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Penn Gate Farm Shows Grand At Holstein Fall Championship

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
 Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Robert Gitt and his son-in-law and daughter, Steve and Christine Wood, owners of Penn Gate Farm in Littlestown, showed their 5-year-old Penn Gate Chief Mark Alice to win the open division grand champion honors at the Pennsylvania Holstein Association's Fall Championship show Tuesday at the state Farm Show Complex.

The farm family was also named premier breeder of the show. On top of that, while the rest of the results of the All-American Dairy Show's Eastern National Holstein Show and the other five national shows are to be published next week, as late as Thursday afternoon, Alice was named best bred and owned Holstein.

The Walkway Chief Mark daughter was also named the best bred and owned animal of the Pennsylvania Fall Championship.

Judge for the show was Dennis Patrick, of Woodbine, Md.

The Pa. Holstein Association annually holds its fall championship show at Harrisburg in conjunction with the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show event, which features six national shows.

This year, for the first time, the state Holstein show featured "intermediate" champions.

The normal structure of a dairy cattle show divides mature or senior-aged animals (cows) from immature or junior-aged animals (heifers).

For the first time, the Pennsylvania Holstein Association structured a championship show to feature the selection of a younger mature animal as an intermediate-aged champion.

Some shows in surrounding states have already altered some of their show structure this way, and the Pa. Holstein Association Show Committee recommended the change for this show.

The intermediate Champions are selected from 2- and 3-year-old Holstein cows.

Arguments for the additional

champion category include that it offers most of the class winners of the younger milk-bearing cows to be milked out and receive relief prior to the end of a show with the knowledge that they don't have a chance at senior champion; and that it allows recognition of outstanding animals that otherwise don't get highlighted.

This can be especially true in large shows with a great deal of depth. Whether or not it continues depends on the response of Holstein association members and show exhibitors.

In the open division, the reserve grand and reserve senior champion animal was the second place 5-year-old cow, New Direction Sexy Tabatha, owned and bred by Tom McCauley, of New Direction Holsteins in Elizabethtown.

The intermediate champion of the open division was also the winner of the 1996 Pennsylvania Holstein Futurity, and was the grand champion of the youth division

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Angela Werley from Berks County is the new state dairy princess. To read more about Angela and the state pageant's 40th celebration, turn to page B2 and B16. Photo by Lou Ann Good.

Lancaster Conservation District to Host State

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The Lancaster County Conservation District will host the 49th annual conference of the State Conservation Commission and the PA Association of Conservation Districts (PACD) on October 6-9, the Willow Valley Conference Center, Lancaster.

