



The new Berks County dairy promotion representatives are, from left, Sarah Johnson, alternate; Sandy Gross, Dairy Princess; Becky Riegel, alternate; and Katie Hartman, front, Li'l Miss.

Dairy Promoters Crowned At Berks County Pageant

Connie Leinbach
Berks Co. Correspondent
LEESPORT (Berks County) — Performing an unusual presentation with a space-age theme, Sandra Gross, 16, of Hamburg R.D. 1, was named the Berks County Dairy Princess for 1992 during ceremonies Saturday in the Berks Agricultural Center.

She is the daughter of David and Marilyn Gross and is a junior at Tulpehocken High School.

Geared toward children, the presentation pointed out how astronauts as well as everyone else needs to drink milk every day to ensure good health.

Inside a large box with NASA on the door was an old-world wizard who, in her monologue, tried to counter all Sandra's assertions.

As a dairy ambassador assisting outgoing dairy princess Kelly Gelsinger, Sandra is also treasurer of the Tulpehocken FFA and is president of the Northern Berks 4-H Dairy Club. She enjoys singing in the church choir and school chorus. She also is active with her church youth group at Mohrsville Church

of the Brethren.

Sandy is on the dairy bowl team, Holstein bowl, and is a member of the Junior Holstein Club.

She also helps with farm chores on her family's 350-acre farm where they milk 50 Holsteins. Sandra is interested in studying child psychology when she attends college.

Rebecca A. Riegel, 18, a daughter of Bruce and Florence Riegel, was named alternate dairy princess as was Sarah M. Johnson, 18, daughter of Gerard and Jean Johnson of Limekiln.

Both alternates attend Pennsylvania State University where Sarah studies agriculture economics and Rebecca studies horticulture.

Four-year-old Katie Hartman, daughter of Beth and David Hartman of Scattered Acres Farm in Bernville, was named the 1992 Li'l Miss Dairy Princess. She enjoys feeding her family's Holstein calves, planting flowers, and riding her bike.

The other dairy princess contestants were Tracey Lynn Borkey, 18, of Bernville R.D. 1, and Carrie Lynn Hetrick, 16, of Oley R.D. 2.

The other Li'l Miss contestants were Lauren Cochran, 4, daughter of Paula and Kevin Cochran of Womelsdorf; Kate Kocher, 6, daughter of Jean and Ernest Kocher of Birdsboro; Rosie Lyn Moyer, 6, daughter of Lucinda and Paul Moyer of Bernville; Megan Phillips, 4, daughter of Brenda and Jim Phillips of Bernville; and Jennifer Rassler, 4, daughter of Robin and Bryal Rassler of Kempton.

Casey Allen, the morning disc jockey for WIOV-FM, was the mistress of ceremonies.

Judges were Ginny Altenderfer of Kutztown; Carol Dreisbach, information director American Jersey Cattle Association and a former Berks County Dairy Princess; and Dieter Krieg, editor of Farmshine.

In a tearful farewell, Gelsinger described how much she enjoyed being the dairy princess and how she got lost frequently driving to her many engagements.

Rachel Hartman, 6, outgoing Li'l Miss, sang a farewell song to the tune of "So Long, Farewell" from "The Sound of Music."



Berks County Li'l Miss Dairy Princess contestants chat with Casey Allen, WIOV-FM disc jockey, who was mistress of ceremonies.



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