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Reading Champion Sheep Easy To Name, Hard To Pick

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff

KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) — Supreme champion ewe may have been a challenge to select for Marlyn Stroh, Cheviot sheep breeder and Erdenheim Farm manager from Lafayette Hill, on Monday at the Reading Fair.

But for exhibitor Todd Lee Bennecoff Jr., it was no trouble to name.

The Dorset yearling ewe was named "Dufus," according to Todd. It was all in the way she

acted — kind of clumsy, was the word.

For Stroh, sheep judge, it was an "easier job selecting the supreme ram than (it was) selecting the supreme ewe," he said. But in the end, the Dorset ewe was a "nice, correct individual, with good size and scale for the individual that it is."

Stroh indicated to the exhibitors that the strength and weaknesses for any flock reside in the ewes themselves.

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Todd Lee Bennecoff, right, won supreme champion ewe with a Dorset at the Reading Fair Monday. At left is Marlyn Stroh, judge.



At the pageant held last Saturday, Nichole Meabon, center, is crowned Pennsylvania Dairy Princess. First Alternate Heather Riley, left, and Second Alternate Eileen Murphy will assist Nichole in dairy promotion at the state level. For more about the pageant, turn to page B2 for story and photos by Lou Ann Good.

Pennsylvania National Horse Show For America's Top Riders

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — From October 9 to 18, the State Farm Show Arena in Harrisburg, PA will bustle daily from dawn until long after dark with a thousand horses and riders. These equestrians, "the best of the best" from throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico will travel thousands of miles to Harrisburg to compete for more than \$225,000 in prize money and a number of coveted national championships in the 52nd annual

Pennsylvania National Horse Show.

The Pennsylvania National Horse Show is truly the "Show of Champions," as horses and riders spend a year competing for enough points to earn acceptance in the hunter, jumper, and equitation divisions. Draft horse, saddlebred, western, roadster, and hackney pony divisions add to the show's attraction, as do special events such as the Budweiser Clydesdales, who appear nightly

from Wednesday, October 15, through Saturday, October 18.

The show, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Harrisburg, has raised more than \$1.4 million for central Pennsylvania youth organizations since 1945.

The show opens with Junior Weekend, October 9 to 12. Riders under age 18 fight to control their own nerves as well as those of their horses as they compete against the top young riders from

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Wind Drift Natema Wins Third State Holstein Fall Championship

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Wind Drift AJ Natema, a cow owned by the Ford City syndicate of Alex Claypoole, Mark Campbell, and Doug Beatty, on Tuesday was named grand champion of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association's Fall Championship Show at the state Farm Show Complex.

Born November 1988, it is the third time the large-framed cow won the state fall championship title. She previously won it in 1994 and 1995.

Natema, a Bridon Astro Jet daughter was entered in the 125,000-pound production class for the show. That class recognizes those cows that have made at least 125,000 pounds of milk in their lifetime, as evidenced by Dairy Herd Improvement Association records. It was reported that Natema had made 135,000 pounds of milk to date, and has a 305-day lactation record as a 6-year-old of 35,728 pounds milk, 1,428 pounds

fat, and 1,052 pounds protein.

The second place animal in that class, New-Direction Jet Cameo, owned by Alan McCauley, of Elizabethtown, was the reserve grand champion of the show. Cameo has also been a high achieving showing performer for the McCauleys, who operate Em-Tran Inc., in Elizabethtown.

Cameo is also a Bridon Astro Jet daughter. While her total production was not available, she made 27,157 pounds of milk as a 4-year-old in 305 days.

Alan McCauley received best bred and owned honors for Cameo in the open division of the show.

The PHA Fall Championship was held in conjunction with the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show, which features national and regional level dairy shows for six dairy cattle breeds.

The PHA showing program holds a spring state show, district shows throughout the summer, and the fall show.

Animals that accumulate the

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From the left, show judge Robert Fitzsimmons stands with Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Nichole Meabon, while Mylin Good, Alan and Sandy McCauley hold their reserve grand champion banner and Tom McCauley holds the halter of the animal, leadman Gary Culbertson holds the halter while Mark Campbell and Doug Beatty stand with their children and the grand championship banner. Sarah Campbell holds the banner, while Lindsey Beatty, Kayla Beatty, Rachel Campbell and Thomas Beatty stand in front.