



EXPO DAILY EDITION

Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023

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FLAVORS OF THE DAY

Grilled Cheese

Fuego Jack (Colby Jack with peppers) made in Arena, Wis. UW-Madison Cheese Stand next to the Arena Building

Ice Cream

Caramel Collision
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GEA Ice Cream Stand located in the Exhibition Hall

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#WDE23



56th

Uno for the win



PHOTO COURTESY OF COWSMOPOLITAN

Springhill Kojack Uno-ETV is named Senior and Grand Champion of the International Guernsey Show after winning the Aged Cow Class Oct. 2 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. Valley Gem Atlas Malt-ET, the winning Lifetime Production Cow, is named Reserve Senior and Reserve Grand Champion. Cape May Latimer Honey, the winning Summer Junior Two-Year-Old, is named Intermediate and Honorable Mention Grand Champion.

Wisconsin cow tops International Guernsey Show

BY DANIELLE NAUMAN
Staff Writer

MADISON, Wis. — At the end of the day, the last cow standing in the International Guernsey Show was Spring-

hill Kojack Uno-ETV. Uno, the winning Aged Cow, was named Senior and Grand Champion for the partnership of Melander, Robthom and Smith-Crest of Watertown.

Following Uno as the Reserve Senior and Reserve Grand Champion was Valley Gem Atlas Malt-ET. Malt was the winning Lifetime Production Cow owned by Valley Gem Farm of Cumberland. Honorable Men-

tion honors went to Cape May Latimer Honey, the winning Summer Junior Two-Year-Old, who was named Intermediate Champion for owner Savannah Thomas of West Liberty, Ohio.

Kadence Fames Lovely, the second-place Aged Cow, was selected as the Honorable Mention Senior Champion. She is owned by Kadence Farm of New Glarus.

Hickman Valleys S Blake-

ly, the top-placing Junior Two-Year-Old, was awarded Reserve Intermediate Champion recognition. Blakely was exhibited by Brittany Taylor, Grace Schuler and Laylaa Schuler of New Glarus. Heritage Brook Lb Trillium-ET was selected as the Honorable Mention Intermediate Champion. Trillium,

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Evolving together

Select Sires Inc. grows alongside World Dairy Expo

BY AMY KYLLO
Staff Writer

PLAIN CITY, Ohio — The year was 1987. A bright-eyed freshman from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badger Dairy Club was stepping onto the grounds to work at his first World Dairy Expo, quite unaware of the impact the event would have on his life.

The freshman's name was Kevin Jorgensen, and today he is a six-year member of the WDE Board of Directors and a three-year member of the Executive Committee.

"World Dairy Expo was my gateway to seeing the greater dairy industry as a whole," Jorgensen said.

Jorgensen is also a 25-year employee of Select Sires Inc., one of the very companies that started his Expo



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Kevin Jorgensen is a 25-year employee of Select Sires Inc., which has been a sponsor of WDE each year since Expo began. Jorgensen is also a six-year member of the World Dairy Expo Board of Directors and a three-year member of the Executive Committee.

story and continues to make so many others' Expo stories possible. Currently, Jorgensen is the senior Holstein sire analyst at Select Sires Inc. and has been with the cooperative since 1998.

Select Sires Inc. was only a two-year-old company when

WDE began in 1967. The company remained a sponsor each year of the show and has held one or more seats on the Board of Directors every year, including when Al Deming served as WDE president from 2015-2019. Currently, the company is a Five Star

Sponsor. "We've grown and evolved just as World Dairy Expo has evolved," Jorgensen said. "(It) has given us a great opportunity to be involved in the event and synergistically let the world know who Select Sires was and is."

Over the years, as other companies that have been part of the show have become part of Select Sires Inc., it has further developed a sense of rootedness between their organization and WDE.

Select Sires Inc. is also involved in the youth development at WDE and helps sponsor the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge.

Jorgensen said he hopes that other young lives will change like his did because of WDE.

"Hopefully, someday there's some kid from some place of parts unknown that comes to their first World

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www.dairystar.com

ISSN Print: 2834-619X • Online: 2834-6203
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 the week before publication

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TODAY IN THE TANBARK

The Tanbark, located in the Arena Building, is a full-service bar and restaurant that serves as the meeting place for attendees and exhibitors. Join us for a meal, Happy Hour, a nightly reception or an industry-hosted event.

11 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Lunch

11 A.M. - CLOSE
Bar

THE TANBARK 8 - 11:30 A.M.

Dairy Symposium: Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives. Hosted by Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

HAPPY HOUR
4 P.M. - 6 P.M.

Tuesday - Thursday

Join fellow attendees and exhibitors in The Tanbark for Happy Hour.

Happy Hour includes light refreshments, live music and complimentary beer, while supplies last, made possible tonight by Lasso Solutions Inc.



Educational opportunities at WDE

Expo Seminar: Noon

Presented daily by industry leaders in the Mendota 1 meeting room of the Exhibition Hall, these seminars address topics centered around management practices, beef on dairy, federal orders and mental health. Seminars consist of a 45-minute presentation and time for questions and answers.

Mooving Cows: Revolutionizing How We Learn Cow Handling Skills

Presenter: Jennifer Van Os, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Animal Welfare, University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences

10:30 a.m. Intestinal Health Management Improves Productivity and Well-Being of Dairy Cattle
Speaker: Sara Trojan, Ph.D., PAS, Nutrition and Management Consultant, Peak Consulting, LLC
Presenting Company: Kemin Animal Nutrition & Health

11:30 a.m. Farm Pulse - Using Farm Financials to Make Informed Decisions
Speaker: Katie L. Wantoch, Farm Management Professor of Practice, UW-Madison Division of Extension
Presenting Company: UW Madison Extension Agriculture Institute

12:30 p.m. Maximizing Total Annual Forage With Triticale
Speaker: Racey Padilla, Small Grain Research Director, TriCal Superior Forage
Presenting Company: TriCal Superior Forage

1:30 p.m. New Standard Tests Can Verify Disease Resistance Claims
Speaker: Olivia Steinmetz, Alfalfa Research Director, Legacy Seeds
Presenting Company: Legacy Seeds

2:30 p.m. Who Is On Your Digester Team?
Speaker: Renee Schrift, Business Line Director – Agricultural Systems, McLanahan Corporation
Presenting Company: McLanahan Corporation

3:30 p.m. Modern Approaches to Optimizing Calf Performance on Your Farm
Speaker: Kayla Rink, Director, Dairy Science and Farm Practices, Dairy Farmers of America
Panelists: Ralph Briggs, Animal Nutrition Consultant; Dan Kullot, DVM, Veterinary Specialist; and Rhea Lawrence, On-Farm Calf Nutrition and Systems Specialist
Presenting Company: Dairy Farmers of America

Expo en Español: 2 p.m.

