Carol Kurtz is Berks County Dairy Princess

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS Berks Co. Correspondent

LEESPORT — The new Berks County dairy princess is Carol Kurtz. She is quick to smile, outgoing and adamant about promoting milk.

The daughter of Calvin and Esther Kurtz, R3 Elverson, Carol received her crown before a large crowd at the Berks County Ag Center in Leesport May 3.

For her presentation, Carol sang a snappy song about the merits of milk set to music she had taped for her presentation.

"I enjoy going out and meeting people," Carol explained after receiving her crown. She added that she is looking forward to making new friends and spreading the news about the benefits of milk to many people. "Milk is very important to me," she said.

Since graduating from high school in 1984, Carol has studied at the Penn State University Berks Campus and at the Community College of Philadelphia. She is currently a receptionist/secretary

for a medical doctor.

While in high school, she was active in the Twin Valley FFA as secretary and was a member of the student council, the Black and White 4-H Club, and is active in the Hopewell-Reading Church.

Her interests and hobbies include reading, jogging, music, sports and working with people. Carol lives with her parents, who own and operate a 200-acre dairy farm with 85 Holstein cows.

Sharing the spotlight with Carol Kurtz were contestants for the Li'l Miss Berks County dairy princess title. Winning by a majority vote from secret balloting of the audience was Lynette Heffner, the 5-year-old daughter of Gary and Martha Heffner, R4 Kutztown. The Heffners milk 40 Holsteins on their farm.

Alternate dairy princess is Clarinda Leatherman, the daughter of Dan and Nancy Leatherman, R2 Hamburg. She is a junior at Christopher Dock Mennonite High School, secretary of her youth group at Oley Men-

nonite Church and works part time as a bookkeepr for the Harleysville National Bank.

"You learn to work," she said about her life on the farm. Her parents own and operate a 147-acre dairy farm with 110 Holsteins.

Clarinda performed an educational skit telling small children about the benefits of drinking milk while they were on a picnic. "We have to teach each child to say, 'Mom, I need some milk today,' "she said.

Other contestants were Ann Kline, R1 Birdsboro, the daughter of Paul and Christine Kline; and Diane Troutman, R1 Myerstown, the daughter of George and Mary Troutman

Other contestants for the Li'l Miss Berks County dairy princess, included, Ann Melissa Kieffer, 3-year-old daughter of Mark and Debra Kieffer, R1 Myerstown; Kyanti Kleinsmith, 4-year-old daughter of Tim and Lee Kleinsmith, R2 Kempton; Karen Smith, 5-year-old daughter of Nevin and Roseann Smith, R2 Kutztown;

Jaclyn Troutman, 4-year-old daughter of Nelson and Mary Troutman; and Jennifer VanHorn, 3-year-old daughter of Jeff and Melanie VanHorn.

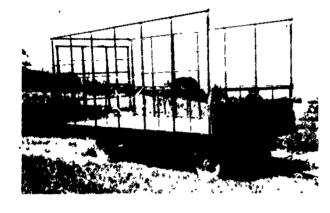
Judges for the pageant were Jane Pepple, a dairy farm wife for Oxford Dr. John Plummer, chairman of the dairy department at Delaware Valley College; and Martha Gehringer, dairy editor at Lancaster Farming.

Contestants were judged on their appearance, speaking ability, poise, personality and intelligence.



Carol Kurtz, left, and Lynette Heffner are the new dairy royalty for Berks County.

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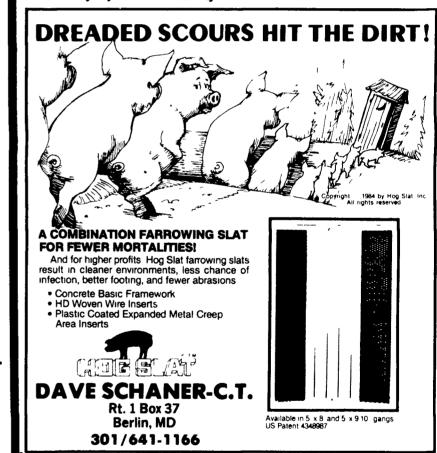
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