

## Pennsylvania DHIA Honors

(Continued from Page A1)

get involved.

"We always knew that Wayne County would have a full delegation at different meetings," said Castrogiovanni. "Ellis was always willing to step in and help out whenever he was needed."

This year's somatic cell award went to Greg and Sheryl Seeley of Bradford County. Their herd had the lowest somatic cell count average in Pennsylvania

for 1999. That rolling average was 51,000 somatic cells.

The first placed winners of the 1999 Pennsylvania DHIA Herd Management Awards in each breed were awarded a certificate and putter plate with their name and a dairy farm scene engraved on it.

To qualify for the herd management award, herds must be on an official record program and have at least 10 cow years and 10 test for the most recent

cow year. The top three herds in each breed that has 20 or more official herds enrolled were recognized at the banquet.

This year's winners in the Holstein breed were as follows: First place went to Junge Farms, Inc. (Ray Moyer) from Berks County with a score of 170 points. Second place was awarded to Loundondale Farms in Jefferson County with a score of 152 points. Two farms tied for third place. Those were Buff Run Farm and Rufus B. Martin, both from Union County and both scoring 151 points.

In the Guernsey breed, Rutter Brothers of York County took first place with a score of 99 points. Thomas E. Walker of Somerset County was awarded second place with 76 points. From Washington County, John and J.E. Marchszak received third place with 67 points.

Wester Jersey Farm from Mercer County received first place in the Jersey breed with 121 points. Second place went to Blair and Cammy Yurkanin from Bradford County, who received 93 points. Third was awarded to Wayne and Rita Shaffer from Jefferson County with 89 points.

In the mixed breeds category, Locust-Ridge Farm from Union

County received first place with 139 points. James and Judith Larson from McKean County received second with 128 points. Third place went to Du Valley Farms of Fulton County with 113 points.

Don Gable of Chester County received first place in the Ayrshire breed with a total of 82 points. Dean E. Varner from Huntingdon County received second with 80 points. Third place went to Hidden Valley Ayrshires of Adams County, which scored 73 points.

In the Brown Swiss breed, Little-Hill Farm of Lebanon County took first place with 98 points. Minor Brothers Swiss from Mercer County received second place with 93 points. Third place honors went to Elm Brook Yurkanins of Bradford County with 89 points.

In the goat category, Douglas Newbold of Chester County received first with 28 points. Second went to Sindi and Arch Michalik of Montgomery County with 26 points. Torrison and Churchill of Montgomery County received third with 20 points.

Other highlights of the meeting included a presentation from Pennsylvania Alternate Dairy Princess Amanda Gilkinson. She spoke about being a farmer's daughter and talked about all of the opportunities growing up on a farm has opened up to

her. She also talked about the closeness of her family and the values that she has learned by living on the farm.

Cindy Weimer, industry relations manager for the American Dairy Association & Dairy Council Mid East, also spoke during the meeting. She highlighted the newest promotion activities, including a school milk campaign called "Operation Cold Milk," which provides coolers to schools with warm milk problems. She reviewed the latest dairy advertising campaigns and show slides from the newest "got milk?" and "Behold The Power Of Cheese" commercials.

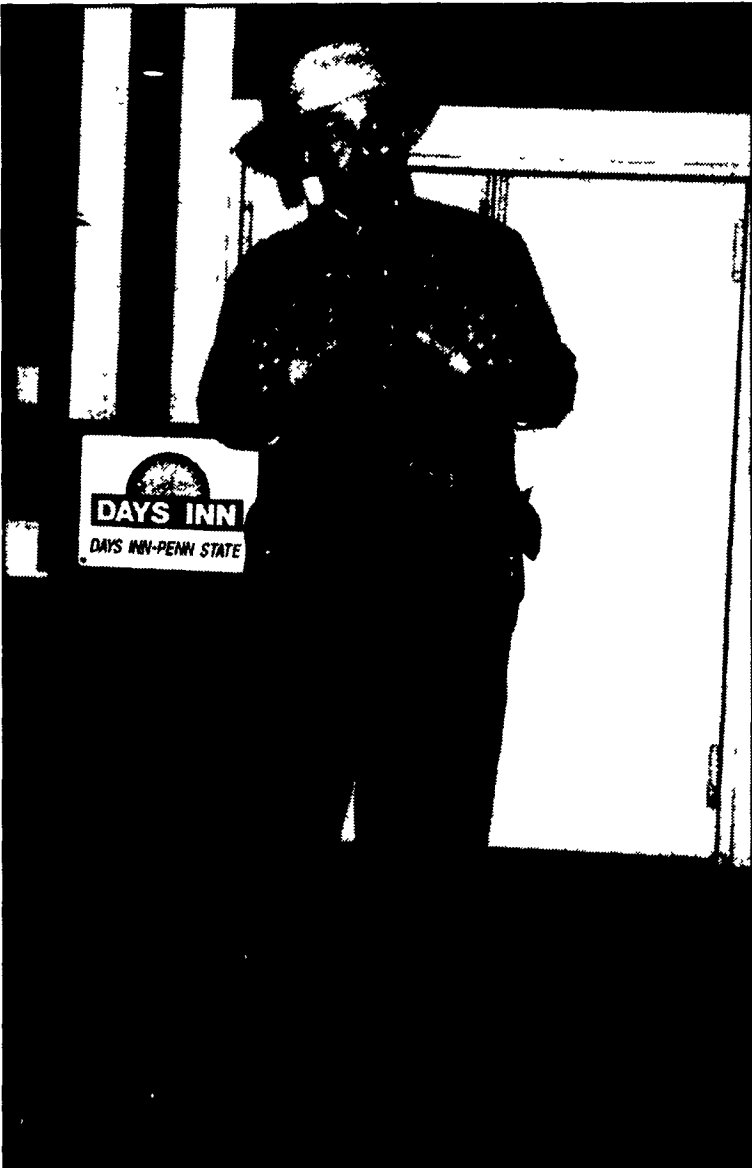
John Robinson, a dairy farmer from Mifflinburg, was the master of ceremonies during the evening.

