

Hayden Is Huntingdon County's Dairy Princess

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Mifflin Co. Correspondent

HUNTINGDON (Huntingdon Co.) — Most people know that dairy princesses take their milk message into elementary schools where young minds can learn how important milk is to growing bodies. But Sara Hayden of Huntingdon has another message that's just as important.

"I want to go into the middle and high schools. Eighty-five percent of the girls and sixty percent of the boys are calcium deficient. I want to tell them to drink milk before it's too late," Sara said of the statistics she found on the Internet.

Sara, the daughter of Jim and Doris Hayden, was crowned at the Huntingdon County Dairy Princess Pageant the beginning of June and has already attended arts festivals, parades, senior citizens centers and 4-H camp. But Sara will rely on her alternate dairy princess, Lillian Joy Couch of McAlevy's Ford, for dairy princess events in July. Sara's attending the Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences at Penn State.

"I think I want to be a vet. At the Governor's School, we take accelerated classes, go on field trips, do hands-on activities. It'll be a good way for me to decide whether I want to attend Penn State. Out of the hundreds that apply for the Governor's School, only 64 are chosen."

Sara and her brothers J.C., 14 and Ian, 11, all show dairy animals at the Huntingdon County Fair. But they don't compete against each other. Sara



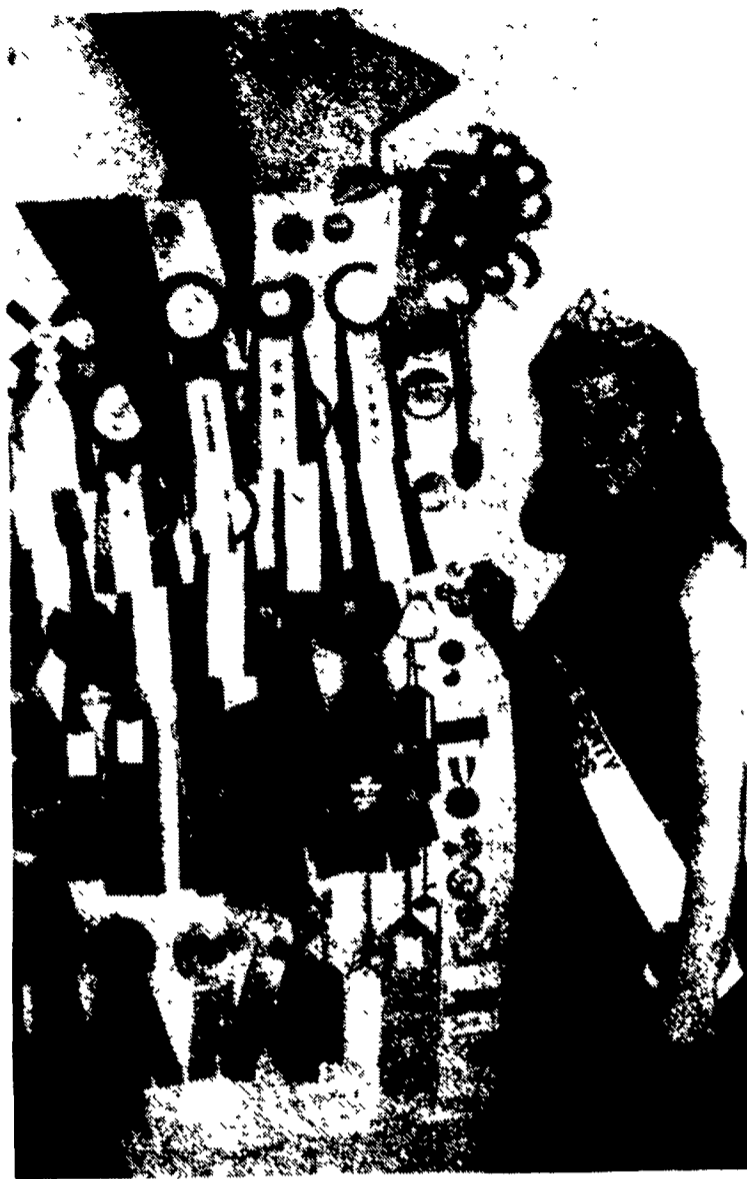
Sara takes a break between activities. She's been accepted at the Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences at Penn State.

shows Ayrshires, J.C. shows Jerseys, and Ian mostly shows Brown Swiss.

Sara serves as president of the County-Wide Dairy 4-H Club, is a member of the Junior Holstein Association, the Huntingdon Dairy Bowl Team, the National Honor Society, HAHS Power Source Club, a Bible study group, County Chorus, HAHS Chamber Singers, and other organiza-

tions. She helps on her neighbor's farm by keeping lactation records and milking.

Sara will be attending the Huntingdon Area High School this fall as a senior honor student. She's not sure how her message of drinking milk will be received in the middle and high schools, but Sara's winning smile and healthy appearance will clearly show the benefits of drinking milk.



Sara Hayden displays some of her many ribbons in her room.

