

Nancy Mitrich wins Crawford dairy crown

BY NANCY KUNICK
Staff Correspondent

Dowler, Mercer Co. Extension Agent, introduced each candidate. Each gave a 3-5 minute presentation relating to the dairy industry. The contestants were judged on these as well as impromptu questions and previous interviews with the judges.

The judges sharing the decision were Sharon Burawa, a voice and piano instructor and former REA Pa. Queen in 1969; Carol Koehler, a

registered dietician at Greenville Hospital; and Laszlo Mozes, a Mercer Co. dairy farmer and State Holstein director.

Chosen to represent Crawford County's dairy industry as the 1984-85 Dairy Princess was Nancy Mitrich, the daughter of Nick and Betty Mitrich, of Guys Mills. She is a graduate of Maplewood High School and Crawford County Vocational-Technical School. She participated in various school activities and is now co-owner of a floral shop where she is a floral designer.

Among the special things that have happened to Nancy in the past year were being chosen 1983 FFA star dairy farmer and 1983 State Ayrshire Girl. Nancy has been a member of dairy 4-H and FFA clubs over the years, continually exhibiting blue ribbon dairy animals.

Nancy displayed her knowledge of nutrition with a skit about the Real Seal goodness found in dairy products. She concluded by saying, "Remember...they (dairy products) don't say Real, until I say, they say Real!"

She answered her impromptu question with the same energy. When asked how to reply to an older person who says milk isn't necessary at their age, she said, "Milk is good for you at any age but there are other dairy products you may enjoy more."

Selected as Nancy's helper in the

next year as Alternate was 16-year-old Jody Lee, of Cochranon. She is a student at Cochranon High School and hopes to attend college in the future.

Jody displayed her talent as a vocalist as she sang about milk after "finishing the milking." This enabled her to be recipient of the Best Presentation Award in addition to the title of Alternate Dairy Princess.

The other girls who competed were Wendy Proper, of Venango, who "cheered" for real dairy products, and Connie Worley, of Saegertown, who exercised to a milk commercial

As Nancy Mitrich and Jody Lee began their reign, 1983 Dairy Princess Kathy Worley, of Saegertown, and Alternate Dianne Schutz stepped out of the limelight. In bidding them farewell, Carol Powell, coordinator of the Crawford County Dairy Princess Committee presented them with the incentive award. Together the '83 team more than doubled the required number of appearances.

Nancy and Jody have their work cut out for them but they accepted the challenge with big smiles and won a real seal of approval from the crowd.

Dairy Princess



Crawford County dairy royalty includes Jody Lee, left, alternate; and Nancy Mitrich, princess.



Erie County's dairy princess Lynette Marie Loper flashes winning smile as she begins her year-long reign.

Farmer's daughter essayist judged tops in Erie

MILLCREEK — Amid a good-sized crowd in the Millcreek Mall on Friday evening, June 29, Lynette Marie Loper began her reign as Erie County dairy princess.

The 17-year-old daughter of William and Bonita Loper, of Waterford, was selected by three judges to wear the crown for 1984-85.

Lynette captivated the audience with her 100 word essay on her "most memorable experience as a farmer's daughter." She related the evening of her first real "car date" which ended by chasing the family herd off the road and out of the yard. She managed to impress her date anyway and was surprised when he stayed to help with the roundup. Even with this incident fresh in her mind, Lynette emphatically says "I wouldn't trade being a farmer's daughter for anything"

Lynette is active off the farm, also. She has been busy at Fort LeBoeuf High School in varsity cheerleading and is on the softball and volleyball teams. Lynette intends to further her education at Mercyhurst College in Erie and

become a registered nurse, and later a surgical nurse.

Chosen to help represent Erie County's dairy industry as Alternate was 18-year-old Mary Gardner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gardner, of Edinboro. Mary was very active in high school and is now working. Her future plans include attending Edinboro University to major in accounting and economics. Mary spoke of her first experience milking a cow.

Lynette and Mary were chosen from four contestants, the others were Robin Blout, who received the "Miss Congeniality Award" and Deborah Warnshuis, both of Edinboro.

The people with the toughest job of the evening were the judges. Jack Rynd and Jeff Raney, Crawford County dairymen and Cyndy Patton, newscaster for WJET-TV, of Erie, interviewed the girls over dinner at York Steak House previous to the pageant. Refreshments were available after the pageant. Cheese, milk and milkshakes were provided by Milk Marketing, Meadow Brook and the Erie Co. Farmers Association. — N.K.

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