

Over 500 Goats Compete in 'Big Weekend'

BY BETSY STITT

Blair County Correspondent

HUNTINGDON — A growing interest in dairy goats was evident at the Pennsylvania Dairy Goat Show held last weekend at Huntingdon.

Goat enthusiasts from Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia brought together over 500 goats for the three day show. This "Big Weekend" also served as a kick-off for the National Dairy Goat Awareness Week which ends

today. Goat Awareness Week was intended to make the public more aware of the goodness of goat milk and goat milk products.

One of the more prestigious awards presented during the event is the Miss Pennsylvania award. To be eligible a goat must be owned and bred by a Pennsylvania resident. Receiving the award this year was CH Spruce-Up Misty, a Toggenburg owned by Delores and Truman Peifer.

A new youth representative was also chosen. Last year's

representative, Jonathan Merkle, relinquished his duties to Glenda Hockenberry of Port Royal. Glenda raises a herd of Saanens and LaManchas.

Youth Show Winners

The youth show was held Saturday with 174 goats entered. Champions of each breed for the youth show are: Alpine, Sinking Spring Vanessa owned by Jonathan Merkle; LaMancha, Laurel Ridge Blossom SC Heidi owned by Tammy and Dawn Spitler; Nubian, Sheaffers Wild King Doms Sandy owned by Brenda Stroup; Saanen, Sinking Spring Victoria owned by Jonathan Merkle; Toggenburg, Earth-Way Strawberry owned by Trisha Trimmer; and Recorded Grade, Haines Willow Run Falonna owned by Michele Haines.

Tammy and Dawn Spitler's LaMancha was named Best of Show for the Youth Show.

Amy Marie Baldwin, Bellefonte won the junior showmanship title in the junior division. Michele Dutrow of Logantown won the title in the senior division.

Buck Show

Also judged on Saturday were the 66 entries in the Buck Show. The following are the champions of each breed.

Alpine, Can-D's Rome Daniel owned by Lawrence McVey; LaMancha, Catalpa Hills Shady Prince, owned by James Collon; Nubian, Amor MM Bernna's Bran Don owned by Stuart and Barb Crammer; Saanen, One Time Farno Beauregard owned by Karen Manfredonia; and Toggenburg, Open Gate Snowflake Beethoven owned by Charles Fullard.

Best Buck of Show honors went to the Nubian owned by Stuart and Barb Crammer.

Senior Doe Show

In the senior doe show, which took place Sunday, 137 entries were exhibited. The following are the champions of each breed.

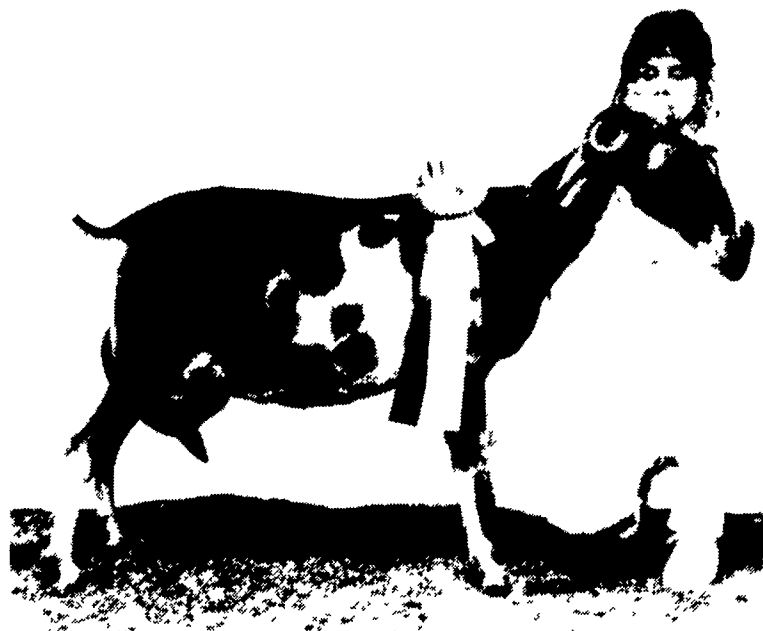
Alpine, Earth Dance Lynde's Minnie owned by Robert and Jennifer Gourle; LaMancha, Posey Acres HS Tavia owned by Debbie Smeltzer; Nubian, CH Winterberry Marvin's Caresse owned by Ann Whitney; Oberhasli, Bri-Ra-Bar Fraulein owned by Barbara and Lee Blouch; Saanen, Sinking Spring Victoria owned by Jonathan Merkle; Toggenburg, CH Spruce-Up Misty owned by Delores and Truman Peifer; and Recorded Grade, CH Look-Over's Jennifer Honeydew owned by Bonnie Jean