Princess Vows To Fight Osteoporosis

PLEASANT GAP (Centre Co.) — Billie Jo Bird was crowned Centre County Dairy Princess at a pageant held at the Logan Grange in Pleasant Gap recently.

Billie Jo is the 16-year-old daughter of Rick and Patty Bird of Pleasant Gap. She has a brother Will, 19, and sister Ashley, 12.

"I am dedicating my year as dairy princess to the promotion of dairy products to help fight and control osteoporosis. This disease affects several family members and I want to make everyone aware that consuming dairy products throughout your lifetime can help you avoid getting this disease," Billie Jo said.

The Bird farm consists of 120

acres, mostly corn and alfalfa used by the tenant dairy producer. The family-owned R.W. Bird Trucking Inc. operates about 30 tractor trailers and tankers to transport milk for several cooperatives and independent companies. The business has been operated since 1955.

"Ever since I was a little girl, I have ridden with my father and grandfather to pick up milk and I have always wanted to be a dairy princess," Billie Jo said.

She will be a junior at Bellefonte Area High School in the fall. School activities include varsity cheerleading, softball player, and working with the preschool program.

In the community, Billie Jo has

volunteered at the Bellefonte YMCA, been a summer softball coach, and helped at Pleasant Gap Elementary School. She enjoys skiing, softball, cheerleading, swimming, and working with small children.

After high school, Billie Jo has her sights set on working with young children in the medical profession. She is working part-time with Penn State University's sports camp registration.

Assisting in Centre County dairy promotion is Centre County Alternate Laura Foust. Laura, 17-year-old daughter of Lois E. Foust of Milesburg and Larry Foust of Mapleton Depot. She will be a senior at Bald Eagle Area High School in the fall. Laura's interest in the dairy industry stems from her great grandfather's farm, which has been in the family for 78 years.

Dairy maids are Joleen Haines, daughter of Charles and Lori Haines of Pleasant Gap; Laura Musser, daughter of Thomas Jr. and Cindy Musser of Bellefonte, and Amanda Gates, daughter of Carl and Carla Gates of Warriors Mark.

Dairy Misses are Amanda Corl, daughter of Eugene Corl and of Rob and June Kocher; Courtney Klingler, daughter of Robert and Kimberly Klingler of Port Matilda; and Miranda Ulmer, daughter of Daniel and Penny Ulmer of Bellefonte.

Dairy Ambassadors are Nicole and Krystal Wasson, daughters of Ronald and Candace Wasson of State College; and Derek Wasson, son of Douglas and Jennifer Wasson, Centre Hall.

Former dairy princess Erica Reese gave a farewell speech and the 1996 Dairy Princess LaTrisha

Wasson was recognized for being named the runner-up for the Tina M. Schultz Award.

Amber Rice provided musical entertainment and an old-fashioned ice cream social ended the evening.

Retired vocational agriculture

teacher and dairy farmer John Ishler served as emcee. Judges were Joyce Dotterer, Clinton County Dairy Promotion co chair; Dave Bigelow, marketing manager for Pa. DHIA, and Abe Harpster, Ever-green Farms in Spruce Creek.

Hinkelfest's Eggs N' Wings N' Chicken Things

FREDERICKSBURG (Lebanon Co.) — The Eighth Annual Hinkelfest will be held September 11, 12, and 13, just off Rt. 22 west of Fredericksburg, at the Farmer's Pride Airport. The Hinkelfest chicken and egg festival benefits local community organizations including the Fredericksburg Fire Company, Library, Community Association, Lion's Club, and American Legion.

Since 1991, more than \$85,000 has been raised for these community services as families enjoy Hinkelfest's "Eggs n' Wings n' Chicken Things."

The weekend's entertainment begins with the "Cramer Brothers Band" performing a concert from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, September 11. On Saturday, enjoy the sounds of "The McKabes" as they perform from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. followed by "Fall Guys and a Gal" entertaining at 5, 7, and 9 p.m.

Sunday afternoon "The Couriers" will get things rolling at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. with "Fall Guys and a Gal" giving

encore performances at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. These shows are all free of charge and open to the public. Bring you lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy the festivities.

During this annual food festival, chicken is served a variety of ways from chicken barbecue, chicken and waffles, to chicken wings. From 11 a.m. Saturday enjoy chicken Bar-B-Que under the Big Top. Sunday, events open with the "Super Egg Breakfast" from 8 to 10:30 a.m. In the afternoon, enjoy the filled chicken breast dinner starting at 11 a.m.

A hot air balloon launch, rides for the children, games, ice carving, and the Hinkelfest 5K Run round out the weekend's activities along with the Fifth Annual Craft Show on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more "egg-citing" information contact Mike Zeck at (717) 865-0042 or Rod Seidel, First National Bank of Fredericksburg at (717) 865-2123.



Centre County Dairy Princess Billie Jo Bird, left, is joined by, front row, Dairy Ambassador Derek Wasson, and Dairy Maids Amanda Gates and Laura Musser. In back, are Alternate Dairy Princess Laura Foust, Dairy Misses Miranda Ulmer, Courtney Klingler, and Amanda Corl, and Dairy Ambassadors Nicole and Krystal Wasson.