

Huge Sundae Built On Capitol Steps



Sam Hayes Jr., Pennsylvania ag secretary, shares a light moment eating ice cream dished out by Franklin County Dairy Princess, Mindy Martin.

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Editor

man's Nut Company. Then they dished it out free to anyone who happened to be in the area while the recorders and TV cameras were rolling for the six o'clock news and the evening editions of the newspapers and talk shows Thursday morning.

State Agriculture Secretary, Sam Hayes Jr., brought greetings from Gov. Tom Ridge, and read a proclamation officially recognizing June as dairy month. Richard Waybright, chairman of the Pennsylvania program, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the dairy industry. Many of the county dairy princesses and their coordinators were on hand to help make the sundae and help to scoop ice cream.

Debra Summerall, industry relations manager and spokesperson for PDPP, said the state's dairy farmers work diligently 365 days a year to provide consumers with a fresh supply



Dairy industry royalty gather on the capitol steps with Pennsylvania Ag Secretary, Samuel Hayes Jr. to help build a giant ice cream sundae and dish out 126 gallons of ice cream to Harrisburg residents. Dairy princesses are from left, Bobbi Joe Dressler, Juniata princess; Heather Bomgardner, York ambassador; Becky Kilgore, state alternate princess; Ashley Carper, Huntingdon former princess; Connie Snare, Huntingdon princess; Sec. Hayes; Mindy Martin, Franklin princess; Holly Miller, Dauphin alternate princess; Heidi Miller, Dauphin princess; Angela Sollenberger, Blair alternate princess; Diana Bigelow, Blair princess; Lori Connelly, state dairy princess; and Elizabeth Young, Lancaster alternate princess. Photo by Everett Newswanger, editor

of milk and quality dairy products. "By celebrating June Dairy Month, we are honoring the dairy industry and giving citizens of Pennsylvania an opportunity to thank dairy farmers", she said.

Milk is the official Pennsylvania beverage and the state has

9,900 dairy farms that produce 10.85 billion pounds or 1.36 billion gallons of milk each year. The state ranks 3rd in the nation for production of ice cream; 3rd in butter; 4th for milk production; and 6th for the production

of cheese. This capitol steps event is part of many efforts across the nation this month, to promote the good taste and nutritional values of dairy products through dairy farmer supported check-off funds.

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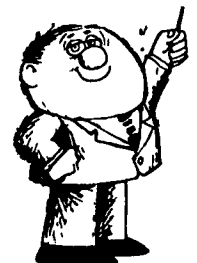
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