

# West Virginia Disperses Champion Rosettes State-Wide

BY DEBBIE STILES-RENZI

West Virginia Correspondent

JACKSON'S MILL, W. Va. — There couldn't have been a greater geographical difference between winners — as well as exhibitors — at the 1986 West Virginia registered Holstein Show at the 45th Annual West Virginia Dairy Cattle Show and Festival. From counties that touch Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania borders came the champions of this year's show, the largest breed show at the state event.

The 1984 champion, Cherrybrook LTD Balboa, returned this year with owner David Thomas of Preston County to win grand champion honors and senior reserve champion placing in the open show. The All West Virginia 3 year old, from Maryland- and Pennsylvania-bordering, Preston County won over a Virginia-neighborhood County, Monroe, exhibited by Pond-Oak Dairy, Miss WDH Blendell Adon Erna, shown by Doug Dransfield. Doug is the son of Raymond Dransfield, owner

of Pond-Oak Dairy of Monroe County.

The eastern panhandle of West Virginia brought the Holstein Show's youth grand champion. WVA Greystone Citation Vanessa, exhibited by Chip Daniel of Jefferson County, was selected senior champion female in the youth division and also overall grand champion in this division. Runner-up in both youth senior and overall was Big Sinks Valiant Eileen Fern, 4-H project of Denise Rinehart of Lewis County, located in central West Virginia.

A total of 145 Holsteins were shown in this year's show of 25 classes, exhibits representing 56 families from 12 different counties across the state. These included centrally-located and northcentral Barbour, Harrison, Lewis counties; Northern Panhandle counties of Marshall and Ohio; the eastern panhandle's Berkeley, Jefferson and Mineral counties; northern Preston County; and the more southern counties of Greenbrier, Jackson, Mason and Monroe.

#### WEST VIRGINIA HOLSTEIN SHOW

Junior Heifer Calf  
Open— Alan Thomas  
Junior— Alan Thomas  
Intermediate Heifer Calf  
Open— Shady Grove  
Junior— Amy Henderson  
Senior Heifer Calf  
Open— Brookdale Holstein  
Junior— Francis Daniel



David Thomas captured the grand champion rosette of the West Virginia Holstein Show.

Summer Yearling Heifer  
Open— Greystone Farm  
Junior— Harlan Haines  
Junior Yearling Heifer  
Open— Greystone Farm  
Junior— Alan Thomas  
Senior Yearling  
Open— Pond Oak Dairy  
Junior— Bill Brooke  
Junior Champion  
Open— Pond Oak Dairy  
Junior— Alan Thomas  
Reserve Junior Champion  
Open— Alan Thomas  
Junior— Bill Brooke  
Junior 2-Year-Old Cow  
Open— Stephanie Hannah  
Junior— Stephanie Hannah  
Senior 2-Year-Old Cow  
Open— David Thomas  
Junior— Jason Poth  
All West Virginia Jr  
2-Year-Old Cow

Brookdale Holsteins  
All West Virginia Sr  
2-Year-Old Cow  
Pond Oak Dairy  
All West Virginia  
3-Year-Old Cow  
Open— David Thomas  
Junior— Chip Daniel  
All West Virginia  
4-Year-Old Cow  
Francis Daniel III  
All West Virginia Aged Cow  
Pond Oak Dairy  
Junior— Loretta Bane  
Dry Cow  
Denise Rinehart  
Grand Champion  
Open— David Thomas  
Junior— Chip Daniel  
Reserve Grand Champion  
Open— Pond Oak Dairy  
Junior— Denise Rinehart  
Dairy Herd  
Pond Oak Dairy



Chip Daniels claimed the grand championship of the Junior Holstein Show.

## 'Buyout And Build Ups' Affect Numbers, Prices At W. Va. Sales

BY DEBBIE STILES-RENZI

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JACKSON'S MILL, W. Va. —

Prices were depressed at the Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale, part of the 45th Annual West Virginia Dairy Cattle Show and Festival, and the numbers were down one-half of what they were last year in both attendance at the shows and consignment at the sale.

"Buyouts and build ups," dairyman Joe Neel explained, as the reason fewer exhibitors had participated in this year's state event, held the week of Aug. 11 at Lewis County's Jackson's Mill, the state 4-H camp.

"The general situation of the dairy industry in West Virginia," says Steve Miller, dairy specialist with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, is partly to blame for the fewer numbers this year. A few dairy operations involved in the buyout obviously chose not to show, while those who were not in the buyout program were taking

advantage of cheaper money to expand their operations or improve them.

