along with several invited guests and DHIA testers.

Following are a few statistics for the year just completed in the Montgomery County DHIA organization.

Full year herds on test: 64.

Average number of cows in the association: 3,985.

Average number of cows per herd: 62.

The average production per cow reads: 12,852 pounds of milk, 3.9 per cent test, and 501 pounds of butterfat. The value of the product calculated out to \$1,189; total feed costs amounted to \$609 — well above the state's average of \$534.

The Montgomery County DHI Association has been in existence for 48 years, during which time production has increased steadily from a low of 297 pounds of butterfat 48 years ago to the 501 recorded in the year completed Sept. 30. This is the first year the County's average has surpassed 500 pounds of butterfat.

The 1975 high herd (rolling herd averages) was that of the W. B. Saul School, Philadelphia. Their 11.4 Holsteins chalked up 17,828 pounds of milk and 641 pounds of butterfat. Harold Halteman, Telford, was second with 55.7 Holsteins averaging 16,714 pounds of milk and 639 of fat. In third place was Henry Gottahall, Royersford, with an average production of 15,850 M. and 610 F. on 65.4 cows. Robert Moses, Schwenksville, was next with his 99 Holsteins and records which averaged 16,438 M. and 605 F. The final, and fifth, herd to surpass 600 pounds of butterfat belonged to E. Jay Renninger, Royersford. His 106.6 cows pumped out 15,869 pounds of milk and 601 of butterfat.

Out of the 64 herds on test, five were up over 600 pounds of butterfat; 17 vaulted the 550 mark; 37 bettered 500; 52 exceeded 450 pounds; and 59 eclipsed the 400 mark.

In milk production, only one exceeded 17,000 pounds; four surpassed 16,000 pounds; eight hurdled 15,000 pounds; 18 topped 14,000; 34 went over 13,000 and all but 16 produced more than 12,000 pounds. Six herds were below 10,000 pounds in milk.

Herds recognized for having shown the greatest increase in production were those belonging to: Robert Moses, Elmer Renninger, W. B. Saul School, Clayton Regar, Ar Dan Farm, S. Horace Mowrer, Paul Weaver, Merrill Ruth, Kriebel Brothers and John Nikerle.

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