In his closing comments, Robinson challenged farmers to break out of society's stereotype and show people that they are businesspersons, not dressed in overalls, and they are happy with what they're doing. He also encouraged the audience to develop a positive mindset, set goals, and be willing to change. Robinson is a graduate of the Dale Carnegie Human Relations Course.

About 55 people attended the banquet, which was held as part of the Pennsylvania DHIA's Annual Meeting in State



Pennsylvania Alternate Dairy Princess Amanda Gilkinson served milk punch during the social hour. She also gave a speech during the banquet about being a dairy farmer's daughter.



During his inspirational closing remarks, Mifflinburg dairy producer John Rodgers encouraged DHIA banquet attendees to break the stereotype that society has for dairy farmers and become businesspersons willing to take risks, accept challenges, and keep a positive attitude.

PENNSTATE



College of Agricultural Sciences

### From the Department of Dairy and Animal Science

This regular column from Penn State's Department of Dairy and Animal Science features the research findings, student opportunities, and reports on other important topics generated in the Department. The back issues of the column are archived on *Lancaster Farming's* Internet [www.lancasterfarming.com](http://www.lancasterfarming.com) home page. Look for them.

## Collegiate Clubs As Partners In Youth Education

Dale Olver  
Dairy and Animal Science  
Penn State

Collegiate clubs can be effective partners in youth educational activities. At Penn State, the three clubs sponsored by the Department of Dairy and Animal Science -- the Penn State Dairy Science Club, the Penn State Block and Bridle Club and Students for the Responsible Use of Animals (SRUA) -- have embraced opportunities to work with young people in cooperation with industry groups and extension personnel. Clubs can combine enthusiasm, personnel, and organization with extension and industry guidance, expertise, and financial support to provide exciting programs.

An excellent example of these partnership opportunities is the Pennsylvania Junior All-Breeds Convention. The first convention was held at State College in 1996, and it has since become an annual event. The planning committee includes Penn State Dairy Science Club members and extension personnel. Youth from junior breed associations also provide input for workshops and activities. Teamwork and cooperation are stressed throughout the weekend. Educational sessions are conducted by faculty members, graduate students, industry personnel, and the Pennsylvania Dairy Princess royalty.

Recent topics have included pedigree evaluation, rumen development, reproductive management, semen evaluation, in-vitro fertilization, forage quality, and effective use of the World-Wide Web. Workshops are hands-on, and group sizes are limited to 15-20 persons per group. Social activities and tours add variety to the program.

Breed associations provide pedigrees for a "mock sale" where teams compete to make judicious purchases from the sale "consignments". A registration fee covers meals, and industry contributions help defray workshop costs and other convention expenses.

The Pennsylvania Holstein Quiz Bowl is a partnership between the Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) and the Dairy Science Club. Approximately 30 teams compete each year, and Pennsylvania teams have won at least eight national Holstein championships since 1989. PHA and Dairy Science Club have distinct responsibilities in conducting the contest. All entries are submitted to the PHA for acceptance and verification of eligibility. In addition, PHA invites eight judges and solicits awards for winning teams. Dairy Science Club members write questions for the contest (over 500 each year). Students improve their writing and communication skills. The Dairy Science Club also assists in

selecting Pennsylvania's Guernsey Quiz Bowl teams that have won many national championships.

The Penn State Block and Bridle Club has been active in youth education through a number of activities. Club members cooperate in the Pennsylvania Beef Expo by assisting with the Skillathon and with the Beef Quiz Bowl for 4-H and FFA youth. Block and Bridle members also assist with judging contests at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition, and they have partnered with the Pennsylvania Beef Council to help assemble educational "Patty Melt" kits distributed to schools.

The third undergraduate club sponsored by the Department of Dairy and Animal Science, Students for the Responsible Use of Animals (SRUA), helps to coordinate the Farm Animal Learning Center at the Pennsylvania Farm Show and assists with exhibits at Ag Progress Days. These exhibits target non-farm youth and receive financial support from industry groups. The club also helps distribute information about animal care and products to elementary schools.

The activities I have listed represent a portion of the ongoing youth education efforts through our collegiate clubs in cooperation with industry. These arrangements reduce duplication of efforts while enhancing educational opportunities for youth. At the same time, club members gain additional, and they also act as moderators, experience in teamwork and communication skills. They also meet industry leaders, prospective students, and potential employers. These partnerships have resulted in successful interactions and increased positive learning opportunities for Pennsylvania youth.

got milk?