Expo en Español es un programa educacional nuevo para hablantes de español involucrados en la industria lechera. Estos seminarios que se presentan en español se concentran en las herramientas que son de beneficio para los gerentes y los gerentes de nivel intermediario de las granjas lecheras.

Asistencia en el Parto y Cuidado del Recién Nacido – Por Qué, Cuándo y Cómo

Ponente: Adrian A. Barragan, DVM, MS, Ph.D., Profesor Asociado de Investigación y Veterinario Extensionista, Universidad Estatal de Pensilvania
Patrocinado por: Progressive Dairy

Knowledge Nook Sessions

Located in the Atrium of the Exhibition Hall, the Knowledge Nook is a space designed for companies to showcase an innovative product, service or research that was introduced to the market since the last World Dairy Expo.

9:30 a.m. What's Next for Dairy Reproduction with Technology-Driven Insights?
Speaker: Taliah Danzinger, Dairy Intelligence, and Craig Walter, Senior Educator, VAS
Presenting Company: VAS

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EXPO MILESTONES

Tom
McKittrick

A world-class event for all of dairy

Expo sees exponential growth during McKittrick's tenure

BY DANIELLE NAUMAN
Staff Writer

Growing up on his family's Wisconsin dairy farm, Tom McKittrick also grew up with fond memories of attending World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.

With those memories firmly etched in his mind, when the chance came to take the helm of the dairy industry's own mecca-like event, he knew it was an opportunity he wanted to seize.

"I have so many memories of attending Expo with my family as a kid, and it was always so much fun," McKittrick said. "Most people's memories of Expo are wonderful. When the opportunity to work for Expo presented itself, it was not a question to me."

McKittrick served as WDE General Manager for 19 years, spanning from 1988 through 2007.

Throughout that time period, he led exponential growth of the show and witnessed a myriad of changes not only in Expo but throughout the dairy industry.

"Early on, we did a survey of people who attended Expo and

asked them to describe the show with one word," McKittrick said. "I expected it be dairy, business, cows or something along that line; but the third most common word was fun. It really hit me that the people who were coming to Expo, this was their vacation."

One of the highlights of his time as General Manager was the growth of the Trade Show. According to McKittrick, one catalyst in the development of the Trade Show was when he hired Jim Ostrom to become the sales manager.

McKittrick first met Ostrom when Ostrom was selling print advertising.

"He was the one who exploded the commercial exhibit sales, probably three or four times what it had been," McKittrick said. "That was somewhat strategic. We knew what his goals were, and he was aggressive enough to go out and really sell it. He did an amazing job and is a big part of the financial success of the show."

A natural progression in that explosive Trade Show growth was to continue to improve the facilities. McKittrick was involved in Dane County's project

to construct the exhibition hall. That project allowed WDE to move commercial exhibitors out of tents, providing them the opportunity to better showcase their businesses.

"That was a huge change for the event," McKittrick said. "It was constantly increasing the reputation of the event and the value of the event to the people who were coming. It was good for the event financially, but it was also good for the visitors, putting everything together in one place."

During McKittrick's tenure, the cattle shows also grew and evolved, turning them into the pageants of top bovines that Expo-goers are familiar with today. The International Red & White Show was added as a seventh show, and all of the shows became recognized as nationally accredited shows by the breed organizations.

"We did a lot of work to constantly try to increase and improve the reputation and the value of the event for everyone, from the cattle exhibitors to the attendees," McKittrick said. "That was always the focus of everything we did."

As the show continued to grow and gain momentum, so did the financial status of World Dairy Expo.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Tom McKittrick served as World Dairy Expo General Manager from 1988 through 2007.

"We were actually able to contribute a million dollars to the building of the exhibition hall," McKittrick said. "We were able to quit renting office facilities and storage lockers and build the office building and warehouse they are still in today."

The international component of Expo saw growth, challenges and changes during McKittrick's time as General Manager.

"There were some bumps and bruises we weathered, like 9/11 and mad cow disease," McKittrick said. "There were lots of struggles involved. After 9/11, we had people from large dairy organizations telling us we should cancel the event, but we decided to go ahead with it. Our

attendance was down, especially international attendance, and our costs were way up for security."

McKittrick said the fact that the event encompasses all aspects of the industry makes it a truly special one.

"There are lots of good people involved, so many people willing to work so hard," he said. "It always comes back to the people who you come in contact with. It really was a privilege and a pleasure to be a part of it for that period of time. There are so many wonderful moments. And then you start to think of the generations of people involved in Expo and how it is a lifelong dream for some people to make the trip to Expo."

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A history of investing in dairy's greatest assets

WDE youth contests feature new format, awards

BY DANIELLE NAUMAN
Staff Writer

MADISON, Wis. — Showing enthusiasts may agree that the greatest asset to the world of showing registered dairy cattle is the youth who comprise the next generation of those longing to be the last one standing on the colored shavings.

"It's easy to say that youth are the future of the showing industry," said past World Dairy Expo President Mike Holschbach in the 2015 Expo history book, "We Need a Show." "With them, our future is very promising. The opportunity to show on those colored shavings means so much to so many young people."

Giving youth the opportunity to compete on that stage is how the long-standing histories of WDE youth contests began. Longtime WDE Dairy Cattle Superintendent W. Terry Howard is credited for launching the first youth showmanship contest in 1982.

In 2022, both contests experienced record-breaking participation with 463 contestants taking part in the Youth Showmanship Contest and 59 participants in the Youth Fitting Contest.

Jessica Pralle-Trimner, along with her sister Nicole Pralle, took over the duties of serving as superintendent of the two contests in 2022, following the longtime tenure of Katie Coyne, who volunteered with the contests as superintendent for over 20 years.

"Katie had recruited Nicole and me to help co-superintend the show," Pralle-Trimner said. "She knew that we had spent a lot of time engaged through different youth programs at various levels, and we had both competed in the contests as youth. That attracted her to us, along with knowing that we would work well together and are the get-it-done type of girls."

Pralle-Trimner said she and her sister chose to become part of the inner workings of the youth contests because of the value to participants, which they have both witnessed first-hand.

"World Dairy Expo is where the best of the best come," Pralle-Trimner said. "We are trying to market our genetics while we are there, and one of our biggest genetic advancements is our youth who are competing in these contests. They have



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Sisters Jessica Pralle-Trimner (left) and Nicole Pralle smile near the end of a busy and successful day of World Dairy Expo youth contests Sept. 30 in Madison, Wis. The pair took over as co-superintendents of the Youth Fitting Contest and Youth Showmanship Contest in 2022.

the opportunity to come from all across the U.S. and internationally to compete against other youth who are just like them, who have a gift. I want to make sure we are always providing a place where our youth — the future of our business — have a place to market themselves, and what better place than at World Dairy Expo?"

