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# Gov. Ridge Keynotes Dinner, Opens Farm Show

EVERETT NEWSWANGER  
Editor

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) - "Overrun by success!" That's what officials called the Pennsylvania Farm Show held this week in Harrisburg.

Because the official dinner at the Hilton located down town, late last week, literally overflowed out of the main ballroom into side rooms...

And because thousands of cars began to stream into the Farm Show Complex parking lot by 7 a.m. Saturday morning...

And because some vendors in the exhibition halls had sold their week's supply of goods to the jam-packed crowd by Sunday night...

Farm Show officials were pleased with the visual evidence they had put together the greatest show ever in the 84-year history

of the annual January event. "A fitting start to the new millennium," they said.

Even the famous blistering cold and snowy Farm Show weather worked in their favor. "Warmer than normal," the weatherman said.

It all started when the governor of Pennsylvania, Tom Ridge, gave the keynote address at the International Celebration 2000 dinner Friday night to kickoff the celebration. One-hundred-eighty dignitaries from 37 countries were guests of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's aggressive export and trade commission efforts. In addition, hundreds of important people from every government and private sector of the food chain were present to make this the

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Gov. Ridge with son Tom and Tom's friend Michael Reardon pose on an antique tractor while on tour of the Farm Show. After the tour, Gov. Ridge officially opened the show in the Large Arena. Photo by Everett Newswanger, editor.



The supreme champion gilt at the Pennsylvania Farm Show was a Duroc shown by Dave and Betty Holloway, Glen Rock, York County, shown here with Barbara Grumbine, left, making the presentation for Farm Show Director Dennis Grumbine; Pennsylvania State Ag Secretary Samuel Hayes Jr.; and Judge Kim Brock, from Oklahoma State. The champion sold at Farm Show swine sale for \$1,200 to John Tingner Jr., Hartly, Del. See story page B19. Photo by Everett Newswanger, editor.

## Brown Swiss Wins Top Honors At Farm Show Dairy Show

JAYNE SEBRIGHT  
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) -- In front of a crowded audience of both dairy exhibitors and non-farm spectators, a Brown Swiss won supreme champion of the Farm Show Dairy Cattle Show on Tuesday.

Bruce and Laura Heilinger of Lebanon Co. won the title with their senior three year old, Heilinger Ay Nina Norm Twin.

"Norm" is scored 91 points and produced 18,000 pounds of milk during her last lactation. The Brown Swiss Association recently nominated "Norm" All-American Produce of Dam, along with her sister, Heilinger Jet Nina Nadia, who won Brown Swiss champion udder and first place in the Senior two year old class at Farm Show.

This is the first time the Heilingers have won supreme champion at the Farm Show, although they have won grand champion in the past. It's also the first time that the Brown Swiss breed has earned the coveted supreme champion title since its origin in the late 80's.

Reserved supreme champion went to the grand champion Jersey cow, CLV Grove Miss Fatima. Owned by Patricia and Bryan Huff of Chester Co., "Fatima" is an eight-year-old who produced 17,873 pounds of milk during her last lactation.

"Fatima" has taken Grand

Champion three times at the Farm Show. She was also last year's supreme champion

Other breed champion winners included Magic-Meadows Laser Pastel, an Ayrshire junior three-yr.-old owned by James Findley from Lancaster Co. The reserved champion Ayrshire was a four-yr.-old owned by Audrey Gay Rodgers of Mifflin County

Grand champion of the Guernsey breed went to Snders FAYETTES Horizon, a five year old owned by Aaron Gable of Bedford Co. Rutters Brothers of

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## FFA Honors Its Finest

ANDY ANDREWS  
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) -- "You are the fire that burns, and the lightning behind the thunder," said Pennsylvania FFA President Elio Chiarelli Jr. to more than 2,000 FFA members, family, and friends Monday evening during the 71st Annual Pennsylvania FFA Mid-Winter Convention at the Farm Show Complex.

In line with the convention theme, the event serves as a way to "unlock the potential" talents FFA members can use to bring a better world to their families, schools, and community.

At the convention, the state FFA

honored members, family, and friends for their contributions. Also, more than 250 FFA members from throughout the state received the coveted Keystone Degree. The degree recipients were individually profiled in Section 1 of last week's issue of *Lancaster Farming*.

State Agricultural Secretary Samuel Hayes Jr. noted that, when the state opened the 84th annual Farm Show last Saturday, state FFA officers were on hand. As we enter a new millennium, the state ag secretary noted, it will be the youth that will key the success of agriculture.

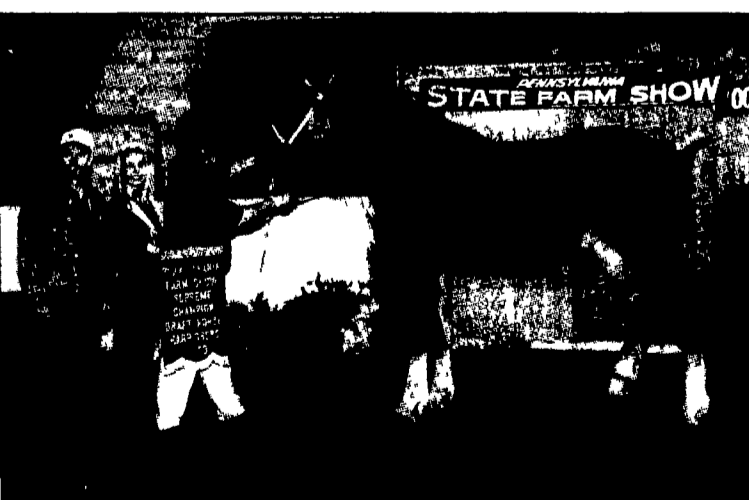
The new century will be

"defined by each and every one of you," Hayes said. "It will be only as good as you individually and collectively make it."

Hayes noted the FFA offers tools such as life skills, leadership training, plan of work management, professional techniques to help define goals and objectives, and others to key success.

Elio Chiarelli Jr., state FFA president, noted that the association created 2,000 stuffed toy animals called "Sam - the FFA Bear," in honor of Hayes, himself a former FFA member, for his devotion to FFA. They are presented as

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### Belgian Mare Is Supreme

The Belgian mare was selected as supreme champion of the draft horse show at the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Lon Acres Lucinda is owned by Donald and Mark Ryburn, Washington. In the photo, Ag Secretary Samuel Hayes Jr., and Janelle Lapp, Pennsylvania Draft Horse and Mule queen make the presentation to Mark Ryburn at the halter. See story page A26. Photo by Everett Newswanger, editor.

See Page A38 For Ice Cream Freezer Winner.