

Darlene Musser is Lancaster Poultry Queen

LANCASTER — Eighteen-year-old Darlene Musser is the 1982 Lancaster County Poultry Queen, crowned in ceremonies last Friday night at the Farm and Home Center.

Darlene is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Musser, R1 Mount Joy who owns 125,000 layers and have their own egg processing plant. Darlene does the bookkeeping for the egg operation.

First runner-up was Sara Plowfield, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Plowfield, 636 Lincoln Road, Lititz. Sara is an employee of the Victor Weaver Company.

There were six contestants in the annual event sponsored by the Lancaster County Poultry Association and chaired by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mowrer, Columbia.

Each contestant was required to give a promotional talk before the audience, and Darlene spoke in rhyme, encouraging mothers to look to poultry products when they need menu ideas.

In part, the new Queen said: 'Eggs, higher in protein than any other food you can buy, contain all vitamins except C so their nutrition is very high. And for

those watching their weight eating eggs is very wise. For only 80 calories are in an egg of large size.'

Darlene said later that the idea came to her one night about 11 o'clock. She wrote two verses that night and the remaining ones came to her the next day. She said the hardest part in creating the promotion was "getting started."

Sara's promotion was extolling the virtues of chicken hot dogs.

A 1981 graduate of Donegal High School, Darlene will begin Lancaster Bible College in September where she will major in elementary education. Because of her interest in children, she is looking forward to making appearances in elementary school as Poultry Queen.

In high school, Darlene was a member of the National Honor Society, the band, color guard, chorus, dramatics club, tennis team and was athletic trainer for wrestling.

Darlene was crowned by retiring queen LaVon Fuhrman, who had to fight back tears as she said her farewell and thank you for a "very special year."

Other contestants were Deanna Cravens, 20; Wanda Hershey, 17; Judy Miller, 16; and Heidi Stauffer, 18. As part of the evenings' program the contestants did a dance routine in prairie skirts they had made themselves.

They also gave out pens to each person in attendance as part of their opening number.

Chairman of the County Commissioners, Robert Boyer, read a proclamation adopted by the Board of Commissioners proclaiming August as "Poultry Month" in recognition of the importance of Lancaster County's Poultry industry.

Judges for the event were Sally Bair, Lancaster Farming; M.M. Smith, retired county agent; and

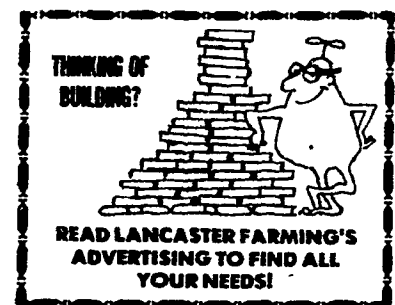
John Weidman, Pioneer HyBred Seeds.

Grover Gouker, Jr., was master of ceremonies and entertainment was provided by James Boyd and Glenn Smith.

Earlier in the summer all the contestants were given a tour of the county court house and the county prison to help them learn more about the county. —S.B.



Darlene Musser, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Musser of R1 Mount Joy was crowned Lancaster County's new poultry Queen at ceremonies held last Friday night at the Farm and Home Center. Alternate titles went to Sara Plowfield, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Plowfield.



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