

Carroll County Names Farm Queen



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Maryland Correspondent
WESTMINSTER, Md. — As the crowd exploded, former Carroll County Dairy Princess, Mary Ellen Seraydian was crowned the 1994 Carroll County Farm Queen at a ceremony held recently at the Carroll County 4-H and FFA Fair. Seraydian vied for the title with fellow contestants and friends, Carrie Martin and Christina Harper.

Mary Ellen Seraydian, daughter of Charles and Mary Ann Seray-

dian, is a senior at Francis Scott Key High School and has been an active member of 4-H for nine years and an FFA member for two years. She has been vice president of the Francis Scott Key chapter of FFA this past year as well as serving on the dairy judging, dairy food judging, and forestry judging teams in the 1993-1994 year.

In 4-H, she had the champion record book in achievement and conservation for Carroll County this year. She won reserve grand champion in public speaking on

the district level. Seraydian was also a delegate to the Maryland Institute of Cooperative Education and the National Institute of Cooperative Education this year.

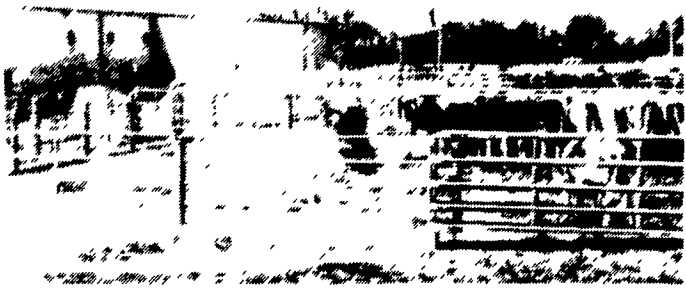
Mary Ellen lives on her family's dairy and crop farm in Taneytown and belongs to the Carroll County Dairy Club, the Progressive Clovers, and the Taneytown 4-H Club. At home on the farm, Seraydian helps milk the cows, raise calves, plant and harvest crops, and operate farm machinery.

During the competition, the contestants each spoke about themselves and their accomplishments, then answered a question drawn from a fishbowl. Each spoke with poise and control, exhibiting their ability to communicate the needs of farmers today.

The new Carroll County Farm Queen, Mary Ellen Seraydian.

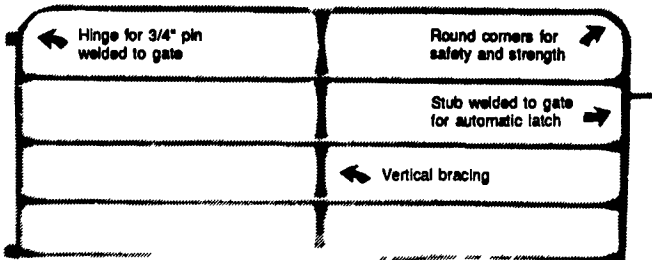
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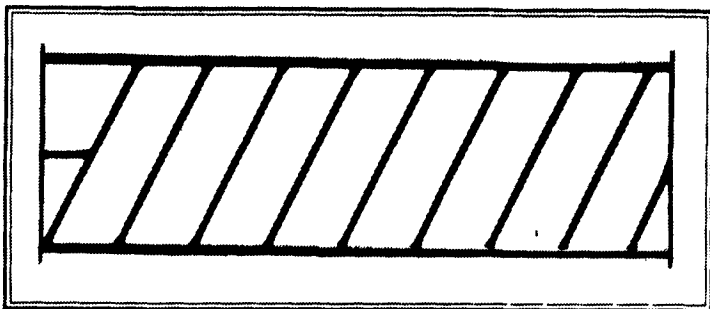
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When the judges were excused to make their decision the contestants were entertained by several acts presented by the Carroll County 4-H Performing Arts Club.

Then the big moment came. Before the winner was announced, outgoing Farm Queen Marie Speak spoke about her experiences as the 1993 Farm Queen, thanking contest organizers Debbie Hoff and Sue Myers as well as her parents and family.

In a teal-green gown, Seraydian fought back tears as outgoing Farm Queen Marie Speak placed the sash around her neck and the tiara on her head. Clutching the bouquet of flowers that had been presented to her, she thanked the judges.

"I know it must have been a hard decision," she said, "because these guys are all my friends. It's a great honor to represent the Farm Bureau and Carroll County in the State Contest.

She said "It was an honor to teach youngsters and future FFA and 4-H members about the agriculture industry and how important it is in my life... and how important it is for me to help them understand our future in agriculture."

Seraydian will vie for the title of Maryland Farm Queen at a contest held during the Maryland State Fair in Timonium on August 28.

