

'Moo Queen'

(Continued from Page B16)

the nearest city so everyone supports all the school events like basketball or whatever sport is in season," Robin said. "The neighbors help each other and when I was crowned, everybody seemed to do something to make me feel special," Robin said.

Several local businesses sent her savings bonds and cow memorabilia. Teachers and students hung news clippings of the dairy princess coronation all over the school. Many people offered to help with transportation, chores, and with promotional work.

A Northeast Bradford High School senior, Robin is already accepted at the State University of New York, Morrisville campus where she will take a two-year course in animal husbandry and dairying. "It's a hands-on course, and I'm really looking forward to it," Robin said. "Since it's an out-of-state school, I won't be able to get state funding, but I'm really impressed with the school."

In college, Robin wants to be part of the showmanship and judging teams at the college. She hopes to continue showing cows during the summer. For the one all-consuming event for the Wilbur family is showing cows in both Pennsylvania and New York.

It was in 4-H that Robin got her start in showing Holsteins. She liked it so well that the next year she got her cousins interested in showing even though the cousins do not live on a dairy farm. The cows are kept at the Wilbur's farm, Lyn-Lene Farm (name derived from the last syllables of Robin's parents' names).

Robin and her cousins spend almost the whole summer going from show to show in both Pennsylvania and New York, which borders her county. As a member of both the Pennsylvania and New York Holstein Clubs, Robin shows twice at the Troy Fair, Tioga County Fair, 4-H Roundup, Potter County 4-H Districts, Northeastern Championship Show, and the All-American Youth Show.

"We show 15 head of cattle that we haul in a four-head cattle truck so Dad needs to make a lot of trips back and forth to haul all the cattle to the show and back," she said. Each show the Wilburs attend is at least one hour away.

Robin refers to her 13-year-old brother, Jeffrey, as the one who

gains the honors from her practice.

"I'm the practice child," she explained. "Because I'm the oldest child in the family not only do my parents practice on me but also I practice on showing cows and my brother gains from all the practice."

For example, at Bradford County 4-H Roundup last year, Robin had the junior reserve champion for a calf. This year, her brother got

the grand champion title.

Robin's dream is to go to Madison, Wisconsin to show cows.

"But farming isn't showing cows every day," said Robin. "It's the daily work that farmers do every day and I love it. After graduation, I hope to return to the family farm. It's been in our family since my grandparents came from Norway and I want it to stay in the family," Robin said.

Wool Wizards Win Sheep To Shawl Contest

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — To see the wool on a sheep, sheared, spun, and woven into a beautiful shawl within hours never fails to intrigue Pennsylvania Farm Show visitors.

On January 13, four teams competed in the Sheep to Shawl Contest held in the small arena. The Wool Wizards, previous winners, spun there way to the top again with a 8harness broken point twill pattern in dusty rose through pink and light grey.

The five-member team is from Harrisburg and is best known for its shearer, Chris Herr, who continually wins the best shearer award. The team also is proud of the youngest spinner who competes, 13-year-old Kelli Peyser of Middletown. Her mother, Carolyn Peyser, is the team's captain and also a spinner. Other members of the team include weaver Tom Knisley, Dover; and spinner Kathy Graham, Hershey.

The Wool Wizards used the wool of a registered Border Leicester owned by Carolyn Peyser of Nik-Kel Farm in Middletown.

The prize shawl sold for \$350 to a Harrisburg man who preferred to be anonymous since he purchased the shawl as a gift for his wife.

The reserve champion title went to Ewe Who's, a five-member team from Lancaster County. A 70-inch shawl called Ginny's Coat in blue, peacock, and purple colors was woven by members Dave Keefer, Nottingham; Ann Guidon, Nottingham; Debbie Glass, Airville, Nancy Hamilton, Leola; and Bill Glass, Airville.

The Ewe Who's used a Romney Lincoln sheep, which also yielded the best fleece in the competition. The prize-winning sheep fleece came from a sheep owned by Bill and Debbie Glass of Meadow Vale

Farm.

