

Jersey Takes Supreme Champ Title At Somerset Junior Dairy Show

SANDRA LEPLEY
Somerset Co. Correspondent
MEYERSDALE (Somerset Co.) — When Dillon Cotter, a soon-to-be seventh-grader at Berlin Elementary School, entered

coe and a member of Milkshakers 4-H Club. His show cow is owned by the Stoltzfus family in Berlin and Dillon, who lives a few miles away from the Stoltzfus farm,



Dillon Cotter, a soon-to-be seventh-grader at Berlin Elementary School this fall, won supreme champion honors at the Somerset County Junior Dairy Show, conducted at the Somerset County Fairgrounds in Meyersdale last week. He is the son of Karen and Keith Cotter of Glencoe.

the show ring with his "Abbie" Jersey cow at the Somerset County Junior Dairy Show, held last week at the county fairgrounds in Meyersdale, he never expected to win top prize.

But Dillon and "Abbie" walked away with the supreme championship title in a show with 67 exhibitors and 163 animals.

"I really like to show her (the dairy cow) and I like to be in the show ring," said Dillon, son of Karen and Keith Cotter of Glen-

regularly works with her.

"It (4-H) gives kids responsibility and it helps them to practice for the fair," said Dillon's mom Karen. "4-H is a good thing and the kids involved in it are good leaders."

The divisions at the show included Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Red and White, Milking Shorthorn, Ayrshire and Brown Swiss. Also, the show had junior, intermediate and senior showmanship divisions.

The first class up was the Hol-

stein division. Jenna Fox, daughter of Jill and John Fox of Rockwood, won the grand champion in the Holstein division, while Luther Hillegass of Berlin won reserve champion.

Both are members of Milkshakers 4-H Club. Matt Mosholder of Rockwood won best animal bred and owned in the Holstein division. He is a member of the Rockwood FFA.

Kara Savage of Salisbury won the grand champion as well as reserve champion in the Guernsey division. She is the daughter of Deane and Nancy Savage of Salisbury and a member of Milkshakers 4-H Club. Also in the Guernsey division, Justin Kaufman of Friedens won best animal bred and owned.

In the Jersey division, Dillon Cotter, who later won grand champion of the show, won grand champion in this division. Also, Scott Leister of Glencoe won reserve grand champion, while Kari Hostetter of Rockwood won best animal bred and owned.

Mary Kimmel of Boswell won grand champion in the Red and White division. She is the daughter of Daniel and Jennifer Kimmel of Boswell. Also, Jenna Fox of Rockwood won reserve grand champion in the Red and White category and Janna Kaufman of Friedens won best animal bred and raised.

Tara Hostetter of Rockwood won grand champion in the Milking Shorthorn division. She is the daughter of Eileen and Calvin Hostetter of Rockwood and a member of Milkshakers 4-H Club. Jess Landis of Berlin won reserve grand champion in this division.

Trevor Hostetter, showing his brother Troy's cow, won grand champion, while his sister Tara

won reserve in the Ayrshire division.

Seth Foreman of Rockwood won grand champion in the Brown Swiss division, while Rebecca Foreman of Rockwood won reserve champion. They are the children of Scott and Robyn Foreman of Rockwood and are members of Milkshakers 4-H Club.

Showmanship awards went to:

Junior: Tara Hostetter of Rockwood, Kara Savage of Salisbury, Ashley Stoltzfus of Berlin; Mary Kimmel of Boswell and Hannah Speigle of Boswell.

Intermediate: Justin Stoltzfus of Berlin, Luther Hillegass of

Berlin, Seth Foreman of Rockwood, Jenna Fox of Rockwood, and Joe Speigle of Boswell.

Senior: Justin Kaufman of Friedens, Shawn McWilliams of Somerset, Hillary Knepper of Markleton, Jarod Murray of Salisbury and Kevin Miller of Somerset.

Grand champion showman recognition went to Justin Kaufman of Friedens, Justine Stoltzfus of Berlin and Shannon McWilliams of Somerset.

The judges for the show were David Fava of Scenery Hill as the type judge and Vickie Ansell of Scottsdale as the showmanship judge. Larry Lohr of Hooversville served as the ringmaster.

Family Takes Top Honors

SANDRA LEPLEY
Somerset Co. Correspondent
MEYERSDALE (Somerset Co.) — The Hillegass family, owners of Hillmont Farm near the Shanksville area, took top honors at the Somerset County Holstein Show conducted last week at the Somerset County Fairgrounds in Meyersdale.