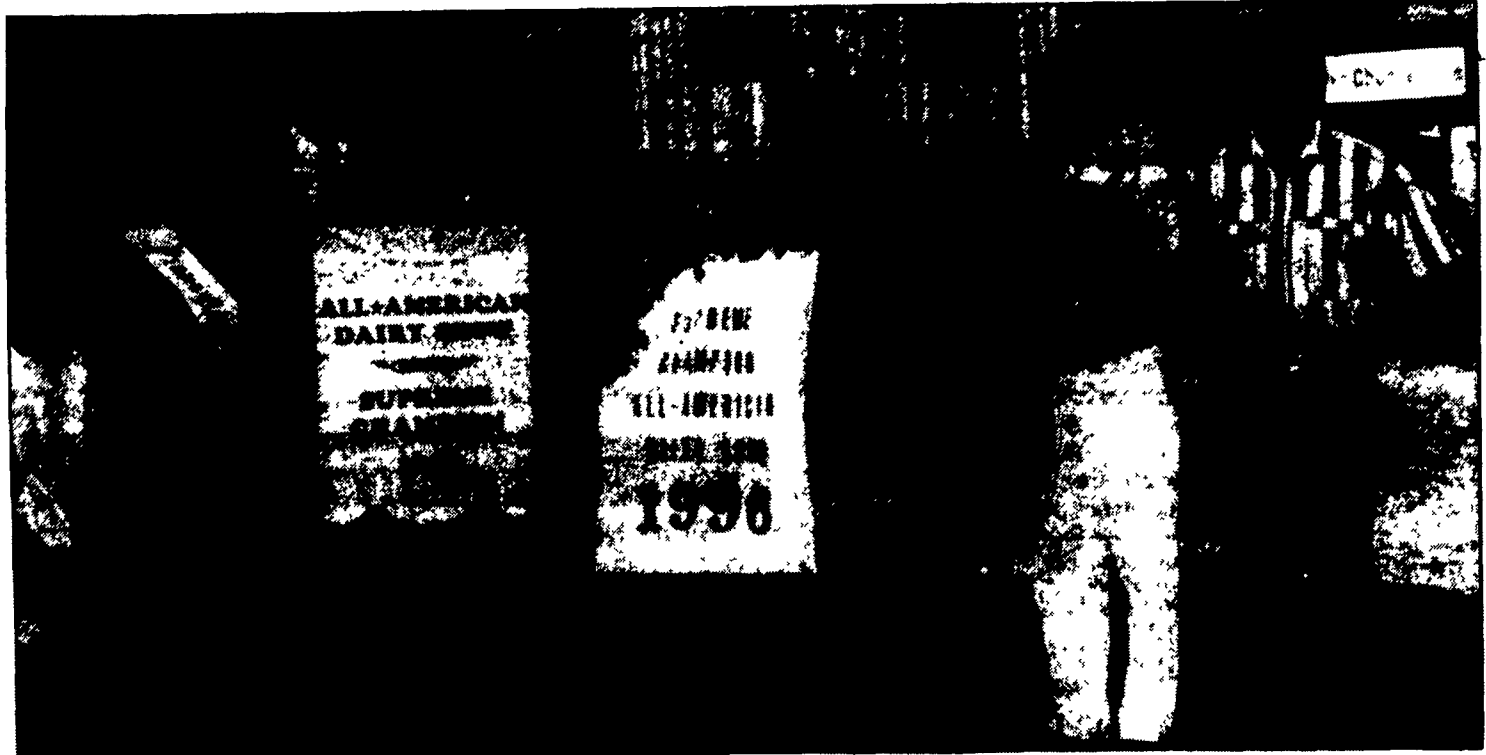
The theme of this year's conference is "Preserving Farms by Preserving Farm Family Profit." Ron Bailey, director of the Lancaster County Planning Commission, will be the keynote speaker. Various tours will highlight how local farm families have increased income through high value crops

and side-line businesses. Conservation activity in the Pequea Mill Creek watershed and on the Donegal Creek will also be spotlighted.

Delegates from the 66 county conservation districts are invited to meet annually with the State Conservation Commission and the PACD to give direction to the association's goals for the coming year and to recognize outstanding conservation achievements. Among items of business for the State Conservation Commission will be the finalization of the Nutrient Management Act regulations.

Prior to the State Conservation Commission, the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Environmental Protection, and Conservation and Natural Resources will meet with delegates to explain programs and answer questions. Other conference highlights will be the Host Night entertainment featuring the Red Rose Chorus on Monday and the PACD Conservation Awards Banquet on Tuesday evening.

The Lancaster County District last hosted the conference in 1985. For additional information, please call the Lancaster County Conservation District at 299-5361.



This aged Jersey cow, Sparklers Unique Jeanna, was named supreme champion of the 1996 Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show on Thursday afternoon. From the left, state Agriculture Secretary Charles Brosius and state Dairy Princess Angela Werley present the banner to Maryland

owners Douglas King and Michael Heath, while Billy Heath holds her halter. The selection was made by three judges — Donald Selpt of Pennsylvania, Norman Hill of Maryland, and PDA's Peter Witmer. See more coverage of the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show in next week's issue.

York Junior Livestock Sale Takes The Cake

JOYCE BUPP
 York Co. Correspondent
YORK (York Co.) — For the York County 4-H Livestock Judging and Meats Judging Teams, fund-raising has been a piece of cake.

In what has become a tradition over the past several years, the annual Junior Livestock Sale at the York Fair again opened this year with the offering of a cake. The noted livestock sale cake is annually baked and artfully decorated by extension assistant Lois Rankin.

Each year, the cake sale generates a bit more attention and a few more buyers, who invariably decide they really do not need a cake and donate it back. An even dozen buyers shared this year's cake buying frenzy, beginning with Delwood Kitchens, who paid \$425, and ending with Rentzel's

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