

Laura Fitch Reigns In Tioga County

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MANSFIELD (Tioga Co.) —

Laura Fitch was all smiles and tears when the judges proclaimed her 1994 Tioga County Dairy Princess Monday, June 27.

Fitch is no stranger to the limelight. A dedicated advocate of the dairy industry and experienced milk promoter, the 17-year-old daughter of Elwin and Charlene Fitch of Roaring Branch paid her dues by serving as 1993 Dairy Princess Alternate.

In an entertaining skit performed before the judging, Fitch donned a cow costume and addressed the audience as "class" while she explained the importance of milk and dairy products, as well as what a cow needs concerning proper care to reach her optimum level of milk production.

Fitch attends Canton High School, where she is president of both the 4-H County Council and the Country Warriors 4-H Club. She also serves as Jr. Holstein Club treasurer, is a member of SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving), is an assistant coach and scorekeeper for Little League, is Foreign Language Club president, volleyball manager, and is a member of the Youth Education Association.

When she's not busy promoting milk, she helps out on her family's 259 acre farm, Four Wynds, which has a milking herd of 40 Holsteins.

Providing stiff competition for Fitch during the Princess Pageant was Cathleen Norman, whom judges named Dairy Princess Alternate. The daughter of Ernest and Dorothy Norman of Liberty, this spunky young lady is also a veteran milk promoter. She served as a Dairy Maid in 1992 and is the 4-H County Council secretary.

During the Dairy Princess Pageant, Norman held the audience's joyful attention with her comedic skit in which she starred as "Mighty Milk." Dressed in tights and cape common to superheroes, Norman addressed the need for women, particularly, to drink milk to fight osteoporosis. Illustrating what happens to a body if it does not get enough of the calcium-enriched milk it needs, her balloon-like muscles burst with the prick of a pin.

A senior at Liberty High School, Norman is active in intramural volleyball, chorus, school musicals, and is captain of her cheerleading squad. Her hobbies are watching and playing sports, writing, singing, listening to music, working on 4-H projects, teaching younger kids, and meeting new people. In her spare time she helps on the family farm, Normandell, which has 500 acres and a milking herd of 60 Jerseys.

Assisting the dairy princess and her alternate this year in their milk promotion duties are two ambassadors, Tina Bailey and Kimberly Beth Kennedy.

Bailey is the 17-year-old daughter of William and Eva Bailey of Mansfield. A senior at Mansfield High School this fall, she plans to attend York College as an accountant major. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Future Farmers of America, Future Business Leaders of America, and the Peer Tutor Program at the Warren L. Miller Elementary School in Mansfield. When she is not working on Gordon Wood's farm, she likes to show cattle, read, go to fairs, shop, and hang out with friends. Her family owns the Colegrove Farm with 300 acres and milking herd of 90 Holsteins.

Kennedy is the 16-year-old daughter of Leroy and Sandra

win!
!



Tioga County Dairy Princess court includes, from left, ambassadors Tina Bailey and Kimberly Kennedy, Alternate Cathleen Norman, Tioga County Dairy Princess Laura Fitch and last year's dairy princess Rebecca Bechtel.

Kennedy of Middlebury Center. A student at Wellsboro Area High School, she is in the band. As a 4-H member, she enjoys showing horses in open shows. Her hobbies are milking cows, riding horses, and taking care of calves. She lives on the family's Busted Fence Farm, which has 126 acres and

mixed milking herd of 60 head.

Also helping the new Dairy Princess with her promotion program within the county during the coming year are dairy maids Lisa Fitch, Jennifer Susan Johnson, Ellen Norman, and Heather Marie Wood.

As a special guest at the Dairy

Princess Pageant, Nadine Hauck, a member of the Dairy Promotion Board, gave a slide and video presentation explaining the Dairy Board's purpose. Deeming the 1993 milk advertising campaign, "It Shows," a success, Hauck said an average of 2.7 million people

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