

# Jonelle Smith Completes Reign As New York Dairy Princess

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — After dedicating a year to promoting milk and dairy products, 1995-96 New York State Dairy Princess Jonelle Smith will complete her reign on Tuesday, February 20. On behalf of the American Dairy

Association and Dairy Council, Inc. (ADADC), Smith traveled over 10,000 miles to participate in more than 150 promotions.

As the 1995 state pageant speech winner, Smith captivated audiences of all ages with her interactive presentation about the nutritional value, versatility, and need for dairy products in everyone's diet. As state dairy princess, she reached almost 4,000 children and adults by presenting her school program 100 times at 21 events including:

- National Milk Bottler's Convention, Saratoga Springs, NY
- Dairy Day at the New York State Fair, Syracuse, NY
- Pyramid Mall Kid's Club Dairy Day, Ithaca, NY
- Dryden Dairy Days, Dryden, NY
- Milk Marketing, Inc., Board of Director Meeting, Sayre, PA
- Elementary Schools: Cortland, Homer, McGraw and Cincinnatus, NY.

Working with the media is one of the many goals of the Dairy Princess Program. Taking the positive milk message across the state, Smith worked with the broadcast media more than 14 times throughout the year.

She appeared on three of the four Syracuse television stations and WUTR-TV in Utica, and could have been heard on radio stations such as WKRT-AM of Cortland, WMCR-AM/FM of Oneida, and WXHC-FM of Homer. In addition, Smith recorded public service announcements and was interviewed by the Ag Radio Network, which is broadcast on over 300 affiliate stations across the Northeast.

In addition to presenting her school program and broadcasting milk messages through the media, Smith made numerous appearances at a variety of special events, including:

- Olympic Torch "Run for '96," Buffalo and Albany, NY
- ADADC "Shake It Up With Milk" Contest, New York City, NY



Jonelle Smith

- National All-Jersey, Inc. Convention, Albany, NY
  - "Got Milk?" Coronation Ice Show, Lake Placid, NY
  - ADADC "Santa's Milk and Cookie De-Stress Express," Syracuse, NY
  - NYS Holstein Association Annual Meeting, Buffalo, NY
- Smith is thankful to all the dairy farmers and ADADC for a successful year of dairy promotion. "Serving as the New York State Dairy Princess has been an opportunity of a lifetime! This year has been full of exciting events where I have met many fantastic people and have been able to spread positive messages about our wonderful dairy industry and the products that we are producing," Smith says.

Smith is the 19-year-old daughter of John and Beatrice Smith of Cincinnatus, New York. The youngest of five children, she grew up on a 400-acre dairy farm where they milk 65 Holsteins.

Smith studies music education at Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y., where she is a member of the Women's Volleyball team, the Nazareth Choir, and the Spanish Club Cervantes. Receiving a 4.0 during her fall semester, Smith was named to the Dean's List and a 1995-96 Collegiate All-American Scholar, a national academic awards program.

On Being a Farm Wife (and other hazards) Joyce Bupp



Green is one of my favorite colors.

Under the right circumstances. Not when it's in the form of the green spots that recently turned up on the bottom side of a pack of cheese playing hide-n-seek in the refrigerator, forgotten behind some of the other residents there. While fine cheeses need mold action to ripen and grow flavorful, this was not that flavoring sort of growth.

And not the green which gathers around the bathtub drain, testimony to the abundant mineral content of our home-grown variety of water. Occasionally, when the green becomes too entrenched, I borrow some milk pipeline cleaning materials from the dairy barn for an anti-greenery attack.

Nor is green a favored color when it starts taking over the pond during summer's worst heat (remember summer heat?). On the plus side, however, the fish do find that green a cooling and secretive place under which to hide.

But what's appeared on the roadside bank after each snow-melt, visible through the front door window from the office desk, is the most beautiful color imagin-

able in mid-February.

Green. Grass green.

That roadbank has a southern exposure. So, even as the mountainous piles of snow piled onto it these last several weeks by the plows began to recede, little bits of new grass have pushed through the flattened, brown stems which linger. Encouraged by a warm afternoon or two, a large section of the bank has responded with a heartwarming patch of vibrant, living color.

Green. After the second round of snow and ice avalanched off the roofs—first the house and then the back porch roof—and deposited a mini-glacier off the edge of the basement porch, we supposed it would be mid-April before we would ever see the grass there. I did chip and shovel out a narrow path and enough clearance to open the greenhouse door just enough to slip through. But, hey, we figured time and temperatures could take care of the rest.

One recent day as I was enroute to water the plants, tiny fingers of growth poking through the matted maple leaves and fallout from the trees caught my attention.

Green.

On hands and knees, I gently unfolded one of the tiny bits of foliage pushing aside the dead, brownish residue to see what was so courageously sprouting. Dandelion leaves.

Don't laugh. They're green.

Inside the greenhouse, other weeds are responding to our slowly—lengthening days and that ever-so-slightly-more friendliness and warmth of the sun. Runners of chickweed are crawling out over the edge of a couple of pots of various "acti. Two impatiens have sprouted at the foot of a crown-of-thorns plant. A tuft of grass is merrily growing smack dab in the middle of a Boston fern.

And the daffodil and tulip bulbs which were never planted out—due to last fall's early, inhospitable cold and wet—are regenerating green growth out their tips.

This upcoming week is the one in which we generally salute the color red—with hearts, roses, etc. But, for us plant and gardening lovers, the color our hearts pine for is that of regrowth and renewal.

Green.

Come to think of it, though, while we're awaiting the green, celebrating this week of red with a bit of brown—chocolate candy brown, that is—would help make the wait a little sweeter and more tolerable...

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