It was a special delight for the team to place second since this was the first year that the team competed together.

The two other teams that competed were the Butler County

Baby Boomers Get Back To Basics

PITTSBURGH (Allegheny Co.) — Baby Boomers, those Americans ages 25 to 49 and the largest segment of our population, have taken merchants and demographers on a roller coaster ride with their changing attitudes and ideals.

The ride peaked in the '80s with young, upwardly mobile adults indulging in conspicuous consumption, and now boomers are leveling out their lifestyles and getting back to basics...from the cars they drive to the foods they eat.

Defining The Trend

Time magazine summed up the shift this way: "Good-bye to having it all. Tired of trendiness and materialism, Americans are rediscovering the 'joys of home life, basic values, and things that last.'"

The most important factors influencing this generation's change in attitude are children and mortgages, according to the May issue of *American Demographics* magazine. Now facing the responsibilities of rearing children, paying mortgages, saving for college tuitions and planning for retirements, dual-income couples are finding that their paychecks don't leave much room for luxuries.

Writer Cheryl Russell, former editor of *American Demographics*, concludes that it's not that Baby Boomers are spending less money, but that they are spending money on their kids and

her mother said. Her dad confirmed it, "When Robin goes to college, it's going to be awfully quiet around the house, because she talks all the time."

Robin said, "I just love telling people about dairy products. I hate to see so many dairy farmers going out of business. We have a good product and it's dairy farmers who have worked together to make it good. I want to do everything I can to see that dairy farmers get a better price for their product."

Although Robin lives in a secluded area, she has traveled to places few teen agers have. She has been to Norway two times. "My grandparents came from there. Our family is very close and we traveled there twice to visit relatives. I love Norway because it has such beautiful farms," Robin said. She was impressed that the farms follow a quota system for milk production and that the area is known for its rich dairy desserts. "Robin was born enthusiastic and never had any trouble talking,"

design in weaving; and condition of fleece.

Judges included: Jacqueline Boggs, Fleetwood; Jane Krebbs, McMurray; Marcia Beppler, Port Matilda; and Anthony Dobrosky, Glen Rock.

Peddlers and Hill and Hollow Handspinners of Huntingdon County.

The teams are judged on team identification for originality and overall appearance; even workmanship and speed on shearing; uniformity in spinning; innovative

homes versus purchasing luxury cars or taking frequent vacations.

Having done it all, tried it all, and nearly spent it all, Baby Boomers are finding that a happy home and good health are the keys to enjoying their lives. And after purchasing homes and starting families they zero in on healthy eating and improving their diets.

As a result, they are more likely to pay attention to nutrition messages about calcium-rich dairy products, high-fiber fruits and vegetables and empty-calorie sodas and snacks.

New Priorities

"Our consumer trend research indicates that people now reaching their mid-40s are more interested in nutrition than young parents with small children," said Susan Boora, R.D., director of Consumer Affairs for the Food Marketing Institute (FMI), a trade association representing supermarkets. "And although actual behavior may not change as quickly as their attitudes, these Baby Boomers are trying to balance their diets more. They realize that a balanced diet can help reduce the risk of certain illnesses such as osteoporosis or

heart disease, for example."

Libby Mikesell, manager of Public Relations for the International Food Information Council (IFIC), agrees that nutrition and food safety are areas of concern for Baby Boomers. "As they age, they definitely have more interest in nutrition messages," she said.

As a result, the tried and true four basic food groups are enjoying renewed popularity with Baby Boomers looking for a simple and sound approach to nutrition.

Foodservice Responds

In response, supermarkets are expanding their dairy, deli, frozen foods and produce sections in order to offer more variety. And restaurants are adding lighter, healthier fare to their menus to attract the nutrition-conscious diner.

Whether it's with finances or food, Baby Boomers are taking the middle road. Reflecting current wisdom that success is no longer measured by excess; William Rice, food and wine columnist for the *Chicago Tribune* said, "Consumers will embrace the appeal of moderation and common sense."

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