

Blair County Dairy Princess Adopts Farming

LINDA WILLIAMS
Bedford Co. Correspondent
MARTINSBURG (Blair Co.)
— Susan Willey, 1993 dairy princess for Blair County, didn't grow up on a farm but she can't remember when she wasn't interested in agriculture.

"My grandfather was a farmer," she says. "But, he sold out when I was pretty young. However, my brother was old enough to be interested. When his interest continued, little sister would tag along to see what he was up to."

"Before long, I was as interested as he was. He got me the job I have now, milking cows for the Allen Edwards farm."

Edwards has a 120-acre farm with 75 Holsteins. Susan does most of the milking twice daily. It's a job she enjoys despite the days when the cows act up, kicking off their milkers or squeezing her between two cows. "The good just outweighs the bad," she says.

Her employer is so impressed with her abilities in the dairy industry, it was he who convinced

her to enter the contest.

"I was a shoe-in," Susan admits. "I was the only contestant. My main goal for this year is to increase the number of applicants next year."

A special banquet for her crowning was held on June 25 at Wissinger's Restaurant.

A senior at Central High School, Susan credits her FFA advisor, Tom Ritchey, for furthering her interest in agriculture. "I'm president of FFA at Central this year," Susan says. "The first

time a girl has ever had that title at my school, but I hope it is not the last."

Since Susan's family does not have the farmland to support dairy cows, (something she dreams of owning), Susan chose pigs and goats for her FFA projects. She is also interested in landscaping and plans to do over the family backyard next spring.

Her interest in the princess contest extended over into a desire to communicate with the public about the importance of milk in the diet. She plans to be busy constantly throughout the coming year doing handouts at local stores, offering samples of dairy recipes to school children and in nursing homes, and talking to various organizations.

It will all be good preparation for her possible careers in teaching, or communications. "I would most like to be an ag teacher or in journalism, maybe agriculture journalism."

Her milking pay check is being saved for her education as well as for a trip to the National FFA convention at Kansas City this fall.

In addition to her work schedule and FFA activities, Susan finds time for the FFA, the school newspaper, speech club, and is on the tennis team.

She is a senior Girl Scout, tutors reading for younger children, and is a member of the Clover Creek United Church of Christ.

Her parents are Merl and Rahma Willey of Martinsburg.



Susan Willey, Blair County dairy princess, and one of her FFA projects, "Cinnamon," the mama goat with one of her babies.

Enter Banner Contest

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)
— Ice cream fans of all ages can create their best ice cream banner and win prizes during "Ice Cream Banner Day," Sunday, July 25, at Riverside Stadium, Harrisburg.

The contest will be held just before the Harrisburg Senators' 2:05 p.m. baseball game with the New Britain Red Sox. All contestants must register at the Stadium from 12:30 to 1 p.m., prior to the July 25th game. The parade of banners will begin promptly at 1 p.m. Banners will be displayed during the baseball game and then returned to their owners.

Prizes in the contest will be awarded to two categories - 12

years and under and 13 years and over. For the youth category, two prizes will be awarded - first prize a \$500 U.S. savings bond and second prize a \$250 U.S. savings bond. The adults will be competing for three top prizes - first \$500, second \$200, and third \$50.

The contest is open to any fan who wants to make a banner using their own creativity. All banners must mention the Senators, ice cream and WNNK-FM. All decisions made by the judges are final. Taxes on prize winnings are the responsibility of the winners. Complete rules are available by calling the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program at (717) 787-6903 or at the Senator's Riverside Stadium.



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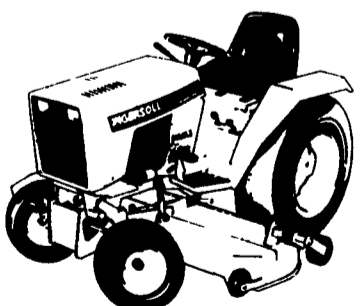


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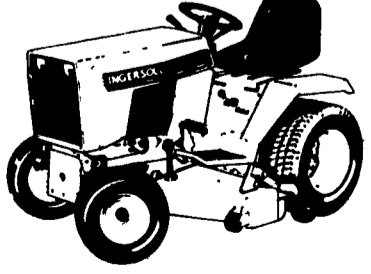
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