

Farm Forum

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ram want considerably less dollars from the U.S. Treasury, and in fact a true two tier program would cost less, understand, less than present dairy programs.

However, when some people want to confuse dairy farmers on a program, then one of the best ways is to issue misinformation about the program.

Two tier simply means the milk used in commercial channels, plus a reasonable reserve will be priced at a realistic price. This must be an affordable price to consumers, but more importantly, it must be a price that covers the average cost of production. I believe this affordable price could return to producers a blend price of between \$15.25 and \$15.50 per cwt. in the New York market.

No, this price is not a pipe dream, and no, we are not saying things that farmers want to hear, we're saying a price that the average dairy farmer says he needs.

The remaining milk, maybe three or four percent (at tops) of total production would command a much cheaper price.

This program is attainable, but it will take a lot of hard work to obtain it.

Some co-op leaders are still hammering away at many of the dairy farmers that attended the recent dairy summit. Lewis Gardner, President of Eastern called the event a circus. I call the summit a breath of fresh air. Quite a difference.

Reading some of the press releases by some people, one could believe there was almost continued disruption at the summit. While two or three speakers presentations were greeted with dissatisfaction by many of the far-

mers present, the majority of the reaction was reserved by the farmers with a resounding applause for the presenters they agreed with. No one less than Senator Pat Leahy, Chairman of the Ag Committee announced to the crowd, while he normally does not allow applause at a hearing, but in this case he would allow applause as long as it didn't directly interfere with a presenter.

You know, I really feel worry for some of our dairy leaders. I really think you are missing the degree of hardships that the majority of dairy farmers are experiencing.

Every dairy leader should take one week and go up and down the roads. Stop at every dairy farm you come to. Ask them how things are. Ask them what they need for an annual average milk price. Ask them where the wife works to keep the farm going, and then ask them what kind of a dairy program they want.

I'm sorry for the people that allowed some noise at the summit to bother them. Maybe you need more noise. Remember the majority of the dairy farmers at the summit came from over twenty states, paid their own way, some sold animals to obtain cash to be there.

Remember every one had the same opportunity to be there. Every co-op had the opportunity to take producers there. Wouldn't that have been a nice way to spend some of the cooperative payment money from order #2 that some co-ops receive.

The summit allowed dairy farmers to express their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with proposed dairy policies.

The summit finished up with

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ington County. She has been active in 4-H for the past eight years, showing her Jersey and Holstein dairy animals, Suffolk sheep and German Shepherd dog. A champion public speaker, she participated as a Maryland delegate to the 1991 National 4-H Conference, testified at Maryland Public Hearings to defend 4-H against proposed budget cuts, is a 4-H Ambassador, and participates in Maryland 4-H Teen Focus.

Dawn has also gained experience for her role as princess from prior reigns as Maryland Farm Bureau Queen, Maryland Jersey Queen and Washington County Dairy Princess.

High school activities claimed much of her sparetime. Her interest in music is evident by the instruments she plays, clarinet, fiddle, violin, and organ. She was a member of the Williamsport High School Blue Band, concert, and marching band, member of Wind Ensemble, and First Chair clarinet. The Student Council and French Club are also part of her student activities. She plans to attend

Senator Leahy opening up the microphones. I feel that at least 90% of response from audience supported the philosophy of the National Dairy Campaign (this response lasted over one hour).

Some may call the summit a side show, a carnival or a circus. I'm sorry — you people were simply outstaged.

Thank God for the summit; I still call it a "breath of fresh air."

Sincerely,
ARDEN TEWKSBURY
Manager PRO AG

Maryland Crowns Dairy Princess

Western Maryland College this fall majoring in communications and public relations.

Dawn's farm and home responsibilities include feeding, grooming, and training 4-H animals, cleaning and maintaining the milking parlor, office work, and some field work.

First runner-up was Carroll County Dairy Princess Mary Ellen Seraydian, who is the daughter of Charles and Mary Ann Seraydian. She will be a junior at Francis Scott Key High School this fall where she is vice president of the FFA. Seraydian has won state and regional 4-H public speaking contests and participates in dairy cattle judging and dairy bowl. In pursuit of her interest in natural resources, she has attended regional and national conferences in New York and Washington, D.C. She works on the family's dairy farm where she owns 12 animals. Her future plans include obtaining a degree in veterinary medicine or wildlife

management.

Three other contestants who were winners of their area contests, competed for the state crown: Martha Chaney, Baltimore Harford; Abigail Sowers, Frederick; and Kristi Geary, South Central.

For entertainment, the audience was treated to a preview of a video, "Make Mine Milk," which the princesses will be using in promotions throughout the coming year. This video was produced by the American Dairy Association and plans are to distribute copies to all elementary schools.

Emcee for the evening was Jeff Myers, owner of Delmyr Holerine, of Westminster. Judging the contest were Pam Kilgore, Airville, Pa.; Mim Kauffman, Elizabethtown, Pa., and Charlie Garrison, Arlington, Va.

Laurie Zimmerman dedicated the last milk toast of her reign "to the COW who made it all possible."

Chester Co. Holstein Club Field Day

PARKEsburg (Chester Co.) — The Chester County Holstein Club is to hold a field day August 12 at the Dick and Alice Hostetter farm located near Sadsburyville.

Reservations are needed by August 3. Tickets are \$3 per adult, free for children under 4. Call Stan Guest at (215) 469-6627; Dale Hostetter at (215) 593-7181; or Jane Pepple, at (215) 932-3975. The field day is to start at 10

a.m. and includes a pig roast and a speaker, in addition to a number of special interest daughters of Blackstar, Leadman, Aerostar, Southwind, Rambo, and Faban.

The speaker is to be Karl Kettering, who is to give a motivational talk on the topic, "Up you enthusiasm."

The Hostetter farm has a herd average of 22,500 pounds of milk, 825 pounds of fat and 707 pounds of protein.

To get to the farm, head east of the intersection of routes 30 and 10 and take Business 30 for about 1 1/2 miles. It is the second farm on the left.

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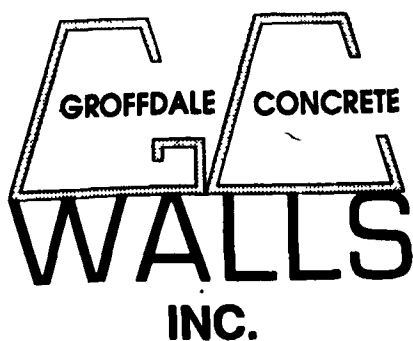
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