Alec Hillegass of Shanksville Road won grand champion cow in the open show as well as the junior show. He is the son of Kirk and Tine Hillegass.

The 12-year-old beamed with excitement as his cow Hillmont's RM "Twink" stole the show out of about 145 entries.

"It was a huge shock for me," said Alec, a soon-to-be seventh-grader at Berlin Brothersvalley High School this fall. "I thought I maybe could win my class but that's all. I couldn't be happier with this cow."

Alec explained that his cow is so young and she just had her first calf so he and his family didn't think a win was likely.

Young Alec loves farm life and is in the barn several hours a day. His farm, now operated by his parents, was originally operated by his grandparents, Jay and Connie Hillegass, who have since retired.

Alec's sister Juliana, 20, a senior at Juniata College in Huntington, took Reserve Champion in the open and junior show, falling in place right along her brother, with her cow Hillmont's Stardust "Nyla."

"We really worked hard for this accomplishment," said Juliana afterwards, "and we couldn't have done it without my brother Luke." Luke, 14, also showed his cows in the show. Juliana said that the three siblings work together as a team.

Juliana, whose major is biology at Juniata, is probably not the typical 20-year-old. She has a passion for working with animals and showing dairy cows.

"I love working with the animals and I plan to study reproductive physiology in grad school and possibly go into research with dairy cows," said Juliana.

In the open show, Harvey Stoltzfus of Berlin won best animal bred and owned. And Matt Mosholder of Rockwood won best animal bred and owned in the junior show.

Oakview Ridge Farms, Accident, Md., received the title of premier breeder for the open show, followed by Penitwood Farms of Berlin as 1st runner up, and Hillmont Farms near Shanksville as 2nd runner up.

Pennwood Farms of Berlin received the title of premier exhibitor in the open show, followed by Hillmont Farms as first runner up, and Oakview Ridge as second runner up.

Jenna Fox of Rockwood received the title of premier exhibitor for the junior show and Matt Mosholder of Rockwood received the title of premier breeder for the junior show.

Steve Wood, Littleton, served as the show judge.

Educators Honored At Conference

DOYLESTOWN (Bucks Co.) — At a recent Summer Ag Ed Conference, an event conducted at Delaware Valley College, agriculture educators attended in-depth sessions to receive lesson plans and research materials, participated in activities that included a trade show and educational exhibits, or toured the college and areas of interest in the Doylestown area.

The conference was hosted by Region VI of the National Association of Agriculture Educators (NAAE). Region Six co-hosted the event with the national organization, which is divided into six regions.

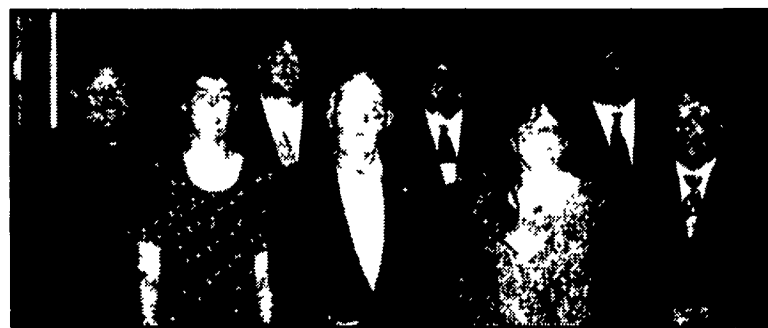
Other state ag education associations, along with the Pennsylvania FFA and Pennsylvania Young Farmer's Association, also participated in the conference.

The conference drew about 300 attendees.

Gerry Reichard is retiring as PAAE President and Krista Pontius will be the new president. Martin Heyler, Cowanesque, is the president elect.



From left is Roger Steeple, NAAE president elect; and retirees Scott Gold (37 years); Steward McDonough (39 years); Robert Holley (31 years); and Ron Althoff (30 years).



PAAE winners are, from left, Roger Steeple, Deb Seibert (Outstanding Ag Teacher); Curt Turner (Outstanding Young Member); Edward Heyler, (Lifetime Achievement); Larry Way (Teachers Turn the Key Winner); Dr. Kerry Richards (Outstanding Cooperation); Mike Schultz (Outstanding Post Secondary/Adult Program); and Steve Kline (Teacher Mentor Award).



Alec Hillegass, 12, of the Shanksville area in Somerset County, took home the grand champion title during the Somerset County Holstein Show, conducted last week at the Somerset County Fairgrounds in Meyersdale. He is pictured with show judge Steve Wood of Littleton.

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