Over the past 39 years, the contests have continued to evolve as more youth have taken an interest in them.

For the first 15 years, the Youth Showmanship Contest consisted of two age divisions. In 2000, an intermediate division was added. In 2022, the showmanship contest saw another change, moving it away from the Thursday night time slot it had held for several years. This year, the Youth Showmanship Contest has moved again.

"Moving the contest to the weekend is one of the best changes we have made to increase participation," Pralle-Trimner

said. "There are a lot of very talented showmen and women who are also very engaged at their respective schools, making it hard for them to get away."

Another change to the 2023 contest is the addition of the Annette Ostrom Memorial Awards, which creates a Supreme Showman award, along with cash awards given to the top two participants in each age category.

In its earliest years, fitting was part of the senior division of the Youth Showmanship Contest. The top 10 youth from the showmanship contest were provided with partially clipped heifers that were brought in, with one hour allotted to fit the heifer. Both showmanship and fitting factored into the final placing.

Longtime fitter and Brown Swiss breeder Rick Thompson noticed a trend. Some of the best aspiring young fitters were not always competing in the showmanship contest. He proposed the idea of

separating the fitting portion of the contest from the showmanship.

"I thought it was important to give the kids who really shine with a set of clippers a chance to display their talents," Thompson said of how the idea first came to him.

In 2010, a stand-alone fitting competition was instituted.

Thompson served as the judge of that first contest, selecting Trenton Styczynski as the top fitter. For Styczynski, the fitting contest win served as a building block for the career he carved out for himself in the dairy industry.

"Winning that first fitting contest was a confidence booster for me and is a memory I'll never forget," Styczynski said. "Any time you can compete and win at Expo, it's a big deal, and it helps get your name out there."

Styczynski went on to build his career as a dairy cattle fitter and has worked with several top show herds. He is the herd manager at Betley Family Farms in Pulaski.

Styczynski returned to the Youth Fitting Contest in 2017 as the contest official. He said the position allowed him to be a mentor to aspiring fitters, in much the same way Thompson had been for him.

Thompson said when he first suggested the idea of a stand-alone fitting contest, he could never have imagined how it would grow, from the first contest of nine participants to the record-breaking 78 entries in 2022.

"I honestly hadn't made it back to watch the fitting contest since that first year until last year," Thompson said. "I was blown away at what I saw last year — not just at the number of participants but the number of spectators there. I went with the idea of seeing what was out there for up-and-coming young fitters. It took me the entire hour to walk through once and see what the kids were doing."

Following its inception, the fitting contest has evolved too. The initial rules required a participant to be at least 16 years old on contest day. In 2016, an intermediate division was added, allowing younger youth the opportunity to compete. Each age division was also separated into male and female categories. Those changes led to an exponential growth in participation.

"These are such important contests at Expo to give youth the chance to compete on the colored shavings," Pralle-Trimner said. "Regardless of where you come from in the dairy industry or what animals you have, these contests are about your abilities and the skills you have worked to develop."

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Why is having a strong relationship with WDE important to your business? World Dairy Expo is truly where the dairy community meets. Expo is the intersection of connecting with our readers, meeting with companies to learn about new technologies and research that we can bring forth to our audiences, and covering the wide variety of events, seminars and speakers that take place at WDE. For us, World Dairy Expo is all about the connections and information that are critical for driving the dairy industry forward.

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CREATING THE DYNASTY

Why is covering WDE important to you and your audience?



Joe Gill
KASM Radio
Albany, Minnesota

What is your form of media? Radio. We cover the majority of central Minnesota. It includes 20-plus counties and beyond.

What is your strategy once you get to World Dairy Expo? Get settled in, find a workspace, and say hello to the other farm broadcasters and media in the media room. I like to get going and start doing interviews. Also important is to bring your phone to take photos as you navigate the day.

How many stories do you try to collect from WDE? I try to do 15-20 interviews at WDE. Most will air more than once.

Why is covering WDE important to you and your audience? Stearns County is the dairy county in Minnesota. That is our core county that we cover. Even though the farm landscape is changing, it is very important to give our listeners an on-site experience on the latest technology, equipment, genetics, etc. For those who can't make it, we want to make it feel like they are there through listening to KASM Radio.

What has been your favorite story to cover from WDE? It was one of my first years going to WDE. It actually wasn't a story I did. It was a story that was done about my dad. He came with me — it was either my first or second year attending — and he happened to be sitting on a bench and was approached to be interviewed. He did the interview. I thought that was so cool and made me very proud to have my dad talk about his dairy farming experiences.

How long have you been in media and how long have you been covering WDE? I've been at KASM Radio since 1999. My first WDE was in 2009.

Who is someone that you would love to interview that you have not yet talked to? It would be my grandparents. They have all passed on, but it would be so interesting to learn every detail about farm life from them, especially the early days of dairy farming, and to get their opinion on what the industry has become today.

When you are not working at Expo, what is your favorite thing to do? I like to raise calves. I don't golf or play cards, so it's what I enjoy doing. It can be the most frustrating and rewarding experience all at the same time. It also provides me a way to stay connected to my family's multi-generations of farming.



Andrew Hunt
The Bullvine
Canada

What is your form of media? Let's start with what we are not. We're not just an event-reporting magazine. We're not a billboard or promoter of whoever will pay us the most money. We are something different, something real. We're what's been missing for real dairy breeders. The Bullvine is an independent, online community for professionals in the dairy breeding industry. Every day, we give insight and host lively debates about the people, products and services that are revolutionizing the dairy breeding industry.

What is your strategy once you get to World Dairy Expo? We spend a lot of time in the Showring as one of World Dairy Expo's official Showring media partners. On most days, we work for 14 hours (from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.). So, the Showring is a key component of our plan.

How many stories do you try to collect from WDE? All throughout the year, we will produce stories that are related to World Dairy Expo.

Why is covering WDE important to you and your audience? There is a great deal of interest in learning more about the animals and exhibitors who walk The Tanbark because it is the biggest and most prestigious dairy cow exhibition in the world.

What has been your favorite story to cover from WDE? I probably would have to say it was my very first World Dairy Expo in 2012. It was the year that the legendary Harvue Roy Frosty was coming to defend her title to a then-unproven RF Goldwyn Hailey. I had even written about this, predicting the outcome before the show.

How long have you been in media and how long have you been covering WDE? Since 2012, so 11 years now.

Who is someone that you would love to interview that you have not yet talked to? One of the best things about World Dairy Expo is that everyone who works in the business attends and is so generous with their time that we have been fortunate enough to speak with everyone on our wish list.

When you are not working at Expo, what is your favorite thing to do? Speak with all the driven individuals in our business. World Dairy Expo is where everyone gathers to celebrate their love of the dairy industry.



