

# 'Distinguish Yourself' Becomes Natalie's Motto

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Somerset Co. Correspondent  
**BERLIN (Somerset Co.)** — After September 23, the sparkling crown and diagonal banner of Pennsylvania State Dairy Princess Natalie Dawn Welch will no longer be a constant reminder that her best image must be foremost — that her behavior must always be exemplary. Because then, those responsibilities will go to her successor at the state contest. But laying aside the tangible things, for Natalie, won't close the book on her values, like the little

motto that's pasted in her dad's pickup truck — "Distinguish Yourself."  
The brief message caused Natalie, when she was younger to ask her dad, David Wlech, a doctor of veterinary medicine and farmer, what it meant.  
"He said, 'Nobody else will do it for you. Each person must strive to go above and beyond,'" the princess recalled, adding, "I try to do that in my school work and everything by putting extra effort into it."  
Natalie, who's enrolled as a

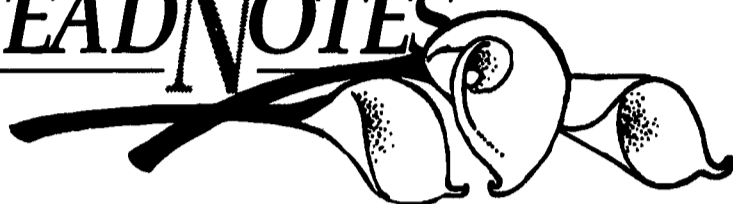
freshman at the Bob Jones University, Greenville, S.C., quickly learned her duties as the state dairy princess had few similarities with her concurrent reign as the Somerset County dairy princess.  
For one thing, she was expected to make numerous speeches at official functions where influential people in high places were present. If she knew absolutely nobody at these affairs except her chaperone, Jan Harding, the youngest of the four Welch children, had to rise to the occasion by "distinguishing

herself" as a capable person.  
A reflective young woman who enjoys thinking, Natalie says the dairy princess experience helped her to understand how she is perceived by others.  
"It matters what you look like," she says. "First impressions do mean a lot."  
Now pursuing her degree in chemistry, Natalie, her sisters, Jennifer and Heather, and brother Matthew, were always exposed to the  
(Turn to Page B3)



"Distinguish yourself," is Natalie's motto for schoolwork and every one of her endeavors. The Welch sisters, from left, are Jennifer, Natalie, and Heather.

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