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Eastern tells independents: join up or get axed

BY CURT HARLER
SOUTH WAVERLY — Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative of Syracuse, N.Y. is putting pressure on independent members of Farmland Dairy shipping to the cheese facility in South Waverly to join the Co-op or else their market.

No deadline has been set to cut off shippers who decline

to join Eastern. But Eastern General Manager Howard McDonald indicated fieldmen would be completing their visit schedule in the near future and the termination notices would be sent soon thereafter.

Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board regulations require 28 days notice be given shippers

before they could be cut off. Other than that regulation, PMMB has no jurisdiction in the matter.

Some observers say they feel the move is a big bluff to scare independents into the Co-op. Because of the flush market and surplus of milk it would be a good time for such a move.

Eastern needs members,

money, and milk. Last week at its annual meeting, the Co-op assessed its members an average of \$625 each to bring its accounting books into line.

Eastern's ploy could backfire if those Farmland dairymen find another market and Eastern loses their milk. The Co-op has a large contract for cheesemaking at South Waverly to fulfill with Leprino Cheese Company of Denver, Colorado.

Many dairymen question whether Eastern can make that quota without an additional large infusion of milk from somewhere. Many other dairies currently are flooded with milk.

McDonald maintains the 125 to 130 independent shippers will be required to join so they can contribute to the marketing expenses of their milk.

"They had a free ride for long enough," he said.

The termination notices would come from Farmland Dairy, not Eastern, since the independents actually ship through Farmland.

Farmland, in a letter to the shippers, told dairymen "As you may know, Farmland is entering into a long-term agreement with Eastern."

If the dairymen were to sign up, Farmland's Vice President David Goldman told them, "You will never

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Among new state FFA officers elected this week, from the left from row, James Tretter, Lehigh County, Eastern Regional Vice President; Judy Zimmerman, Lancaster County, secretary; Larry Shrawder, Berks County, president; back row, Bob Kreider, Lebanon County, treasurer; and Gerald Reichard, Franklin County, Southcentral vice president.

14 top awards to area FFAers

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
UNIVERSITY PARK —

Amidst bright and crisp weather, more appropriate for October than mid-June, Future Farmers of America chapter members from Southeastern Pennsylvania harvested a bumper crop of top state awards on the Penn State Campus this week.

When the sea of nearly 2,000 blue corduroy jackets covered on Eisenhower Auditorium Thursday for the awards ceremonies, FFA chapter members from area schools captured championship first-placings in 14 of the 24 contests and accumulated more than 80 gold

awards in the statewide competition.

In addition to the outstanding showing in the annual FFA Activities Week contests, the southeastern area also will be well represented in directing the Pennsylvania FFA Association during the coming year.

Five area students were elected to State FFA Officer posts, including Larry Shrawder, Kutztown, Berks County, president; Bob Kreider, Little Dutchman Chapter, Lebanon County, treasurer; Judy Zimmerman, Cloister Chapter, Ephrata, Lancaster County, secretary; Gerald Reichard, Blue Ridge, Franklin County, Southcentral Regional Vice President; and James Tretter, Lehigh County, Eastern Regional Vice President.

Among the 14 contest championships won by area FFA chapter members, six went to schools in Lancaster County, two to Berks County and Philadelphia County and one each to Delaware, York, Dauphin and Chester Counties.

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One of the stables of Grand View's Farm Show champions upset ribbon-winners by bringing a price double the figure paid for the Grand Champion Guernsey and 60 percent more than their 1980 Supreme Champion and Grand Champion Holstein, pictured here with Max Perry, left, Norman Craig, center, and Marvin Miller.

At Grand View dispersal

Guernsey brings more bucks than supreme champ Holstein

BY SHEILA MILLER
LANCASTER — Buyers from Canada, Kentucky, Virginia, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania left the Guernsey Sale Barn, along Route 30, with a Grand View buy.

The Branstetters traveled all the way from Edmuntown, Kentucky to haul home two of the top-selling cattle at Grand View's herd dispersal. They bought a total of four head.

Roy Fowler Branstetter, the son, bought the top-priced cow and Guernsey at Tuesday's sale. A price tag of \$9000 went attached to follow View Hornet Amy.

The three-year-old daughter of a very good dam and grand dam out-sold Grand View's 1980 Farm Show grand champion Guernsey, and their

Supreme Champion and Grand Champion Holstein.

Fowler Branstetter, father of Roy, bought the 1980 Farm Show Supreme Champion and Grand Champion Holstein, Savage-Leigh Angels Magic. She was the top-selling Holstein, bringing \$5600.

Rankin Farms Golden Brown, the 1980 Farm Show Grand Champion Guernsey, sold to Jerry Berstein of Davidsonville, Maryland for \$4500.

An excellent Vernon daughter, Walhowdon Vi M Wrill, will be travelling to Canada. Kenneth Empey, of Shore Holsteins, Brownville, Ontario, purchased this cow bred to Pacemaker for \$5200. She was the second high selling Holstein at the sale.

A spokesperson for Rensburg Sale Service said the sale average for the 11

Guerneys sold was \$2672.73. The Holstein average was \$1533, which she explained was not representative because there were 34 open heifers and some grade animals included in this figure.

The sale average for the total 82 head sold at Tuesday's sale was \$1700.

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Legislative roundup

Truck bill, budget move through Senate

along with increasing many road user fees.

Dairy farmers in Northeastern Pennsylvania have long prayed for SB 10's passage since it will allow larger tankers on state highways. At least one dairy had threatened to drop Pennsylvania shippers if the

situation were not resolved.

Strongest opposition came from those who said the trucks will destroy the highways and cost more in repairs than the added fees will provide.

Maryland also has approved the 80,000 pound limit effective July 1.

The Senate also passed the state budget and sent both packages along to the Governor for his signature.

About \$2 million in state lottery funds are in the budget, earmarked for rural transportation.

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