Emily Bosch
Marketing Communications Manager
Holstein Association USA Inc.

What is your form of media? We have multiple forms of media at Holstein Association USA. These include our quarterly print publication (The Pulse), video news releases and What's Up at Holstein USA videos, multiple social media channels, news releases and more. Our audience includes Holstein Association USA members and the broader dairy industry. Our award-winning documentary series, Holstein America, is the leading dairy program on national television and features registered Holstein breeders from across the country. In addition to the dairy community, Holstein America also

appeals to a consumer audience.

What is your strategy once you get to World Dairy Expo? When we arrive at WDE, we get to work conducting interviews we've lined up ahead of time. We are also on the lookout for additional interviews and story ideas throughout the week. In addition to collecting media content, I spend time connecting with attendees at the Holstein Association USA booth in the Coliseum.

How many stories do you try to collect from WDE? We typically gather between 15 and 20 video interviews throughout the week. We use these interviews for our video news releases and other projects throughout the year. We also collect plenty of footage and pictures from the Holstein shows and other key WDE events.



Millaine Wells
WFRV-TV
Green Bay, Wisconsin

What is your form of media? I host Midwest Farm Weekly, a television program broadcast in three markets. Our audience is diverse, full of retired producers, current farmers, ag business professionals and engaged consumers.

What is your strategy once you get to World Dairy Expo? Typically, I need to send back a segment for our noon show, so step one is connecting to Wi-Fi. After I shoot a quick story with an event organizer and feed that back to meet deadline, I make a lap around the Trade Show to see what is new, trending and drawing a large crowd.

How many stories do you try to collect from WDE? In 2022, I collected 14 interviews in my one-day trip.

Why is covering WDE important to you and your audience? This is such an important tradition for the agriculture community. If someone is not able to attend, I hope to give them a taste of the show. Even for our viewers who attend, many of them are working or showing animals and rely on our coverage to see the things they might have missed. This is a chance for me to keep a pulse on emerging technology and to meet some of the incredible producers who make this industry successful.

What has been your favorite story to cover from WDE? I really enjoy connecting with people in the barns. There is such excitement, hope and determination as they prepare for judging. I did not grow up showing cattle, so it is a place where I always get to learn something. I do also love getting some video and an interview in the grilled cheese tent (UW-Madison Cheese Stand). They are such a well-oiled machine. It amazes me how many sandwiches they make. I also make a point to stop by the World Forage Analysis Superbowl to check for samples from local producers.

How long have you been in media and how long have you been covering WDE? I started in TV in 2004. I have been one of our station's agriculture reporters since 2018. I attended the show prior to that with my husband, as we are also dairy farmers.

Who is someone that you would love to interview that you have not yet talked to? Oprah. Has anyone invited her? Jokes aside, I would really enjoy meeting Tyne Morgan from U.S. Farm Report. I respect her as a journalist and would enjoy learning more about her career path and shared experiences.

When you are not working at Expo, what is your favorite thing to do? I enjoy traveling. We are a big Disney family, but we also love to find nearby places to explore when we get a few hours away from the farm.



Fran O'Leary
Editor for Wisconsin Agriculturist
Farm Progress

What is your form of media? I am editor of Wisconsin Agriculturist magazine, the state's oldest farm publication dating back to 1849. Our audience is made up of farmers and agribusiness people primarily from Wisconsin. Wisconsin Agriculturist is a Farm Progress publication meaning many of my stories can be read in sister publications across the country.

What is your strategy once you get to World Dairy Expo? I plan to hit the ground running and do several interviews with veterinarians, teenagers and farmers and listen to a variety of educational and forage seminars during the three days I am at Expo.

How many stories do you try to collect from WDE? Nine stories.

Why is covering WDE important to you and your audience? It is the largest agricultural event in Wisconsin, and it is an international show happening in our own backyard.

What has been your favorite story to cover from WDE? Probably stories where I get an opportunity to talk to young people involved in dairy. They have great insight and a lot of enthusiasm.

How long have you been in media and how long have you been covering WDE? I have been in my journalism career for more than 40 years, and I have been covering WDE for more than 20 years.

Who is someone that you would love to interview that you have not yet talked to? Giannis Antetokounmpo.

When you are not working at Expo, what is your favorite thing to do? Spend time with my family and friends.

Why is covering WDE important to you and your audience? WDE is the gathering place of the dairy industry, so it's a great place to connect with members and the broader dairy industry. Many of our members are invested in WDE as exhibitors or attendees. For those who do not attend, providing WDE coverage brings them into the event and helps them stay informed on current dairy industry topics.

What has been your favorite story to cover from WDE? I enjoyed putting together a story on the grilled cheese stand (UW-Madison Cheese Stand) at World Dairy Expo. It was fun to learn more about what goes into managing the grilled cheese stand and cover such a classic and delicious aspect of WDE.

How long have you been in media and how long have you been covering WDE? I have been working in the media since graduating from the University of Minnesota and starting my role as the marketing and communications manager for Holstein Association USA in August 2020. This is my third year covering World Dairy Expo.

Who is someone that you would love to interview that you have not yet talked to? I would love to do an interview with the judge of the Holstein show each year after WDE wraps up. It would be interesting to hear their impression of the show from their experience in the center of the Showring.

When you are not working at Expo, what is your favorite thing to do? I enjoy eating as many grilled cheese sandwiches as I can while watching the show. Of course, catching up with dairy industry friends and mentors is also a highlight of WDE each year.

Continued from SELECT SIRES | Page 1

Dairy Expo and makes a connection that changes the trajectory of their career in this industry," he said.

WDE also is a good place for Select Sires Inc. to connect with future team members as young adults find employers and mentors.

"That opportunity doesn't exist in a lot of other areas," he said. "It's a unique melting pot of our industry."

Another important component of WDE for Select Sires Inc. is the opportunity to connect with international guests and customers from around the world, creating a global imprint for the company.

WDE creates an opportunity for the sharing of ideas as international guests view the U.S. dairy industry and take this information back to their home countries. As the show has evolved, Select Sires Inc. has sponsored Expo's Virtual Farm Tours and Knowledge Nook Sessions to showcase new products.

"If we had a goal for an attendee, it's that they can have the opportunity to gain knowledge that they can't gain anywhere else," Jorgensen said.

He said the event is a sort of family reunion of the dairy community.

"World Dairy Expo is really the Super Bowl of dairy industry events," Jorgensen said. "Not only because of the Dairy Cattle Show, but the world-class Trade Show and educational seminars combine to provide opportunities to network and connect with people from around the globe."

One of Jorgensen's favorite memories from WDE came in the mid 2000s when the top seven daughters in one class were sired by a Select Sires Inc. bull, 7HO5157 Regancrest Elton Durham-ET (EX-90-GM).

