

# LaDonna Miller Prepares For KILE

**LINDA WILLIAMS**  
**Bedford Co. Correspondent**  
 BEDFORD (Bedford Co.) — Fifteen-year-old LaDonna Miller is anxious and waiting for the Keystone competition which opens at the Farm Show Arena on October 5.

A sophomore at Bedford High School, LaDonna and her Limousins are used to competing even for honors as prestigious as those offered by Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE).

The slim, brunette, daughter of state trooper, Dave, and Linda Miller, has been taking home awards from the Bedford Fair, the Pennsylvania State Farm Show, and Keystone since she's been big enough to hold a lead. She's been a member of the Beef Rustlers 4-H Club for eight years.

At the Bedford Fair, LaDonna has had the third overall place in market steers for three years. "I seem to be stuck in third gear," She smiles broadly.

She has had champion heifer for two years and grand champion heifer two years. This year, her Limousin heifer, Stormy, won Supreme Champion Female over all breeds in the open show and brought her a nice check.

Bill Popovich of Bedford Farm Bureau sponsored the cash prize for this new Bedford Fair

class because it helps to encourage the breeding of better beef cattle for the cattle industry.

LaDonna has also had the fair's best home bred champion for the past three years.

In Pennsylvania State Farm Show competition, LaDonna showed the Reserve Champion Limousin steer; took a second overall and had the 1993 Reserve Champion Limousin.

This young cattle farmer has already taken home a third overall at Keystone and a first in "Best bred and owned".

Ribbons and trophies don't come easily and LaDonna spends most of her summer in the cattle barn, leading, bathing, and brushing her own eight Limousins. "I spend as much time as possible in the winter," she says. "It all depends on how much homework I have. But I try to be out here at least two hours a day," she talks as she brushes a Limousin heifer. "I get to keep her," LaDonna said. "She's breeding stock."

Her favorite, a middleweight steer named, "Little Bob," brought her the third place honor at the Bedford Fair this year. "It was hard to part with him," she admits, "Even at \$2.90 a pound."

The Millers, including brothers, Brian and Kevin, farm 140 acres of land and have a total of



LaDonna with Little Bob after winning third place overall and best homebred titles at the Great Bedford Fair.

130 Limousins. As much feed as possible is raised on their own farm.

"For now, LaDonna is not certain of the career path she will choose but she knows it must

include working with animals. "I've thought about being a vet," she says. "But, if I don't make that, I know my life will still include working with animals in some way."

In the meantime, LaDonna is ready and proud to be among the 4,400 entries to compete for \$217,369 in premium money at the Keystone International competition.

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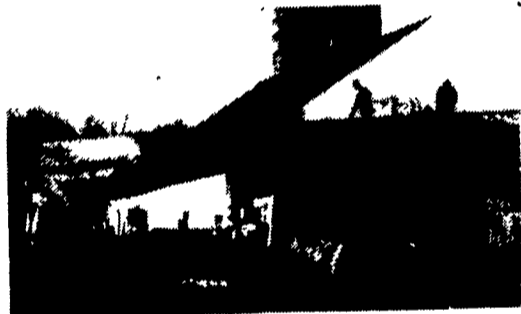
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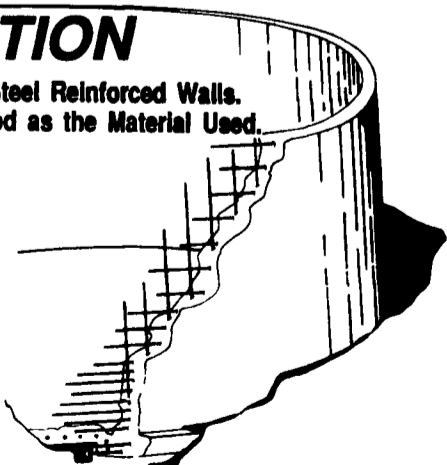
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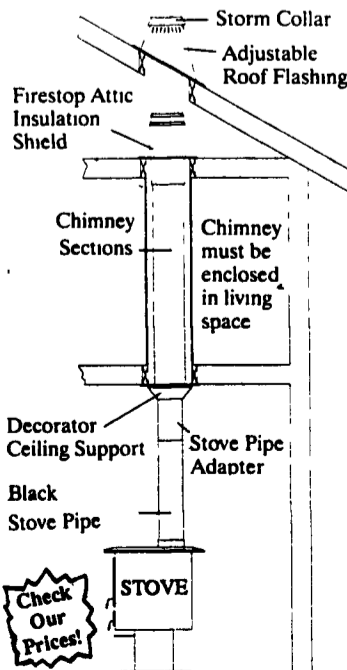
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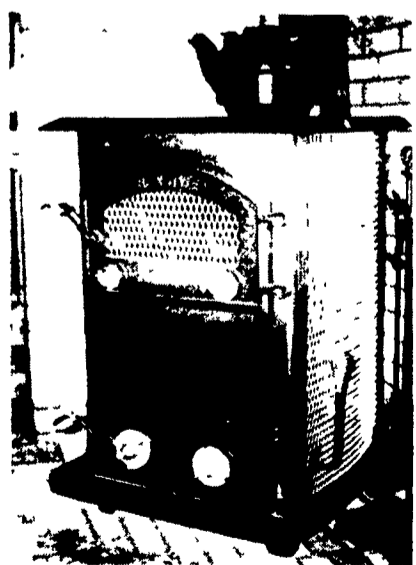


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