

Emily O'Hara Reigns As Frederick Farm Queen

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Maryland Correspondent

JEFFERSON, Md. — Emily O'Hara, the daughter of Eddie and Kay O'Hara of Frederick, was named 1998 Frederick County Farm Queen at the contest held at the Ruritan Center here. Emily received her tiara from Diane Ogg, the outgoing queen. Kathy DeHart, the eighteen-year-old daughter of Keneth and Nancy DeHart of Frederick, was named runner-up in the pageant.

Leanne Mayne, the daughter of Merhl and Charlotte Mayne of Buckeystown, and Dana Wilt, the daughter of Robert Wilt and Gloria Blickenstaff of Frederick, also competed in the contest, sponsored each year by the Frederick County Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureau women's committee. The Frederick County Young Farmers awarded cash prizes to the young ladies.

For eighteen-year-old Emily, the road to becoming country farm queen started about 15 years ago. As not much more than a toddler, the dairy farmer's daughter charmed the audience and judges and won the county's Little Farmerette contest with a poem she recited again here for the crowd. "I'm Moo Moo the cow, I eat lots of hay; I lay in the meadow for most of the day. My milk is so good, it doesn't take long for all little children to grow big and strong."

Emily said she was so awestruck by the farm queen, who she spoke with that day years ago when she was crowned Little Farmerette, that she set her sights then and there on someday becoming farm queen herself.

"My dream to become Frederick County farm queen began with this poem," she said, "As a little girl I competed in the Little Farmerette contest and won. The queen that spoke to me that day was so amazing that I set my sights on becoming her in the future."

Emily proved to herself and a crowd of over 120 people that she had what it took to achieve that goal. And she also made it clear that she has the kind of character and drive that will



Contestants in the Frederick County farm queen contest were, from left, Dana Wilt; Diane Ogg, outgoing farm queen; Emily O'Hara, Frederick County farm queen; Kathy DeHart, runner-up; and Leanne Mayne.

probably impress future generations of little girls as a role model of what an advocate of agriculture can accomplish when she sets her mind to it.

While she maintained her ability to enchant the audience with her delightful smile, during the past 15 years Emily has also been busy putting together a string of agricultural successes that has taken her around the nation and even to Annapolis, Maryland to speak before the House of Representatives and the Senate. All the while she has been grounded in the tradition of hard work on her family's dairy farm, and has also managed to rise to the academic top of her graduating class at Frederick High School.

Emily lives on a 200-acre dairy, Hara-Vale Farm, near Frederick, where 80 registered Holsteins put the milk in the tank. She helps with the milking and fieldwork, and is also responsible for keeping herd health records. The family raises their own replacement heifers, and maintains a herd of dairy steers. Emily has cut back on her farm chores recently because she has taken the job of teller at a local bank.

She graduated this year in the top five percent of her class of 470 at Frederick High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society, the volleyball team, and

was an accounting tutor. Emily said attending Frederick High has given her insight into how important it is to educate the non-farming public about the importance of agriculture. "Being raised on a farm has helped me witness first hand how important agriculture is to life. By attending Frederick High I have noticed how many young adults do not realize what farming and agriculture does for them. My goal is to teach all who do not understand what farming is and what it does for the world," she explained.

She has found time to be active in both FFA and 4-H, and has distinguished herself in both. During her senior year Emily was president of the Frederick FFA chapter, and was selected FFA state ambassador, an honor that will take her to the national convention this fall.

In 4-H her projects have included floriculture and public speaking. She has also enjoyed being a member of the 4-H exchange club, where she had the opportunity to travel to California and North Dakota.

Emily's dedication to the dairy industry is evident in her reign this past year as Maryland Dairy Princess. Being state dairy princess offered Emily the opportunity to reach a wide variety of people with her message about the importance of nature's most nearly perfect food. She



Emily O'Hara, daughter of Eddie and Kay O'Hara of Frederick, is the new Frederick County farm queen.

proved she could get the message across equally well to groups as diverse as school children and politicians.

Not least of all, she took her message to the house of Representatives and the Senate. When Delegate Paul Stull, who was born and raised on a dairy farm, sponsored a bill to make milk the official drink of Maryland, Emily got involved. She decided to bake cookies and pass them out to the politicians to make them thirsty for milk.

"I started in the House, and I worked my way up until I made it to the Senate," she said.

After passing out the homemade chocolate chip cookies, the politicians craved something to drink. And of course, there was

Emily, offering them a refreshing glass of milk.

The bill passed.

"They all told me that they loved it," said Emily, "and that's what made milk Maryland's state drink." Emily also testified in Annapolis in favor of the Northeast Dairy Compact legislation.

Entertainment for the farm queen pageant was provided by David and Darin Gordon, with Amy Huffer on piano, and by soloist Andrea Hood. Judges included Joan Myers, Carroll County Farm Bureau women's committee chairperson; Glenn Shirley, president of Carroll County Farm Bureau; and Jeff Semler, 4-H Agent from Washington County.

Kimberton Fair Holds Massive Goat Competition

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff

KIMBERTON (Chester Co.) —

With 134 goats entered in the Kimberton Fair competition, Alice Orzechowski, judge for the recent event, said, "This show is extremely competitive, especially the Alpine classes."

Judged for general appearance, body capacity, dairy character, and mammary system, the goats were showed to their best advantage by the 18 exhibitors, dressed in all white according to official requirements.

The Alpine Junior Champion, shown by veteran goat breeder Joan Stump, was Stump Hollow K&V Linnet. The champion is the daughter of a senior doe, which has been named best of show 15 times.

"I'm pleased to see that she's done so well. I need a replacement for her mom since she's nearing retirement," Stump said.

Stump and her husband Harold raise an average of 20 head with 12 milking goats at Stump Hollow in Telford. Goat milk is used in their

household and the excess fed to pigs. Stump Hollow offers buck service and sells offspring.

Consistent winners were Crystal and Brant Kloiber, who brought 25 head of Alpines and LaManchas to the fair. They left three more does and five bucks at their parents' four-acre plot in Northampton County.

Crystal expressed surprise that a yearling that she purchased from Texas last fall took championship titles in senior and junior recorded grades division.

Other than that one, the remainder head are homebred at the herd's Peach Valley home, and won numerous ribbons throughout the show.

About nine years ago, Crystal began showing goats as 4-H projects. Now in her senior year at Wilson College, where she is studying vet technology, Crystal continues to show goats.

She said, "Goats are friendly, sociable, with wonderful personalities. I had horses but they are too big and I tried sheep but they are too anti-social."

The reserve junior champion went to Prinet Magnolie D.V. Lilly owned by Jess Bohmier. The 13-year-old showed the 4-H junior champion and reserve champion in 4-H and open shows. The Alpines also garnered championship ribbons in that breed.

Jess raises about 17 Alpines at her parents' Sharon and Tim Bohmier's New London farm.

Chris McGinnes, 15, of Souder-ton, showed the reserve grand champion for recorded grades and the grand champion and reserve grand champion in 4-H competition for all other purebreds.

The McGinnes raise 24 LaManchas, Alpine, and recorded grades at their Daffodil Dairy.

"We started by showing dairy cows and thought we might as well



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