"I don't think there's any greater sense of pride than when daughters of sires that we have brought to the industry receive an honor like Supreme Champion or Grand Champion," he said.

Select Sires Inc. has had many premier sires over the years of their involvement. For Jorgensen, another memory stands out. The first sire he brought into Select Sires Inc., 7HO12587 Mr. D Apple Diamond-back (EX-93), was awarded premier sire of the 2021 International Red & White Show.

As part of their presence in the cattle barns and on the shavings, Select Sires Inc. is a sponsor of the champion banners.

WDE has over 400 volunteers who help coordinate the event, and every year Select Sires Inc. encourages their employees to volunteer.

"We're a farmer-owned and farmer-directed cooperative," Jorgensen said. "Giving back to the industry and giving back on behalf of our membership has always been very, very important."

Jorgensen said he sees a bright future for WDE as it continues to grow and evolve and said there has been consideration for WDE to have continual events throughout the year beyond the week in October.

"(Select Sires Inc.) certainly wants to be part of that evolution as this becomes more of a global think tank for the industry," he said. "As a cooperative, we feel very, very strongly about the opportunities to be part of that dialogue and process and hopefully continue to connect the dairy industry together."



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World Dairy Expo

BREEDER PROFILE

Sarah Borchardt
Family Af-Ayr
Caledonia, Illinois

Tell us about your farm. Our farm involves my parents, Gregg and Patricia, and my brother, Luke. My parents were first-generation dairy farmers, and our focus has always been Ayrshires; although, there are a few of every breed in the herd. We milk 150 cows in a tiestall barn, but the milking herd is housed in a compost pack barn. We raise our own feed and youngstock.



SHERRY NEWELL/DAIRY STAR

Sarah Borchardt is a key player in the Family Af-Ayr herd from Caledonia, Illinois. She works with parents and brother on the well-known Ayrshire dairy.

Describe your string at World Dairy Expo this year. We brought five cows and one heifer, all home bred. We are working with about five other families.

How is showing at WDE beneficial to you and your dairy? It helps with promotion and marketing of our most elite genetics and our best cow families.

What has been a highlight for your farm at WDE? We showed the Grand Champion Ayrshire in 1995 and 2007. We had Reserve in 2002. We have also won Premier Breeder, in 2015. That's always our goal; we bring enough cows to compete for Premier Breeder.

What is your breeding philosophy? We like to breed for cows that milk well and have the type to go with it. We have commercial cows, too, but we work toward both milk and type.

What value does your herd bring to the Ayrshire breed? We try to market our own bulls, our own genetics, which gives breeders more options.

What are your goals for the future of your herd? We want to continue to breed good cattle that we can merchandise and that others can breed good cattle from.

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National 4-H dairy judging title goes to Minnesota

Placing scores carry the team to its finish

BY SHERRY NEWELL
Staff Writer

MADISON, Wis. — It was Minnesota's day at the National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest Oct. 1 during World Dairy Expo in Madison.

Four youth from that state's Goodhue County who advanced from their own state contest in August edged out Missouri 4-H'ers by nine points to top the contest's 101st year.

Team member Natalie Clemenson led the charge by winning High Individual Overall, while teammate Evelyn Scheffler came in third overall and just five points behind Clemenson. Calvin Benrud and Caryn Miklas rounded out the team, coached by Tony and Maizie Scheffler, and Emily Mollenhauer.

The contest's second-place overall high individual was Florida's Johanna Heijkoop.

"I'm overwhelmed," said Clemenson just after the awards announcements.



LAURA SELJAN/DAIRY STAR

Minnesota's 4-H team wins the National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest Oct. 1 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. Team members and coaches include Maizie Scheffler (from left), Tony Scheffler, Evelyn Scheffler, Calvin Benrud, Natalie Clemenson, Caryn Miklas and Emily Mollenhauer.

"I've been judging since sixth grade. It was a lot of hard work, and it paid off."

Evelyn Scheffler won the Jersey breed, boosting the group to a team win in that division, while Clemenson was in the top three for Brown Swiss and Guernsey judging.

In the reasons category, Wisconsin's Logan Harbaugh squeezed out a two-point win over Michigan's Chloe Steiner to receive top honors. Oregon's Clancey Krahn was third in reasons.

"My favorite part about

the contest is the reasons because you can separate yourself from the others," Harbaugh said. "I'm so thankful for my four coaches and anyone throughout Shawano County and Wisconsin that opened their barn doors and allowed us to practice."

Harbaugh said that he would love to continue judging in and after college.

It was Minnesota's placing scores — 16 points higher than the next team — that catapulted them to the win. The contest's winner in team

reasons was Missouri, with team members Molly Archer, Case Melzer, Libby Shaver and Logan Archer, coached by Karla Deaver and Ted Probert. Missouri 4-H'ers were the second-place overall team.

Coming in third overall was Oregon, with team members Krahn, Logan Lancaster and Payton Rawe, coached by Jim Krahn.

Florida's team of Heijkoop, Jenna Larson, Rebecca Holcomb and Luke Larson, coached by Gene Holcomb, placed second in reasons.

All-American Honors (Top 25 Individuals)

1. Natalie Clemenson, Minnesota
2. Johanna Heijkoop, Florida
3. Evelyn Scheffler, Minnesota
4. Case Melzer, Missouri
5. Clancey Krahn, Oregon
6. Molly Archer, Missouri
7. Logan Harbaugh, Wisconsin
8. Chloe Steiner, Michigan
9. Olivia Finke, Ohio
10. Libby Shaver, Missouri
11. Rebecca Holcomb, Florida
12. Kylee Seats, North Carolina
13. Calvin Benrud, Minnesota
14. Logan Lancaster, Oregon
15. Peyton Rawe, Oregon
16. Justin Wolfe, New York
17. Annika Donlick, New Jersey
18. Cait O'Sullivan, New Jersey
19. Hailey Zernicke, Wisconsin
20. Lauren Homan, Ohio
21. Jacoby Gilbert, Ohio
22. Lily Shirley, Indiana
23. Logan Archer, Missouri
24. AJ Wanner, Pennsylvania
25. Jacob Harbaugh, Wisconsin



WORLD DAIRY EXPO 2023



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Exporters' Workshop Wednesday, October 4

Exhibition Hall, 2nd Floor | Kegonsa Room
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Topics:

- **Financing Your Sales:** Export-Import Bank of the U.S.; U.S. Small Business Administration; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Credit Programs Division.
- **Insuring Your Export Shipment:** IDEAL Agriculture & Marine Insurance
- **Genomic Testing/Export Certificates:** AgSource Dairy Intelligence Team
- **Trouble-shooting Infectious Disease Testing for Endorsement of Export Health Certificates:** Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
- **Fulfilling an Export Order:** Case Study: Stamey Cattle Co.

