Butter Sculpture Promotes 'Tackle Your Thirst With Milk'

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)
— The fourth annual butter sculpture at the Pennsylvania Farm Show featured two football players, one from Penn State University and the other from the University of Tennessee. The sculpture follows the theme "Tackle Your Thirst With Milk."

At the first official function of the 78th Pennsylvania Farm Show. Boyd Wolff, PA Secretary of Agriculture said, "This sculpture is a creative way to call attention to Pennsylvania's great dairy industry. I have to commend the dairy farmers because they had the foresight to know that Penn State was going to win the Florida Citrus Bowl."

The sculpture was created by Raymond Mackintosh and sponsored by Pennsylvania's Dairy Promotion Partners — the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council, Mid East UDIA/F.O. 36 Advertising Agency, and the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program.

"This year Pennsylvania's Dairy Promotion Partners offer a tribute to football," said Betsy Dupuis, communications director with the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program. "Penn State wide receiver Bobby Engram is being tackled by an unidentified Tennessee player. Engram was the game's most valuable player and a big part of the Nittany Lion's win."

"We selected football because of Pennsylvania's rich tradition in football. We have nationally ranked high school and college football programs. And, the first professional football game was played in 1892, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, so we're just a year behind in our anniversary celebration," added Dupuis.

Mackintosh, from Ontario, Canada, used approximately 760 pounds of butter in the sculpture. He spent an average of 10 hours per day working on the sculpture for a total of four days.

"Butter sculpting takes special experience," Mackintosh said in an earlier interview. "You need to know the material, what it will and will not do. Butter is different from other mediums and must be carefully supported. During the sculpting process, I must use a special wooden paddle and wire tools to create the features.



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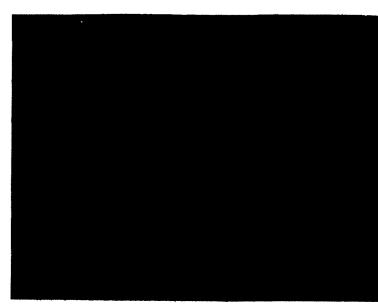
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"This sculpture was very challenging. It was difficult to design due to the size of the cabinet. I know that in this case the figures had to be on the ground and that one would have to be poised on top of the other. The creation of the metal framework was critical for the structure," added Mackintosh.

Butter for the sculpture was donated by Eastern Milk Producers. It came from the Atlantic Dairy Cooperative's Holly Milk Plant, in Carlisle. Eastern's 1,200 Pennsylvania members provide milk for this plant which produces butter and dry powder dairy products.

"We are delighted to be a part of the 78th Annual Farm Show," Tony Schlesier, Eastern's Manager of Cooperative Relations said during opening ceremonies. "Our farmers are very proud to have donated this butter and to be a part of the Farm Show. Eastern has more members in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania than in any other state."

The sculpture will be on display in the McClay Street Lobby throughout the Farm Show. A video, created by Eastern Milk Producers, will also be on display to explain the entire sculpting process. Following the Farm Show, all of the butter will be donated to area soup kitchens.



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