

Ag Arena sale nets \$140,000

Penn State receives early Christmas gift



State Secretary of Agriculture, Penrose Hallowell, center, was among the early bidders during the dairy sale as he bid on the first dairy consignment, donated by Obie Snider, foreground, while Deputy Secretary of Agriculture E. Chester Heim looks on.

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO
HARRISBURG — It was a day of sharing — and a day of caring. Hundred of folks shared their livestock with others, last Friday, and cared enough to help Penn State raise \$140,000 toward the construction of the new \$900,000 Ag Arena.

According to Dr. Milford Heddeson, coordinator of environmental quality affairs in Penn State's College of Agriculture and co-chairman of the fund raising effort, 260 dairy cattle, beef, sheep and swine, plus 45 units of semen and four embryo transplants were consigned to the sale.

"Those consigning animals were asked to donate at least 50 percent of the sale price to the building fund," the co-chairman noted. "The sale grossed about \$285,000."

While all consigners had the option to split their sale price with Penn State, many offered their entire proceeds to the cause. And the building fund got a boost from not only Pennsylvanians, but out of state buyers of well, many of whom purchased the top sale animals.

The day began at 11 a.m., marked by a rousing cheer from the Penn State cheerleaders. With the cheerleaders' roar of "Buy that cow!" still ringing in their ears, prospective buyers went to work sending their bids front and center until Charles Backus' gavel rang for the last time. The first con-

signment sold in the Penn State Ag Arena Sale, Singing Brook Astro Betty, was history.

The 4-year-old Holstein, consigned by sale committeeman Obie Snider, Imler, was purchased by Sankey Crest Farm of Clearfield for \$6,100. The Paclamar Astronaut daughter is out of an EX 93 Paclamar Double Triune.

But it was the second Holstein consignment that brought the top price for a single consignment of any species.

Gillbrook Miss Penn State-ET, sold for \$18,000 to Jeff and Bill Lipton and Roy Homan of Somers, Connecticut. The 4-month-old ET heifer, sired by either Valiant or Pete, is out of a Very Good Bootmaker. John G. Gilliland of

Warriors Mark, consigned the top animal.

Managed by the Pa. Holstein Association, the dairy sale resembled the party game, "musical chairs," at times, as three auctioneers each took his turn at the historic gavel. Charles Backus of Mexico, New York, yielded his turn to Doty Remsburg of Frederick, Md., who then offered the gavel to another Maryland auctioneer, John Merryman of Sparks.

When the last bid was taken and the final auctioneer stepped down, the dairy sale grossed \$217,800 on 121 animals and 33 units of semen.

Hog buyers took to heart the phrase, "benefit hog sale." Dennis

(Turn to Page A26)



The high-selling consignment, Gill Brook Miss Penn State-ET is surrounded by a host of Penn State supporters. The 4-month-old calf, brought \$18,000, the highest price for a single

consignment of the entire day. She was consigned by John Gilliland of Warriors Mark and was purchased by Jeff and Bill Lipton and Roy Homan of Somers, Conn.



Amid the noise of the auctioneer's chant, Penn State President John Oswald, quietly pursues a sales catalog. The livestock auction was the first of its kind for Oswald, who admitted, "I've never had my picture taken with a cow before." But before the day ended, Oswald had taken his place next to many bovine dignitaries.



Jim Evans, left, of Genetics Unlimited, West Grove and Frank Walton, London Grove, carefully scrutinize the list of consignments before the beef sale.



The top-selling beef animal in the Penn State Ag Arena Benefit Sale, "SBF Mayflow-T 026" an Angus consigned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kinsley, right, of York, was purchased by

Genetics Unlimited, Inc., of West Grove, for \$3,000. At left is Samuel Smith, dean of the Penn State College of Agriculture, and second from left, John Oswald, University President.