Refreshments will be provided. Cost is free. Registration is required.
Registration: <https://forms.office.com/g/N1L0e39XaH>



International Buyers' Workshop and Roundtable

Thursday, October 5
Exhibition Hall, 1st Floor | Mendota 4 Room
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Topics:

- **Outlook for the U.S. Dairy Industry:** Univ. of Wisconsin, Dept. of Animal & Dairy Sciences
- **GSM102 Program:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Credit Programs Division.
- **Insuring Your Shipment:** IDEAL Agriculture & Marine Insurance
- **Genomic Testing/Export Certificates:** AgSource Dairy Intelligence Team
- **Fulfilling an Export Order:** Case Study for Importers: Stamey Cattle Co.
- **Roundtable Discussion:** Share knowledge, challenges, trends, and opportunities on how the industry can grow and nourish the world with quality and safe products and sustainable farming.

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TODAY AT WORLD DAIRY EXPO



DANIELLE NAUMAN/DAIRY STAR

Mike Berry (left) and Doug Nifong give Lauryn Young pointers as she prepares her Jersey Summer Yearling for the Showing Oct. 2 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.



SHERRY NEWELL/DAIRY STAR

Advisor Alissa Maier (third from left) accompanies members of her Flambeau FFA Chapter from Tony, Wisconsin, to World Dairy Expo Oct. 1 where they found cow-print hats to identify themselves. The group came to watch one of their chapter officers, Isabelle Van Dorn, show Guernseys and Ayrshires. Pictured are Joachim Underschutz (from left), Brooke Nelson, Maier, Zeth Shoemaker, Cheyanne Zimmer, Nora Haas and Adelaide Hillman.



SHERRY NEWELL/DAIRY STAR

A selfie with the granite cow statue named Miss Madison was a must-do for Kathryn Bosley and Eoin Brady Oct. 2 during their World Dairy Expo visit. Miss Madison was a gift to Alliant Energy Center from WDE. Bosley is from Malone, New York, where her family dairies. She brought Brady, who is from Sharon Springs, New York, with her for his first visit to WDE. He has two uncles who dairy in Ireland.



SHERRY NEWELL/DAIRY STAR

Jon and Chrissy Beiler, of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, take a break for lunch with their 9-month-old daughter Emma Oct. 2 in The Tanbark. Jon is a hoof trimmer who came to WDE for a couple of days to help Freedom Lane Jerseys, the Arps, with showing.



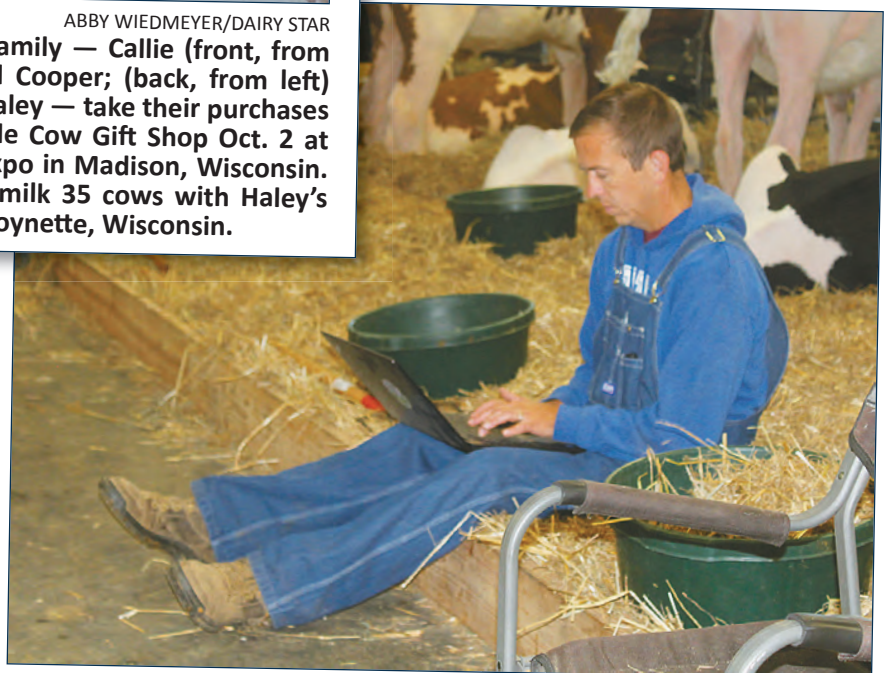
ABBY WIEDMEYER/DAIRY STAR

The Krohlow family — Callie (front, from left), Case and Cooper; (back, from left) Conway and Haley — take their purchases from the Purple Cow Gift Shop Oct. 2 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. The Krohlows milk 35 cows with Haley's dad, Greg, in Poynette, Wisconsin.



ABBY WIEDMEYER/DAIRY STAR

Ava Ainger and Willow Upchurch, of Illinois, enjoy fresh chocolate milk shakes Oct. 2 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.



DANIELLE NAUMAN/DAIRY STAR

Joe Sparrow takes a minute to catch up on work while watching his cattle Oct. 2 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.

Continued from OPEN GUERNSEY | Page 1

the first-place Junior Three-Year-Old, is owned by the partnership of Emmett Vannoy, B. and J. Potter, and C. and A. Nicley, of Eminence, Kentucky.

Junior Champion honors went to the winning Winter Calf, Cb Vg Jack Dont Forget Me-ETV, exhibited by Haley Beukema, Lauryn Weisensel and Brynn Grewe of New Richmond. The banner for Reserve Junior Champion went to the first-place Fall Calf, Empire Drone Patina, exhibited by Tim and Megan Schrupp of Paynesville, Minnesota. Honorable mention honors were bestowed on the first-place Summer Yearling, Rocky Hill Reputation Juliet, exhibited by Marah Ripley of Moravia, New York.

The Premier Breeder and Exhibitor banners were awarded to Springhill Farm of Big Prairie, Ohio. Hi Guern View Levi Drone was named the overall Premier Sire as well as Pre-

mier Sire of the Heifer Show.

Springhill Farm, of Big Prairie, Ohio, took home the banner for Premier Breeder of the Heifer Show. Empire Guernseys, Tim and Megan Schrupp, were awarded the banner for Premier Exhibitor of the Heifer Show.

Official Judge Kevin Hartmann, of Mulberry Grove, Illinois, and his associate Ted deMent, of Kenney, Illinois, were charged with placing 222 head of Guernseys in the International Guernsey Show. Complete show results are available at www.worlddairy-expo.com.

Melander, Robthom and Smith-Crest

Springhill Kojack Uno-ETV
Watertown, Wisconsin

Tell us about your animal. Uno is such a great cow. She has an easy-go-

ing, laid-back personality. She really does it by herself. You have to give all the credit to her. She is scored EX-95 with a 96-point mammary system. Uno has been second in class and Reserve Senior and Reserve Grand Champion here the past two years. She had five daughters show today on the colored shavings, three in the Fall Calf Class and two in the Winter Calf Class.

