



Seventeen Jersey youth from across the state assembled in Bellefonte for the annual youth seminar. Youth Leader Lori Sollenberger said that the seminar is especially helpful to younger members and helps the older youth to brush up on the basics in showing.

## Jersey Juniors hold seminar at Penn State & Bellefonte farms

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS  
Staff Correspondent

BELLEFONTE — Jersey juniors had the opportunity to judge the Jersey cattle at Penn State and tour the DHIA lab as the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club conducted its fourth annual Youth Seminar on July 6 and 7.

Hosted by the Vic and Mary Dupuis family on their Muncy Mountain Farm, R1 Bellefonte, the seminar combined showing, fitting, and judging instruction, educational tours, swimming, games and fellowship. Seventeen Jersey youth attended along with several parents and youth leader, Lori Sollenberger, Everett.

After registration on Friday, the weekend began with swimming and games, as the juniors from throughout the state got reacquainted and organized. The host families were the Dupuis family and the Ronald Houtz family, R4, Bellefonte.

Coordinating the weekend schedule was Betsy Dupuis, the daughter of Vic and Mary Dupuis.

Betsy was the 1983 Centre County Dairy Princess and is also a very active Jersey Junior showing her small herd of Jerseys on the local, state and national levels. Her parents, both professors of education at Penn State, helped in arranging the DHIA tours and judging instruction with the college herd of Jerseys. They farm 140 acres at Muncy Mountain Farm, where Betsy milks her seven cows and raises her 4-H animals.

While the boys bunked at the Dupuis Farm, the girls stayed at the Houtz Farm Friday evening. The Houtz' milk approximately 35 Jerseys on their farm while their children enjoy showing the animals. Also lending their help with the meals and support with the arrangements was the Jersey family of Harold and Shirley Harpster, R1 Boalsburg.

Saturday morning began with a tour of the DHIA laboratories and information about the various milk and butterfat testing machines. Computer terminals currently in use were also explained by a laboratory technician who showed the juniors through the facilities. DHIA informational booklets were handed out and questions were answered.

From the DHIA lab, the youth toured the dairy barns, and milking parlor at Penn State. Dr. Larry Muller, professor of dairy science, and Ray Moon, barn



The Jersey Juniors toured the DHIA lab and received booklets and information on the equipment from a lab technician.

manager, were on hand to explain the facilities and the many research projects currently in progress with the dairy herd.

With the help of Dr. Muller, four Jerseys were selected from the university herd and the juniors judged the class of four-year-olds. Lori Sollenberger, youth leader and an accomplished showman, also helped the juniors with their judging techniques. In addition to demonstrating several showmanship points, Sollenberger also gave a sample set of oral reasons after the judging of the four-year-old class.

"It was more a teaching class rather than a competition class," stated Sollenberger about the four cows that were judged. With most of the youth attending a seminar for the first time and many never judging cows before, Sollenberger said that they enjoyed the judging points that Dr. Muller discussed.

"He went through the steps of what to look for in a cow," she said. "It was good, basic introduction," Sollenberger added. "They enjoyed it."

Dr. Muller, also the leader of the Dairy Science Club, discussed the university's herd of Jerseys and the current production and classification of each cow.

After the educational morning, juniors returned to the Muncy Mountain farm for ice cream and door prizes. Many local businesses

and farms supported the seminar by donating items and food.

"They had fun, got to know more people, and got an introduction to what the Jersey club is all about," according to Sollenberger when explaining the youth seminar.

The Jersey juniors plan to meet again on September 23 in Harrisburg for their annual social before the state show. Even if they are not showing an animal, Sollenberger encourages participation. For more information on the Jersey youth program, contact her at: R3, Box 390E, Everett, Pa. 15537 or call 814-652-6577.

### ANSWERS

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