

Fun, the future promised at Jr. Holstein Convention

PHILADELPHIA — There is something for everyone at the 1985 Pennsylvania Holstein Convention — including junior Holstein enthusiasts. The Pa. Junior Holstein Convention includes a full two-day slate of activities at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia, on Feb. 21 and 22.

The action begins early Thursday with the Pa. Holstein Convention Sale, followed by the State Holstein Dairy Bowl contest on Thursday afternoon. The two days of meetings, activities, and entertainment will end Friday evening with a trip to the Riverfront Dinner Theater to see the musical "The Wiz."

One of the highlights of the Junior Convention is the State Holstein Dairy Bowl Contest. As many as 50 senior and junior teams from county Holstein clubs throughout the state will compete in the exciting dairy question and answer contest. In addition to other prizes, the winning senior team will earn the right to represent Pennsylvania at the Centennial Holstein Convention, to

be held June 23-27, in Hartford, Conn.

This year's dairy bowl contest will be conducted by the students from the dairy society of Delaware Valley College. They promise challenging questions and a fun contest. County Holstein dairy bowl teams are encouraged to start practicing, and for junior members who come from counties without teams, they are invited to get together teams of four for the state contest.

Thursday night is designated Phantastic Philly night with a theme dinner followed by two educational workshops about advertising and about the Distinguished Junior Member Contest. The evening will end on a musical note with a dance featuring "Purple Haze." And a make-your-own ice cream sundae bar will finish off a fun night in Philly.

And there will be no sleeping in on Friday morning; two important early morning events will coincide with an Adam's Mark breakfast buffet. Former Philadelphia

Eagles coach Dick Vermeil will address the breakfast crowd, and the 1985 Dairy Bowl Finals for the senior teams will be held.

Following the awards breakfast, the junior Holstein membership will conduct their business meeting and district meetings, and elect officers.

The Junior Holstein Awards Luncheon will follow the business meeting. Special attraction of the luncheon will be the presentation of the 1985 Distinguished Junior Member Awards.

Last year's award winner, John Burkett, went on to receive national recognition. And this year's winner will represent the state at the breed organization's 100th anniversary national convention.

Another special attraction will be a slide presentation and talk by Jerry Myers, faculty member of the Dairy Science Department of Delaware Valley College, on your opportunities in international agriculture.

For mid-afternoon on Friday, an informal swimming party is

scheduled at the Adam's Mark indoor pool. In addition a large whirlpool, racquetball courts, and other recreational equipment will be available for junior members' use.

On Friday evening the junior convention will adjourn to the neighboring Riverfront Dinner Theatre to see a live performance of the hit musical "The Wiz." For those who have never been to a hit play or a dinner theatre, the evening will certainly be an en-

joyable experience.

The 1985 Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Convention will focus on the future of junior members in the Holstein industry, but it will provide plenty of opportunity for fun in Philadelphia. Everyone is invited to participate in the dairy bowl contest and enjoy all the activities of the convention.

For more information about the Pa. Junior Holstein Convention program contact Ed Breckbill at 215-932-3307.

Major USDA survey begins this month

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is launching a major survey this month on 1984 farm production expenses, debts and assets, crop and livestock sales, and costs of production. Letters are going out

to about 24,000 farmers representing a broad cross section of American agriculture—from Louisiana rice growers to Wyoming ranchers. Interviewers will then visit these farmers between Jan. 21 and March 8 to conduct the Farm Costs and Returns Survey.

Survey results will be used to determine farm production expenditures, help measure farm income, and assess farm sector debts, assets, and cash flow—key indicators of the economic well-being of farmers. Survey results will also be used to estimate the costs and returns of producing individual commodities by size and type of farm.

"This is one of the best ways for farmers to get their story out," says economist Jim Johnson of USDA's Economic Research Service. "The survey results, will help farm analysts, legislators, producer groups, and farm suppliers better understand the needs and problems within the farm sector, and how those needs and problems vary from one type of farm and one region to another," according to Johnson.

Responses to each questionnaire are confidential, and all questionnaires are destroyed when summary data are sent from state offices to USDA headquarters in Washington. There, USDA's Statistical Reporting Service will compile the survey statistics, and the Economic Research Service will analyze the results. Both agencies will report their findings to Congress, farmers, and the public.

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