"We lost 13 (dairy farms) in the buyout in Greenbrier and Monroe counties alone," stated Neel, during a lunch break at the registered Holstein Show, held Wednesday, Aug. 13. Southern Greenbrier and Monroe, which borders the state of Virginia, have a substantial chunk of West Virginia's dairy industry, and some of its best herds.

"We've had the top DHIA herds in the state the last 10 years, I think," said Neel.

"As long as I can remember," Miller confirmed. The area has around 50 to 60 dairy farms, total.

In a state where family — extended family — operations are the rule, and large numbers exhibited from different family members of the same farm are common. The few who did not show or consign this year were typically those exhibitors with a large number of

animals, which explains the massive drop in attendance.

In 1985 almost 200 Holsteins were exhibited in the West Virginia registered Holstein Show. This year, the total number of exhibits, including those of the Guernsey, Ayrshire, Jersey and Milking Shorthorn breeds totaled only 188.

"The way interest rates are right now, it's the best time to ask for money," conceded Miller.

One family, Guernsey dairy farmers Richard Cronin and Sons of Lewis County were one example. They are busy putting in a new manure disposal system. "So we just decided to go to the State Fair," said Jo Cronin, and exhibit there, later, when things weren't so hectic.

The federal government's buyout program is not a pleasant topic of conversation for West Virginia's Commissioner of Agriculture, Gus R. Douglass, who was on hand for the final ceremonies of the state show and festival Thursday night, to crown the new dairy princess. "The dairy buyout program was one program I didn't support," said Douglass in an interview. "The dairy surplus buyouts should have gone to surplus areas ... not the entire nation."

Douglass was not completely negative on the program, and its effects. "A lot of those folks who took advantage of the program were looking to retire early, or those who were in a little bit of financial trouble," he admitted. "Thus, for them, was a way out."

But Douglass feels the program will ultimately result in shortages in some areas, the need for high-cost shipping from one part of the country to another of dairy products to remedy shortfalls, and higher prices then being passed on to the consumer without a realization of any greater profit by the dairy producer. "We've lost all this production," he stated. "We lost more dairy farms (in the buyout) than the surplus areas (such as the Midwest)."

There were 13 counties represented at this year's state dairy show and festival, with a total of 99 exhibitors. The 19th Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale, held on Thursday afternoon during the show, brought a relatively large crowd of prospective buyers to the show barn at Jackson's Mill,



The top price at the 1986 West Virginia Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale, held in conjunction with the state Dairy Show and Festival, was \$2,350, paid by Russ Linger, left, Huttonsville, for Tim-Rock Cap Cassie. The animal was consigned by 4-Her Stephanie Hannah, Jane Lew, Lewis County.

although only 13 animals, nearly half of what was consigned the previous year, were offered for sale by 4-H youth.

"The (dairy) project runs in cycles," explained Cathy Britvec, former recording secretary and show clerk at the West Virginia Show. Youths holding projects that would have sold animals at this heifer sale have declined in recent years, according to Britvec, but she commented she expected to see an upswing in consignments in coming years.

Prices were not too favorable at the sale, however, in spite of the lower numbers. Bidding was sluggish, with auctioneer Denny Remsburg of Jefferson, Md., often stopping to reiterate the qualities of the heifer on the sale block, and to plead for a bid.

Two animals topped the two thousand mark, nonetheless. Russell Linger of Linger Farms in

Huttonsville, Randolph County, paid the top price of \$2,350 for Tim-Rock Cap Cassie, a heifer consigned by Stephanie L. Hannah, a 4-Her from Lewis County.

A 16-year-old Harrison County dairy club member, Jason Poth of Bridgeport, received the second highest price for the day, \$2,000, for his bred heifer MLCF Diane, bought by Merle Chaplin, of Moundsville.

The most entries (41), combined, of all the breed shows at this year's dairy show and festival came from the eastern panhandle county of Jefferson, home of the outgoing West Virginia dairy princess, Loretta Bane, Leetown. On Thursday night, after the grand champion awards presentation and the "Parade of Champions," state commissioner of agriculture Gus R. Douglass crowned the 1986-87 W. Va. Dairy Princess, Julia Pence, of Greenbrier County.



Merle Chaplin, a dairy farmer from the northern panhandle of West Virginia, bought the second highest selling animal. MLCF Diane earned \$2,000 her consignor, Jason Poth of Harrison County Dairy Club.