What does receiving this title mean to you? We love working with good cows; it's what we do. The ultimate goal of anyone who is passionate about caring for these cows is to win Grand Champion at World Dairy Expo.

How did you prepare for the show and who helped you? Preparation is really a 365-day venture. Every day we are focusing on what the cow needs to keep her at her best. This was

especially important with Uno, since she has been milking 13 months. We are blessed to have a great team, both here at the show and at home, year-round. We have a very family-oriented operation.

What trait do you like most about your animal? We love her udder, of course. It is impeccable. Her personality sets her apart too. She is a great cow to work with. We really love every day with her.

Why do you enjoy showing at WDE? We like to compete with the best, and Expo is where you find that. It is the best show in the industry. There is nothing that is comparable.

**Unofficial Results. See worlddairyexpo.com for final placing.*



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CORRECTION

In the Oct. 2 Expo Daily Edition, Haley Beukema was not included as a University of Minnesota team member in the National Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest, and Sarah Hagenow is not a team member.



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Why is having a strong relationship with WDE important to your business? World Dairy Expo and Hoard's Dairyman have similar goals and a common audience — the nation's dairy producers.

How is the dairy industry essential to your business? Hoard's Dairyman has been informing, supporting and advocating for the nation's dairy producers since its founding in 1885. Rarely has so great an industry been so well served by a single publication.

HOARD'S DAIRYMAN

Tell us about your company. Hoard's Dairyman is the dairy industry's defining magazine. Since 1885, Hoard's Dairyman has been providing dairy producers, veterinarians and nutritionists with the feeding, breeding, animal health and milk quality information, education and guidance they need for profitable milk production. Our digital channels are the industry's top resource for headline news, industry updates, market trends and more.

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Wisconsin Two-Year-Old tops International Junior Guernsey Show

Hartmann, deMent sort 85 junior entries

BY DANIELLE NAUMAN & SHERRY NEWELL
Staff Writers

MADISON, Wis. — Hickman Valleys S Blakely, the Intermediate Champion of the International Junior Guernsey Show, went on to claim Grand Champion honors at the end of the evening for owners Brittany Taylor, Grace Schuler and Laylaa Schuler of New Glarus.

Following Blakely as the Reserve Grand Champion Cow was the Senior Champion, Hi Guern View Asias Africa, the top-placing junior-owned Aged Cow, owned by Alaina Dinderman of Orangeville, Illinois. The nod for Honorable Mention Grand Champion went to the Reserve Intermediate Champion, Knapps GP VG Apie Two To Tango-ETV. Tango was the top-placing junior-owned Senior Two-Year-Old exhibited by Lauryn Weisensel of Deerfield.

Hi Guern View Divas Designer followed her herdmate Africa as the Reserve Senior Champion. Designer was the top-placing junior-owned Lifetime Production Cow, owned by siblings Alaina, Amery and Aidan Dinderman. The nod for Honorable Mention Senior Champion went to top-placing junior-owned Four-Year-Old, Topp-View Lman Rags 2 Riches, exhibited by Aubree, Aiden and Alaina Topp of Botkins, Ohio.

The Honorable Mention Intermediate Champion recognition was given to the top-placing junior-owned Summer Junior Two-Year-Old, Hi Guern View Drone America, exhibited by Alaina Dinderman of Orangeville, Illinois. America was also named the Champion Bred and Owned animal of the International Junior Guernsey Show.

Cb Vg Jack Dont Forget Me-ETV, the winning Winter Calf exhibited by Haley Beukema, Lauryn Weisensel and Brynn Grewe, of New Richmond, was selected as the Junior Champion of the Junior Show. Reserve Junior Champion honors went to the winning Summer Yearling, Rocky Hill Reputation Juliet exhibited by Marah Ripley of Moravia, New York. Honorable Mention honors went to Jacoris Latimre Schatzi, the top-placing junior-owned Fall Calf. Schatzi was exhibited by Kalina Rhoads of Barto, Pennsylvania.

Official Judge Kevin Hartmann, of Mulberry Grove, Illinois, and his associate Ted deMent, of Kenney, Illinois, were charged with placing 85 head of junior-owned Guernseys in the International Junior Guernsey Show. Complete show results are available at www.worlddairyexpo.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COWSMOPOLITAN

Hickman Valleys S Blakely is named the Intermediate and Grand Champion of the International Junior Guernsey Show, after winning the Junior Two-Year-Old Class Oct. 2 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. Blakely is owned by Brittany Taylor, Grace Schuler and Laylaa Schuler. Hi Guern View Asias Africa is named Senior and Reserve Grand Champion after winning the Aged Cow Class for Alaina Dinderman. Knapps GP VG Apie Two To Tango-ETV is named Reserve Intermediate and Honorable Mention Grand Champion after winning the Senior Two-Year-Old Class.

Brittany Taylor, with Grace Schuler and Laylaa Schuler
Hickman Valleys S Blakely
New Glarus, Wisconsin

Tell us about yourself. I'm Brittany Taylor. I am 14 and from Platteville. I'm a freshman at Belmont High School and am involved in volleyball, basketball, and 4-H and FFA dairy judging. My parents are Ashley Taylor and Kelly Schuler, and while I don't live on a dairy farm, I spend a lot of my time at my grandparents' farm, Donnybrook at Platteville, and my aunt and uncle's farm, Gold Rush at New Glarus.

Tell us about your animal. We got her this spring, and she was Intermediate Champion of the Open and Junior shows at the Wisconsin Guernsey Show and Reserve Grand of the Junior Show. She was also Reserve Grand at the Youth Classic in Manchester, Iowa. She's a good cow.

What was your reaction when your cow was named Grand Champion of the Junior Show? I was very surprised. She's a very nice cow, but I just thought the older cows might win. I'm so happy

that I can't really explain it. It's only my third time here and the first time I did showmanship, where I was ninth in the Intermediate Division.

How did you get involved in dairy cattle showing? After my mom started dating my step-dad, they just asked me if I wanted to do it. I did and instantly fell in love with it.

Who has been a mentor for your showing career? What has been the best advice they have given you? My aunt and uncle, Kami and Jesse Dorn. They are always pushing me to keep going even if I have a bad day. They always say, "New day, new judge."

What has been your favorite memory showing dairy cattle? Until today, it was probably when I got my first animal, Arrow. I didn't know I was getting her, and my uncle just showed up and said, "I got you something."



