

Hostetter Wins Solanco Holstein

BY PAT PURCELL

QUARRYVILLE — Patience, perseverance and a little help from some good friends proved to be a winning combination for the Richard Hostetter family of Parkesburg, Chester County as they swept several classes and the championship titles in the 38th Solanco Fair Holstein Show on Thursday.

Brian Hostetter, 13-year-old son of Richard and Alice Hostetter exhibited the grand champion 3-year-old, Brittanica Chairman Sophia, for his first time.

"It is hard to find fault with the udder on this 3-year-old. I love the udder on this cow. She has excellent front and rear attachment. Clearly the best udder here today,"

said show judge Bob Knutsen, of Rising Sun, Maryland.

The champion is an offspring of a Sexation dam classified as EX-91 with a production of 27,000 pounds with 900 pounds of fat. Hostetter has 18 members of this family in his 70-head Holstein herd. His rolling herd average is 21,000 pounds of milk and 762 pounds of fat.

"This is our best year ever. We've consistently won seconds and thirds. We are showing a couple of generations of good breeding. The three cows we are showing here are classified as EX-91, 90 and 90. We are very excited," said Richard Hostetter.

Good breeding is the key to champions, but Hostetter was

quick to add that the Paul Welk family of Quarryville was instrumental in starting the Hostetters showing.

"It's nice to have good friends," said Hostetter.

This was not an easy win. There was a lot of tough competition. According to the Holstein show judge Knutsen, quality was running so deeply that many times it was a close contest into the fifth and sometimes sixth places.

"I am pleased to see so many very fine animals here today, but you are really making me work hard," said Knutsen.

He paced and patted repeatedly. He directed the exhibitors to line up the animals and then he paced and studied again. He would motion for the exhibitors to circle the show ring again. And again he paced and patted and studied the animals which exemplified the best characteristics of the Holstein breed.

Karen Kauffman, 14, daughter of Robert and Susan Kauffman of Peach Bottom took the junior championship with an intermediate yearling, Sukavin Stewart Joy. According to Robert Kauffman this champion was a Pete daughter and sired by Crescentmead Chief Stewart. Joy was the junior champion last year at the fair.

Knutsen classified Joy as an easy winner with "clearly the best legs and feet in her class".

The Welks of Welk Crest Farms in Quarryville took the top spot in several classes and several groups.



Holstein grand champion was exhibited by Brian Hostetter (center) at the Solanco Fair. The champion is owned by Richard (left) and Alice Hostetter (right) of Parkesburg.

They were awarded both the premier breeder award and the premier exhibitor award for the Solanco fair. Matt Welk, 13, son of Paul and Beverly Welk, took the reserve grand championship with a senior calf, home bred, Welk-Crest Eddie Lou Ella. The champion was sired by Woodbine-K Valiant Eddie-ET. Lou Ella is the daughter of Welk Crest's Lee Ann. Lee Ann has a record of 23,907 pounds of milk and 4.3 test with 1018 pounds of fat.

The Welks have taken grand and

reserve championships with Lee Ann, but this was the first junior championship for Lou Ella.

Paul and Maurice Welk won the reserve grand championship with a 6-year-old, Welk View Valiant Tiffany, sired by S-W-D Valiant. She is classified as an EX-90. The Welks also won produce of dam.

- OPEN HOLSTEIN SHOW**
Junior Heifer Calf
 1. Julie Wenger; 2. Kenneth Miller, Sr; 3. Randy Wenger.
Intermediate Heifer Calf
 1. Matt Welk; 2. Karl Herr; 3. James Welk.

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Junior champion in the Holstein division went to Karen Kauffman (left) of Peach Bottom and Matt Welk (right) earned the reserve title at the Solanco Fair.

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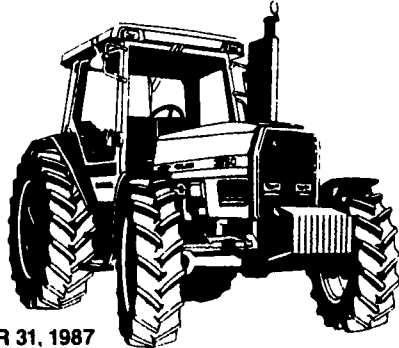
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