

SEP 12 1985

Ag

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 30 No. 44 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, September 7, 1985 \$7.50 per Year



Dairy royalty was on hand to crown the winner at the 1985 Pennsylvania Holstein Championship Show Thursday in Meadville. From left are judge Norman Hill, Dave Dowler with the grand champion; Nancy Mitrich, Pennsylvania alternate dairy princess; Jill Hyde, Crawford County dairy princess; and Ed Doeberiener.

Valiant daughter wins state title

BY NANCY KUNICK
Staff Correspondent

MEADVILLE — A record-breaking count of nearly 300 entries paraded through the show ring at the 1985 Pennsylvania Holstein Championship Show, held Thursday at the Crawford County Fairgrounds.

This is "the largest fall show the association has ever held," announced Bill Nichol, executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association.

"There are five championship shows in July and August and the best of the breed is represented here. It's a tribute to the Association and to the industry to show the best.

"It's always a pleasure to be here to watch this great show and it's always the highlight of the year for the state association," he added.

Beginning with the bulls and continuing through every class, it was a display of the best Holsteins all the way. Judge Norman Hill, of Woodbine, Md., commented throughout the show about the exceptional quality he was seeing.

At the start of his reasons for a class of 19 entries, he said, "I'd like to congratulate the exhibitors on the depth running deep in this class of four-year-olds."

Hill had a difficult time placing them, granting several points to cattle all down the line and eventually pulling two youth division champions from that outstanding class of four-year-olds.

Balboa named champ

Representative of the show's tremendous quality was the 1985 grand champion, Cherry-Brook LTD Balboa, the first-place senior two-year-old. Shown on Thursday by Dave Dowler, this S-W-D Valiant daughter was winner of the reserve grand champion honors just two weeks ago at the Crawford County Fair.

Balboa is owned jointly by Dowler, of Meadville, Dave

Thomas, a 4-H'er from Bruceton, W.Va., and Queens Manor Holsteins of Jamestown.

Dowler, a Mercer County extension agent, was quite proud of Balboa, since she is the first animal born on his farm and the first to carry his prefix. He keeps about 20 heifers on his home farm, and he also owns seven cows that are kept at other farms. Balboa and her dam are kept at Queens Manor.

Out of the excellent Hanover-Hill Rag Apple Rocky, Balboa is projected at \$2,554 of milk and 880 of fat on her first lactation.

Reserve grand champion went to the well-known Leadfield Telstar Linda-ET, exhibited by the Doeberieners of the Queens Manor-Leadfield group. This aged

cow earned the top spot at the Western Pennsylvania Championship Show in early August.

The six-year-old Linda is by Pawnee Farm Arlinda Chief and out of C Craigo Petro Telstar.

The junior champion title was given to Bob Morrell, Cochranon, with Merrillea Pete Marny, the first-place senior yearling. This Straight-Pine Elevation Pete daughter's credits include the junior championship at the western championship show and at the Crawford County Fair.

As he placed the senior yearlings, judge Hill remarked, "She is the best feet and legs animal I've seen today."

Globe Run Farm showed the day's reserve junior champion. An

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Auction founders forecast better tobacco prices

BY JACK HUBLEY

LANCASTER — Martin Auctioneers Inc.'s auction facility near Intercourse will be the site of the state's first tobacco auction on Dec. 16.

During a meeting held at Martin's on Tuesday night, officers of the newly formed Pennsylvania Tobacco Auction, Inc., officially signed the organization into existence and discussed plans for the coming auction season.

Those present included Lancaster attorney Larry Miller, PTA's president; Lancaster auctioneer Eric Probst, who serves as the organization's secretary-treasurer; and PTA's five directors: Robert Todd, auctioneers Paul Martin Jr and Larry Martin, and two directors who prefer to remain anonymous.

Though the bottom line in any business venture must be to turn a profit, "our organization was formed to put dollars in the farmer's pocket," stressed an en-

thusiastic Eric Probst following the meeting. Probst, who is serving as PTA's general manager, pointed out that Pennsylvania's traditional tobacco marketing procedure has resulted in substandard prices at the farm level, a situation that PTA hopes to rectify.

He noted that the sale of Pennsylvania's production of 609 Maryland Type tobacco will be PTA's top priority, with Type 41 being sold "if the need develops." Used in the manufacture of cigarettes, 609 is traditionally purchased by southern buyers who visit farmers and deal with them on a one-to-one basis. Although Pennsylvania Type 41 is sold in much the same manner, buyers are generally considered to be "local", said Probst. Type 41 is used in the manufacture of cigars and chewing tobacco.

Rather than relying on the judgement of one buyer, then, an auction system will permit a group

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NEDCO files Chapter XI papers

BY JAMES H. EVERHART

SYRACUSE, NY — The financially troubled Northeast Dairy Cooperative Federation, Inc. has filed bankruptcy papers in federal court, listing \$30 million in liabilities and only \$20.8 million in assets.

The action, filed Aug. 30 in the Federal Bankruptcy Court in Utica, NY, requests reorganization under Chapter XI of the Bankruptcy Act.

If approved, the arrangement would allow the troubled dairy organization to continue in operation while it seeks to work out an arrangement with creditors.

Even if all goes well, however, NEDCO will not be returning to the milk marketing business, at least not in the foreseeable future.

First, the organization's marketing members have gone to other co-ops or have made arrangements with handlers to sell milk directly.

Second, the federation has signed a non-compete agreement with Dairylea, the cross-town rival who accepted NEDCO marketing members June 14 when the federation's bank, CITICORP, revoked its line of credit and seized the organization's receivables.

Third, NEDCO has also sold its major processing plants, including the Fultonville fluid milk plant and the Fraser facility which manufactured cottage cheese and sour cream.

Thus the federation finds itself with no processing facilities, no milk to market and no customers . . . and a \$10 million deficit, most of it owed to producers.

Nevertheless, the federation hopes to continue as a bargaining co-op, returning to the role it once played successfully before embarking on the hazardous seas of milk marketing.

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Lancaster seeks 'Friends' to preserve farmland

BY JACK HUBLEY

LANCASTER — Lancaster County's Agricultural Preserve Board underscored its commitment to preserving open space on Thursday by announcing a fundraising drive aimed at slowing the loss of farmland to industrial and residential development.

Labeled the "Friends of Agricultural Land Preservation", the new initiative will help to underwrite the cost of purchasing deed restrictions on county farmland by soliciting memberships from the private sector.

Though Lancaster County has been widely acclaimed as the

number-one nonirrigated agricultural county in the nation, farmers aren't the only ones who find the area's rural atmosphere and temperate climate to their liking. Farmland here continues to slip away at the rate of 1,500 to 3,000 acres a year, according to board chairman Amos Funk.

The county's Agricultural Preserve Board was founded in 1980, in response to even greater losses that averaged some 5,000 to 8,000 acres annually from 1964 to 1969.

To date, three preserves totaling

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Lancaster Agricultural Preserve Board director Alan Musselman (left) and board chairman Amos Funk display two checks totaling more than \$1,100, received in response to the board's new fund drive