

Elaine Hill reigns as Mercer's Dairy Princess

BY BARBARA RADER
Staff Correspondent

MERCER — Eighteen-year-old Elaine Hill was crowned 1984 Mercer County Dairy Princess on June 21 in the Mercer County Extension auditorium.

Brenda Drake, 17, and Tammy Slater, 19, were both honored as the princess' alternates for the coming year. Brenda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Drake of Transfer, and Tammy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Slater of Fredonia.

Elaine, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hill of Sandy Lake, is a recent graduate of Lakeview High School. She will be attending Clarion University in the fall to major in English.

In high school, Elaine was active in the pep stage, concert and marching bands, playing flute and alto saxophone. She was also in the school chorus, biology club, and was secretary and treasurer of the National Honor Society. Elaine has been treasurer of the international club, in AFS and on the school's newspaper staff.

Elaine has established her own herd of 16 Guernseys on her parent's 208-acre farm, where they milk Holsteins. The family also rents an additional 80 acres.

Mrs. Hill said her daughter is involved on the farm, doing chores every evening, driving tractor, and planting crops, but Elaine's main interest, she said, lies in caring for the cattle.

A member of the No Bull 4-H Dairy Club for six years, Elaine is the club's president this year and proudly says that her Guernseys have made it to the Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show the last five years. In 1982 she showed the Junior Champion Guernsey. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Junior Guernsey Association and a junior member of the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

For her promotional presentation, Elaine dressed as "MC Cow," professional private eye inspector, and revealed secret clues to solve the Calcium Quest. She presented MILK with a blue ribbon because it was the answer to her quest.

Alternate Tammy is a 1982 graduate of Lakeview High School and alternate Brenda is a 1983 graduate of Reynolds High School. Both girls live on Holstien dairy farms. Tammy is currently working on the family's farm and babysits during the week. Brenda plans to further her education by attending nursing school. Both girls were active in school activities, each each belonging to several clubs.

Brenda's presentation was entitled "Dandy the Dancing Cow." She spoke on the importance of milk's nutrients, the

real seal and milk products. Tammy was a "Miss Milky-Way Universal Candidate," presenting her campaign on the importance of milk.

1983 Dairy Princess Kathy Minor, presented the crown to Elaine. In her farewell speech, she said, "As I pass the title on, I hope the next girl has as exciting and enjoyable year as I did."

Judges for the contest were Blanche Kind, a farm wife; Bob Sterrett, a farmer; and Paul Montgomery, president of the First National Bank in Slippery Rock.



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1984 Mercer County Dairy Princess Elaine Hill, center, and her two alternates, Brenda Drake, left, and Tammy Slater, right, will spend the coming year promoting dairy products.

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