

Lancaster Farming

VOL. 36 No. 48

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, October 12, 1991

60¢ Per Copy

19.00 Per Year

Computer Technology Sees What The Judge Can't At KILE



John Hough, vice president for education and research with the Polled Hereford Association, measures the height of a calf before the Genetic Focus Show at KILE.

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)

— In the past, looking at a prize heifer and thinking she'd have no trouble with calving was all you'd have to go on.

But often, at birth, the cow needed assistance. Pelvic area might have been too small, or other characteristics may have affected it at birth.

Often times, what the judge appears to see in the show ring is not what is. But new techniques that marry human medical computer technology to progeny analysis in cattle help determine a true winner.

Enter the Polled Hereford Association's Genetic Focus Show, held last week at the Keystone International Livestock Expo (KILE). There, two days before the show began, approximately 145

cattle, from calves to cows, were brought under scrutiny by the association.

First, the cattle's height was measured. Second, using ultrasound techniques, backfat and ribeye areas were measured. Third, pelvic measurements were taken, and cattle were weighed.

Scores from the data compiled from the measurements were combined with the judges' visual scores to determine final placings in the show on Sunday.

"We take an image of the cross section of ribeye, as well as the loin eye area," said Dr. Jim Stouffer, president of Animal Ultrasound Service, Inc., which conducted the tests.

Using "the same technology used in hospitals," said Dale Miller, technical representative for the

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PennAg Names Officers

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — PennAg Industries Association, an agribusiness trade association representing more than 500 companies, has announced its officers for the 1992 term.

The officers for the 1992 term are President, Ed Rhoads, Rhoads Mills, Selinsgrove; 1st Vice President, Mike Horn, Pennfield Corp., Lancaster; 2nd Vice President, James Bradley, New Holland Supply, New Holland; 3rd Vice President, H. Glenn Esbenshade, Esbenshade Mills, Mt. Joy; Treasurer, John J. Hess, II, Hess Mills, Paradise.

The following have been

elected to serve on the Board of Directors: Re-elected for a second term: William Robinson, Kreamer Feed, Kreamer; Richard Weaver, Nelson Weaver & Son, Lititz; John Zerbe, Purira Mills, Inc., Camp Hill; George Williams, Codorus Fertilizer Service, Codorus.

Elected for the first term: John Moyer, Moyer & Son, Inc., Souderton; O. Wendell Judson, Judsons, Inc., Columbia Cross Road; Patricia Boova, Shearson Lehman Bros., Bala Cynwyd; Scott Hodgson, Martinsburg Milling, Martinsburg.

Thornburgh Vows Farm Support

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff
MILLERSVILLE (Lancaster Co.) — "To put it very simply, where I stood as a governor, I'll stand as a senator," said former Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh.

Thornburgh was on hand Thursday afternoon at Funk's Farm in Millersville. There, he addressed more than 100 farmers and agri-

business leaders in the area as part of a three-location campaign tour before the senate election on November 5.

Thornburgh, governor from 1979-1987, told supporters that if elected to the seat, now held by incumbent Harris Wafford (D-Bryn Mawr) since the accidental death of former U.S. senator John Heinz (R-Pittsburgh), he will run the office in way "characteristic of our farm families in your commu-

ity," he said.

"We were tight wads," he said. "We cut taxes, we cut expenses, we left (the state) with a \$400 million surplus and I was proud of the fact that we could keep our books in balance."

Thornburgh said the statements he made "are clues to how I will conduct myself as a United States senator in working for the agricul-

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Astro Kat Is Champion Holstein Of The World

EVA MARTIN

Maryland Correspondent
MADISON, Wis. — C Rossland Astro Kat, owned by Gayridge and Kingstead Farms of Ijamsville, Md. was named supreme champion over all breeds at the World Dairy Expo in Madison this week.

Amid the fanfare, celebration and reminiscing of the 25th anniversary of the Expo, the grand champions of the six breeds were paraded before a panel of judges and international audience of spectators. The selection took place in the Dane County Coliseum as the final event of the World Dairy Expo.

This 6-year-old beauty also claimed the supreme champion

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Even the champion Holstein of the world won't always put her ears forward to pose for a photograph. From the left, with the new champion, are Ontario Dairy Princess Heather McIntosh; Distinguished Junior Holstein Member Tom

Nugent; Wisconsin Dairy Princess Melissa Goldade; donor of the award Allen Hetts; John Buckley at the halter; co-owners Greg and Mary Louise Wilcom and Doug King; and judge Ken Empey and associate judge Dr. Gary Rogers.

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