## 780 Animals Exhibited At State Youth Dairy Shows

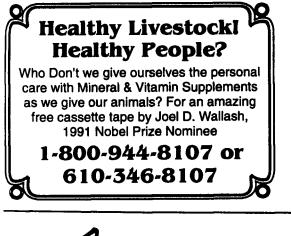


From the left, Jason Butler shows his reserve junior champion Brown Swiss of the state youth dairy show, while Joshua Hushon shows his junior champion.



From the left, Andrew Youse holds the halter of his reserve grand champion Jersey of the state youth dairy show, while Curtis Reichard holds the halter of his grand champion.

Look for more All-American stories and photographs next week



## VERNON ACHENBACH JR. Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — No one was certain of whether or not a record was set Monday with 780 dairy cattle exhibited in the state youth dairy show, but the amount of participation was one of the most in memory, according to show organizers.

The 41st state youth dairy show — actually six different breed shows — was held in the Large Arena of the state Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show event.

The PAADS features six national dairy cattle shows, the Pennsylvania Holstein Association's Fall Championship Show, and the state youth dairy show.

There are other competitions as well, including an Invitational youth Dairy Cattle Judging Contest, as well as a dairy management contest, and state dairy judging forum (competition).

In the state youth dairy cattle shows, all cattle must first qualify by winning blue ribbons at districtlevel shows.

While the state cattle show was combined last year with 4-H and FFA members, this year, qualifying district shows were also combined.

While the elimination of distinction between 4-H and FFA members didn't alter the total number of district shows held, it was done to make it easier for youth to attend qualifying shows, and thus have an opportunity to participate in the state show.

The state youth dairy shows featured a structure change this year. Traditionally, dairy shows are organized to show animals, according to age classification, from youngest to oldest.

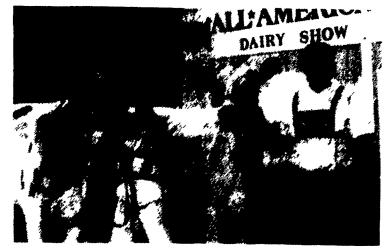
However, this year that was changed. The mature, milkbearing animals were exhibited first, before the junior-aged animals of the breed.

This was done primarily to allow youth with Holsteins to milk out their adult animals in enough time on Monday, so that those show cows could make enough milk to be in proper show form for

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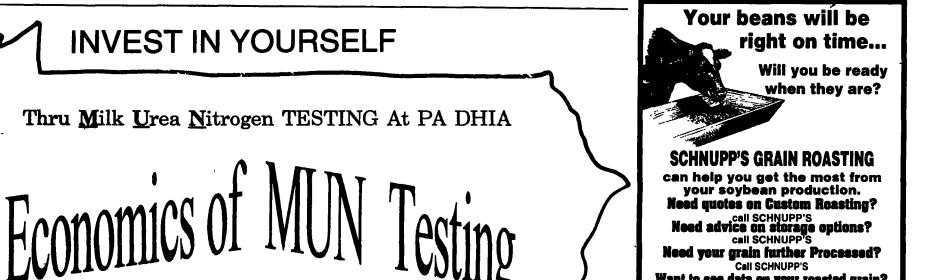
From the left, Amy Guyer holds the halter of her sister Paula Guyer's reserve grand champion Guernsey while Aaron Gable shows his grand champion.



From the left, Daryl Maulfair shows his grand champion of the state youth Ayrshire show, while Brian Sharer shows his reserve grand champion.



From the left, Joshua Hushon shows his reserve grand champion Brown Swiss of the state youth dairy show, while Joy Hess shows her grand champion.



- Protein is the most costly ingredient in dairy rations.
- Some farms overfeed protein by 10-20%.
- Overfeeding protein by 20% would cost producers about \$50/cow/year
  > 100 cows = \$5000/year
- Cost of MUN testing is 15¢/cow/month
- MUN testing can signal excess protein feeding or energy imbalance. If correct adjustments are made it could significantly improve the efficiency of milk production and conception rate.



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