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# Lancaster Farming

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## Beef Referendum Spokesmen Give Views

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER  
Managing Editor

LITITZ (Lancaster)— Two spokesmen for the Beef Referendum this week gave supporting views and rebuttals to opposing points that have been raised-- especially in the dairy industry. They are John Cope, Grantham, a Cumberland County dairyman, and William McCoy, a Lancaster cattleman.

While much of the opposing discussion has centered around the claims of unfairness in the dairy and veal part of the checkoff, Cope said the tremendous surge in the cull cow markets have added \$250-\$300 in value to breeding animals. In addition, the dairyman has had a tremendous incentive to cull dairy cows to help with the surplus milk problem.

"Nothing will induce the farmer more to remove borderline or marginal cows or to improve the genetics in his herd than a cull cow price of \$800-\$900," Cope said. "The issue is not the one dollar

checkoff cost, but what is the dollar doing at the slaughter market. And dairymen are not relating the checkoff to this fact."

In the veal calf market, some dairymen and industry people have questioned the fairness of the same one dollar checkoff on a calf as on

a 1200-pound steer. But Cope says in veal we are seeing a splendid example of a market-driven commodity, as a result of promotion made possible by the checkoff. "We're getting two and a half times the price for our calves on (Turn to Page A19)

## Beef Votes May Be Disqualified

HARRISBURG (Dauphin)— A large number of absentee ballots that have already been cast in the Beef Referendum will be disqualified, according to Kathy Gill, spokesperson for the Pennsylvania Beef Checkoff campaign committee. An "unfortunate technicality" has caused many educated and well-read people to overlook the requirement that the voter's signature must be on the outside of the referendum envelope as well as on the ballot. The votes in these unsigned envelopes will not be counted.

"Unless you have signed the outside of the absentee ballot envelope, you have not voted," Gill said. "The instructions to sign the envelope are on the ballot form, but it's easy to overlook."

Gill reports that in some areas of the country up to 30 percent of the absentee ballots will not count because of this discrepancy. But at least at the Lancaster Extension office all absentee ballots and envelopes have been properly signed. However, if an eligible producer anywhere in the country did not sign the referendum envelope, a vote in person on May 10 at the producer's county extension office is still possible.



Teresa Martin, Pennsylvania Poultry Queen, shares a moment with Tony Bennett after Federation Concert Thursday evening.

## Poultry Industry Supports Federation With Banquet

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER  
Managing Editor

HERSHEY (Dauphin)— The grand social of the year for the Pennsylvania Poultry Industry attracted more than 1,800 participants into the ballroom here at the Convention Center. The event: The 1988 Annual Fundraising

Banquet of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation at \$100 per plate. And the ballroom attraction-- Tony Bennett.

In a few remarks of welcome after dinner, Federation Board Chairman, Bill Schlotterbeck, left no doubt that the event was held to make money to operate the federa-

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William McCoy (left), Lancaster cattleman, and John Cope, Cumberland County dairyman, discuss the positive aspects of the Beef Referendum to be held on May 10.

## Poultry Salmonella Discussed

BY LOU ANN GOOD

LANCASTER — County home economic teachers got the latest update on eradicating egg contamination when the Poultry Association hosted a banquet on Monday night at the Farm and Home Center. President of the Association, Robert Zimmerman, said the dinner is given annually to the teachers in appreciation for their work in educating students about nutrition and food safety.

Dr. Morris Mast, professor of (Turn to Page A25)

## Johnes: Raises More Questions For Southern Lancaster Dairymen

BY PAT PURCELL  
HENSEL (LANCASTER CO.)

— Johnes has taken 20 dairy animals from Paul Trimble's Jersey farm in southern Lancaster County since August 1985. Neither Trimble nor his veterinarian know how or when Johnes infiltrated this 100-head milking herd of mostly registered Jerseys.

"I have sent to the slaughter house 20 animals and how it ever got into my herd, I have no idea. I just don't know?" said Trimble.

Johnes disease is caused by a bacterium related to the human tuberculosis organism. It is not new. The Johnes organism was first isolated in 1895. Extensive surveys that document the incidence of Johnes on a national basis were begun in July of 1983. Experts in Johnes's research esti-

mate that between 15 and 35 percent of dairy herds across the country probably have one or more animals infected with Johnes.

The disease is mostly transmitted vertically, from dam to daughter. The newborn calf nurses from the mother and may ingest some

contaminated manure. That microorganism which enters the calf's digestive system, attaches itself to the lining of the bowel. This prohibits any absorption of nutrients.

"I have seen herds closed for 10-15 years and Johnes still sur-

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## Junior Holstein Member Named

STATE COLLEGE (Centre)— The Pennsylvania Holstein Association announced this week that Irene Benner, Millerstown (Perry), has been named a National Semi-Finalist in the Holstein Association Distinguished Junior Member Contest. Irene was



selected as a Pennsylvania Distinguished Junior Member last February and had her application submitted for the National Contest.

Irene has been an active Junior Holstein member, serving as Secretary, Treasurer and presently as President of the PA Junior Holstein Association. She has participated in the Dairy Bowl Contest, including two trips to the National

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Marshall Hamilton, herd manager at Bittersweet Farms, approaches a young Salers bull calf, while a bull several months older watches with interest.

## Breeding Champions At Bittersweet Farms

BY LISA RISSER

DOE RUN (Chester) — In the softly rolling hills of southern Chester County, a new breed of cattle has arrived. Long and straight of back and lean of hip, the chesnut Salers (Sah-lers') cattle call Bittersweet Farms home.

The 140-acre farm is owned by Diane deN Maara, who has spent

12 years building it into a top-notch breeding farm for Thoroughbreds and, for the past four years, Salers. Bittersweet's competent Salers herd manager is Marshall Hamilton.

Maara decided to enter the cattle business primarily to put to use back acreage on the farm that was

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