

# New Berks Dairy Princess Eager To Promote Milk

**CONNIE LEINBACH**  
Berks Co. Correspondent  
LEESPORT (Berks Co.) —  
Melissa Bicksler, 17, of Myerstown, is looking forward to a year of promoting the dairy industry as the 1994-1995 Berks County dairy princess. The Tulpehocken High School junior won the crown May 14 during a pageant here at the Berks County Agriculture Center.

"I'm really, really excited to be dairy princess," Melissa said about her new crown. "I've always wanted to be dairy princess, ever since I was a little kid and seeing them at the fairs."

Melissa said she hopes to do more to promote dairy products through the mass media, primarily television. She said she hopes to get across to small children that they need to drink more milk, since their bodies require four servings a day.

"They should drink milk instead of sodas," she said. She had her chance less than a week after the pageant to begin spreading her message with her first farm tour for two classes of Reading School District first-graders.

Jennifer Davis, 18, of Leesport, Melissa's only opponent, was named alternate dairy princess.

Six-year-old Megan Phillips of Bernville was named Li'l Miss Dairy Princess.

When asked by mistress of ceremonies Jo Painter, a radio deejay for WEEU, why she wanted to be a dairy princess, Megan said, "To have fun."

Melissa, daughter of Cathy and Thomas Melissa, presented a skit along the theme of Goldilocks and the Three Bears who need their milk (at various stages of life) for healthy bodies.

"My grandmother thought of that idea," she said about the skit. "It was my favorite story when I was a kid."

In addition to her chores on her family's 200-acre dairy farm, in which they milk 50 Holsteins, Melissa is involved with a number of school activities. She plays the clarinet in the school band, played for the field hockey team, and was a cheerleader for the basketball team.

A member of her school's FFA, she is chapter secretary and chairperson of the banquet committee. She also is a member of the El-Co 4-H Dairy Club in Lebanon and owns 13 dairy animals.

Davis, a senior at Schuylkill Valley High School, is a member of the National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America.

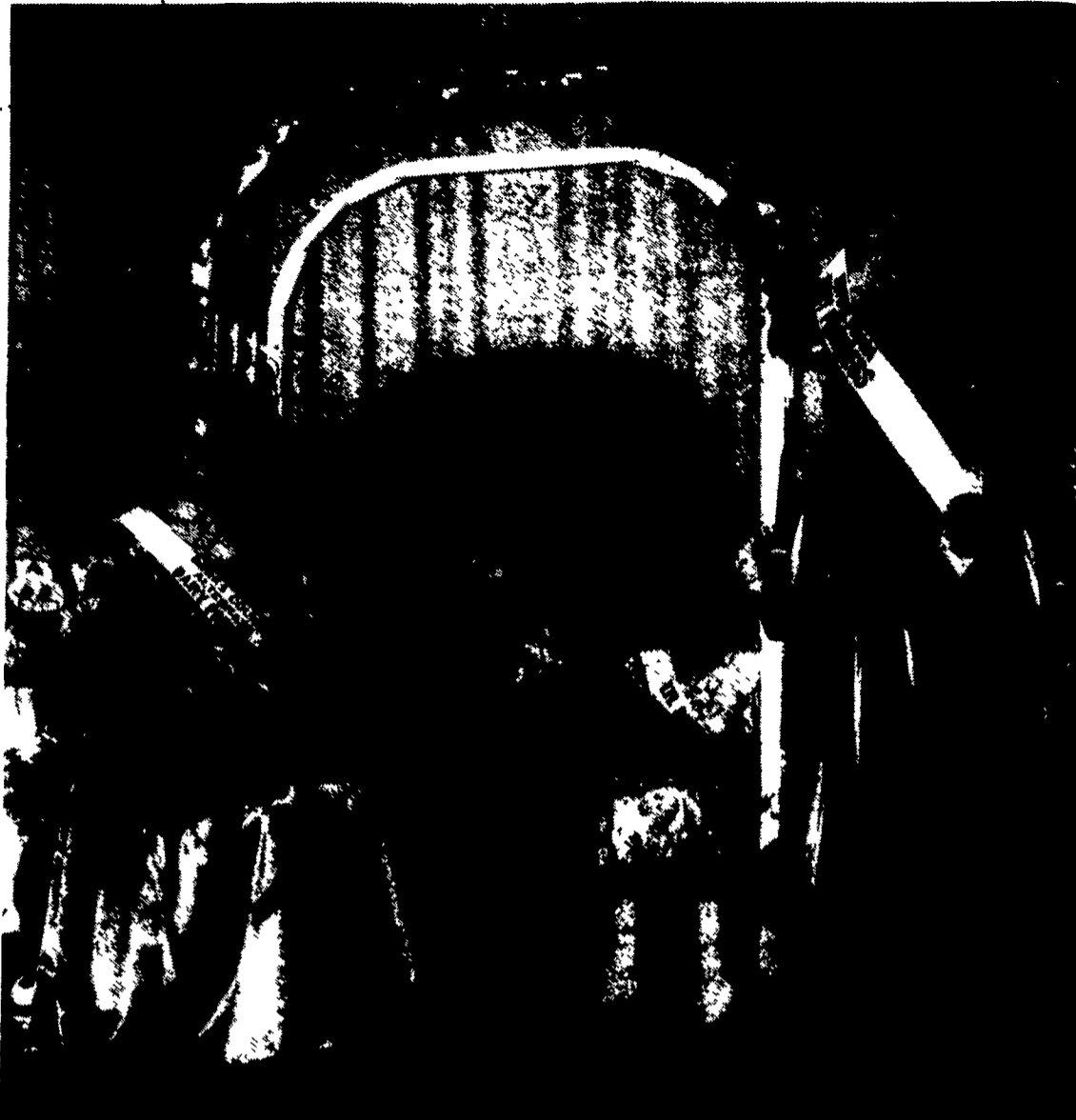
Davis, daughter of Ray and Frances Davis, plans to attend college and study business agriculture.

Also competing for the Li'l Miss title were Kristen Moyer, 6, daughter of Martin and Melissa Moyer of Bernville, and Melissa Schuler, 5, daughter of David and Eileen Schuler of Fleetwood.

Jennifer Grimes, the 1993-1994 Berks County dairy princess and the Pennsylvania dairy princess gave a slide presentation of her year promoting milk with Li'l Miss Justine Stoltzfus and Jennifer's winning the state title.

Alternate dairy princesses Lynne Koiniski and Karen Davis also gave short talks about how they enjoyed their duties.

Judges were Tanya Martin, a former state dairy princess of Bucks County; Louise Hutchinson, a dietitian from Schuylkill County; and Larry Schwartz of Atlantic Breeders, Lancaster.



The new Berks County Dairy Princess and her court for 1994-1995 are, from left, Jennifer Davis, alternate dairy princess; Melissa Bicksler, dairy princess; Megan Phillips, the Li'l Miss Dairy Princess; and Jennifer Grimes, Pennsylvania dairy princess and outgoing Berks County dairy princess.



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