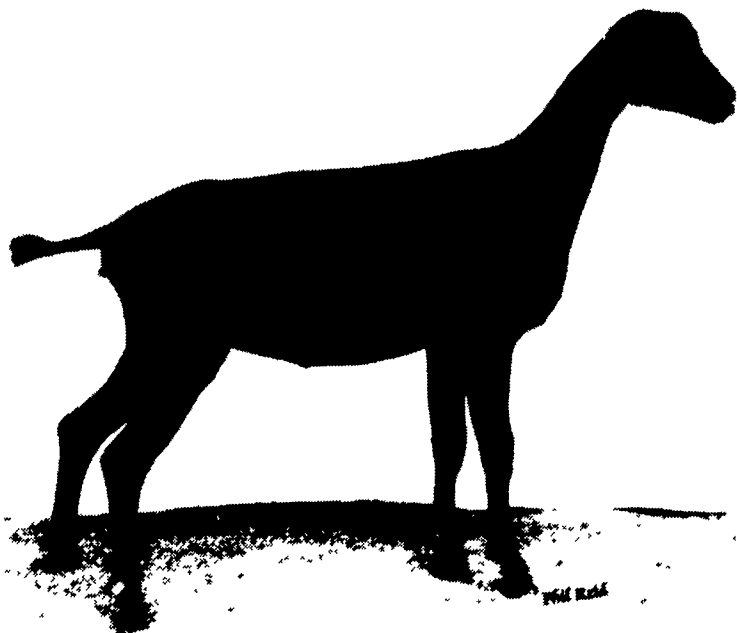
Best Buck of Show honors was garnered by Stuart and Barb Crammer and their Nubian.



Senior Best Doe of Show honors was captured by the Toggenburg owned by Delores and Truman Peifer.



Best of Show honors for the youth show went to Tammy and Dawn Spitler and their LaMancha.



Debbie Smeltzer took home Junior Best Doe of Show honors with her LaMancha.

McLoskey.

Senior Best Doe of Show honors were captured by Delores and Truman Peifer with their Toggenburg.

Junior Doe Show

In the Junior Doe Show 149 contestants competed for the blue. The following are the champions of each breed.

LaMancha, Posey Acres WV Xtra owned by Debbie Smeltzer; Nubian, Shade-Mt Full Spotts owned by Brenda Stroup;

Oberhasli, Walnut Bottom Johannes Ericka owned by William Ober; Saanens, Sinking Spring Winifred owned by Todd Biddle; Toggenburg, Double Charitys Crystal owned by Shirley Shields; and Recorded Grade, EW Joy-Us Vande SF Night-Love owned by Debra Van Valkenburg.

Junior Doe of Show honors went to the Debbie Smeltzer and her LaMancha.

Jennifer Bice of California served as the judge for the show.

Rutters Celebrate 65th Anniversary

BY JOYCE BUPP

York County Correspondent

YORK — Few ag businesses would care to talk about having been arrested and fined over a product they put out for consumers.

But at Rutter's Farm and Dairy, 2100 N. George Street, an arrest and subsequent fine over their milk has become a source of

family and historic pride.

The arrest came in 1933, when a Pennsylvania law went into effect regulating the amount of cream in commercially sold milk. Rutter's Guernsey herd was producing a higher-butterfat product than the state's legal limit. And when the firm persisted in selling milk with fat above the legal limit, an arrest

was forthcoming.

"Product Too Good; Milk Dealer Penalized," announced the headline that appeared in a local paper, elaborating on the arrest and subsequent \$25 fine.

Such notoriety proved a boon to the Rutter family's dairy business. New customer orders for the "too good" product poured into the offices.

Through the month of June, the Rutter firm is celebrating a combined salute to their 65th year in business, the opening this year of their 50th farm store and of course, June Dairy Month. A recent open-house highlighted the combined anniversaries and brought some 4,000 York area residents and customers to tour the ultra-modern processing and milking facilities.

Rutter's Dairy has its roots deep in the rich loam of central York County. In 1747, Andrew Rutter received a pigskin deed to a 200-acre grant from Springetts Penn, grandson of William Penn. The first barn was built in 1806. Its stone walls still stand today, sturdy, beautiful and providing farm storage 180 years later.

When Andrew's grandson,



Born just in time to help celebrate the Rutter's 65th anniversary were twin calves, Jack and Jill. Calf-raiser Marge Rutter offered Jack a bottle as visitors oohed and aahed over the newborns.

Jacob, died in 1904, his nine children were left to run the family farm. Jacob's sons, George and Ebert, better known until his recent death as Bud, founded the dairy.

An excess of milk from the Guernseys prompted the two brothers in 1921 to bottle up 15

quarts of the surplus and offer it for sale, door-to-door. All but two of the quarts sold: and Crystal Spring Dairy — named for the spring used to cool the milk — was in business. The raw product was purchased from their brother William, who maintained the herd of 25 cows.

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Cindy Rutter Johnson, a third-generation member of the Rutter corporation, helped answer visitor's questions about the dairy herd and milking operations.