

Centre County Crowns Dairy Royalty

PLEASANT GAP (Centre Co.) — Seventeen-year-old Ashley Dawn Bird, the daughter of Rick and Patty Bird of Pleasant Gap, was crowned the 2003-2004 Centre County Dairy Princess at a pageant conducted June 1 at the Pleasant Gap Grange Hall.

Ashley has a brother, Will, and a sister, Billie Jo, who served as the Centre County Dairy Princess in 1998-1999. Ashley presented a speech saluting the dairy farmer and performed a skit as a little girl playing a game of dairy life with her stuffed animal

friends while talking about the dairy industry.

Ashley was crowned by 2002-2003 princess Amanda Gates, the daughter of Carl and Carla Gates of Warriors Mark. Amanda was recognized for having accomplished 160 promotions and then presented her farewell speech. She also presented flowers to the committee members as a thank you for all their help.

Amy Hartle, the daughter of Tom and Lori Hartle, Bellefonte, was named the alternate princess. Amy presented a speech

about Superman (the dairy farmer) and performed a skit appearing as a cafeteria worker informing her dairy friends about nutrition.

John Ishler, retired vo-ag teacher and dairy farmer was the master of ceremonies. He quizzed the younger members of the royal court about dairy facts with the help of 4-year-old Devon Wasson of Centre Hall. Carol Corman, Spring Mills, provided musical entertainment. An old-fashioned ice cream social ended the evening.

Ashley, a senior in the fall at the Bellefonte Area High School, activities include varsity cheerleading co-captain, Key Club, Leadership Centre County Class of 2002, choir and class of 2004 Class Cabinet. She is also an active volunteer for various organizations.

She collects Mary Moo Moos and enjoys reading, writing, listening to music, and spending time with friends.

She served for three years as a Dairy Maid before being crowned the 2002-2003 Dairy Princess first Alternate.

After high school she hopes to attend Wilson College in Chambersburg and major in mass communications. Ashley's connection to the dairy industry is through the milk hauling business founded in 1955 by her grandfather and now owned by her grandfather and other members of the



Pictured is 2003-2004 Centre County Alternate Amy Hartle, left, and 2003-2004 Centre County Dairy Princess Ashley Bird, right.



Pictured are, in the top row, Heather Dreibelbis, ambassador; Rachel Ebert, Pennsylvania state alternate princess; Alisa Hartle, maid; April Hartle, ambassador; Courtney Klingler, maid; and Amanda Corl, maid. Seated is Amy Hartle, alternate dairy princess; Ashley Bird, dairy princess; and Amanda Gates, 2002-2003 dairy princess. Kneeling is Naomi Ulmer, dairy miss; Ashley Hartle, dairy miss; Nicole Wasson, dairy miss; Krystal Wasson, dairy miss; Sara Packer, little miss; and Michele Carbonara, dairy miss. Also seated is Bettany Wasson, little miss; Halee Wasson, little miss; and Heather Wasson, little miss.

family.

Amy will also be a senior in the fall at the Bellefonte Area High School. Her activities include Key Club, Centre County 4-H Dairy Club, and National Honor Society. She participates in varsity track and field, varsity cross country, and recently completed the EMT program. She enjoys running, reading, history, and spending time with friends. Amy works at her family farm, Lonely-Spot Farm, and owns 25 dairy animals. She has a brother Troy

and sisters April, a dairy ambassador, Alisa, a dairy maid, and Ashley, a dairy miss.

Assisting Ashley and Amy will be dairy ambassadors April Hartle, daughter of Tom and Lori Hartle, Bellefonte, and Heather Dreibelbis, daughter of Randy and Lori Dreibelbis, Pennsylvania Furnace.

Dairy maids are Amanda Corl, daughter of Gene Corl and June and Rob Kocher, Pennsylvania Furnace; Alisa Hartle, daughter of Tom and Lori Hartle, Belle-

fonte; Courtney Klingler, daughter of Robert and Kim Klingler, Port Matilda; and Miranda Ulmer, daughter of Dan and Penny Ulmer, Bellefonte.

Dairy misses are Michelle Carbonara, daughter of Jason and Lynne Carbonara, Millheim; Ashley Hartle, daughter of Tom and Lori Hartle, Bellefonte; Naomi Ulmer, daughter of Dan and Penny Ulmer, Bellefonte; Krystal Wasson, daughter of Ronald and Candace Wasson, State College; and Nicole Wasson, also the daughter of Ronald and Candace Wasson, State College.

Little misses are Sara Packer, daughter of Chris Packer and Martha Hartle, Bellefonte; Bethany Wasson, daughter of Doug and Jennifer Wasson, Centre Hall; Halee Wasson, daughter of Ronald and Candace Wasson, State College; and Heather Wasson, also the daughter of Ronald and Candace Wasson, State College.

The judges for the evening included Norma Baughman of Crawford County, Janet Reynolds of SUN Area, and Rick Ebert, father of state alternate princess Rachel Ebert of Westmoreland County.



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