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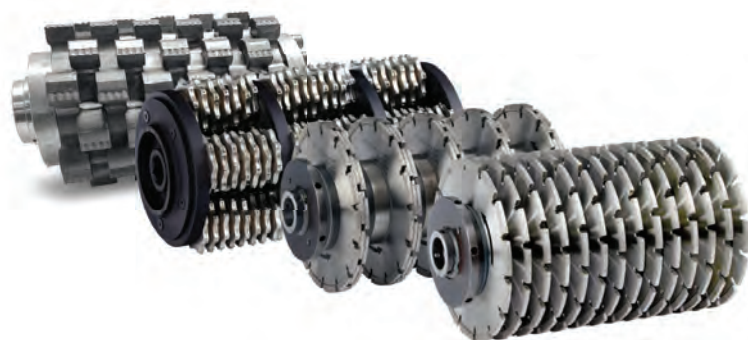
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ABBY WEIDMEYER/DAIRY STAR

Springhill — Sara Carter (front, from left), Iszi Crawford, Emory Bewle, Sabrina Clark and Chrissy Putman; (middle, from left) Jr. Radar, Chris Curtiss, Gavin Bewle, Owen Bewle, Richard Kepler, Libby Adelsberger and Hallie Steck; (back, from left) Madison Fisher and Ethan Bloomfield — win the herdsmanship award Monday at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin.

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Perfect placings propel team to the top

Kaskaskia College takes International Post-Secondary Dairy Cattle Judging Contest

BY SHERRY NEWELL
Staff Writer

MADISON, Wis. — The dairy judging team at Kaskaskia College had 13 perfect-placing scores among them, enough to win the 33rd International Post-Secondary Dairy Cattle Judging Contest Oct. 1 at World Dairy Expo in Madison.

They collected the honors for top reasons team as well, and their Savannah Rice claimed the Overall High Individual and High Reasons Individual awards.

Rice, who comes from Lithia, Florida, is a first-year student at Kaskaskia, located in Centralia, Illinois. She returned to WDE after judging in the National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in Madison in 2021.

“This was a lot more challenging, with two extra classes,” Rice said. “It was pretty heavy competition, but it’s nice to be challenged. I had a good feeling about the day.”

Close behind Rice, in third place, was Kaskaskia team member Sophie Leach, who missed the judging awards ceremony while showing her Five-Year-Old Cow to Grand Champion in the International Junior Holstein Show next door. Rice and Leach had a nearly 30-point

advantage over the third-place individual, Amber MacNeil of SUNY Cobleskill, for the overall win.

“It’s all surreal,” said Leach, who began the judging contest at 7 a.m. “They bumped me to the front for reasons, and I finished, changed clothes and went straight to the Showring.”

Her teammates texted her in real-time as Kaskaskia tallied up Leach’s win in Ayrshire, Brown Swiss and Milking Shorthorn judging along with a second in Red & White and in reasons. The Kaskaskia team won Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Red & White, Milking Shorthorn and reasons. Team member Gage Wendling, of Altemont, Illinois, won Holsteins, and while Rice collected a win in Red & Whites and Jerseys. Gracen Hoffman, of New Minden, Illinois, rounded out the team, while Braden Hartmann, of Mulberry Gove, Illinois, also represented Kaskaskia in the contest as an individual.

It was Hoffman’s first year giving reasons.

“It helped that we’ve seen all different kinds of cattle and worked with all different breeds,” Hoffman said. “Coming together makes us stronger.”

Aaron Heinzmann, of Carlyle, Illinois, coached the team for the 18th year, saying how proud he is of how far the team



LAURA SELJAN/DAIRY STAR

Kaskaskia College, of Centralia, Illinois, wins the 33rd International Post-Secondary Dairy Cattle Judging Contest Oct. 1 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. Team members and coach are Aaron Heinzmann (from left), Braden Hartmann, Sophie Leach, Gage Wendling, Gracen Hoffman and Savannah Rice.

has come.

“I’ve been fortunate to come across some good kids,” he said.

SUNY Cobleskill placed second in the contest with team members MacNeil, Whitney Yerina, Madisyn Wright and Mackenzie Meisner, coached by Carrie Edsall. MacNeil was also third in reasons.

Modesto Junior College was second in reasons with a team of Tyler Miranda, Morgan Ramirez, Paris Cabral and Blake Zimmer, coached by Nicole Morris.

Top 10 Overall Individuals*

1. Savannah Rice, Kaskaskia
2. Sophie Leach, Kaskaskia
3. Amber MacNeil, SUNY Cobleskill
4. Paris Cabral, Modesto Junior College
5. Kaylee Ferrecki, Northeast Iowa Community College
6. Gage Wendling, Kaskaskia College
7. Justin Ossman, Lakeshore Technical College
8. Chalee Line, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College
9. Whitney Yerina, SUNY Cobleskill
10. Maya Bicksler, Lakeshore Technical College

*Unofficial Results. See worlddairyexpo.com for final placings.

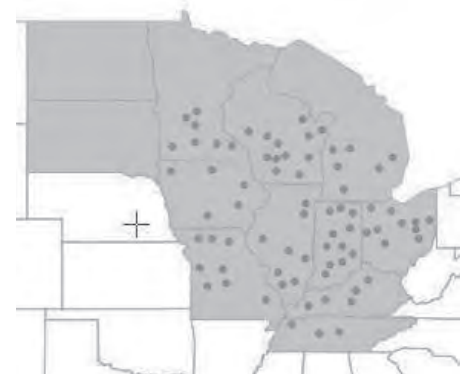
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53 points sets Gophers apart

University of Minnesota sweeps National Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest

BY SHERRY NEWELL
Staff Writer

MADISON, Wis. — A 53-point margin brought the University of Minnesota another win in the 102nd National Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo Oct. 1 in Madison.

Led by Ben Styer, the Overall High Individual who also won reasons, and third-place individual Isaac Rott, the team bested Cornell University and Virginia Tech, who placed second and third, respectively. Team member Kelsey Biel finished as an All-American Top 25 as 17th individual while Haley Beukema rounded out the four-member team.

The Minnesota group built their win with four first-place breed standings in Red & White, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss and Milking Shorthorn. Rott, Biel and Styer took all three top individual spots in Brown Swiss judging. In addition, the team racked up a reasons average of just over 47 points to win the reasons category by 19 and 26 points over Virginia Tech and Michigan State, respectively.

Styer's 11-point margin over Virginia Tech's Salem Sifford in the overall individual standings helped clinch the win for Minnesota. Styer only dropped nine points across six sets of reasons, while the team collectively scored 847 rea-



LAURA SELJAN/DAIRY STAR

The University of Minnesota's winning judging team and coaches includes Dr. Les Hansen (from left), Isaac Rott, Kelsey Biel, Haley Beukema, Ben Styer, Gabriella Houdek and Eric Houdek.

sons points to Virginia Tech's 828. Elise Bleck of the University of Wisconsin-Madison was second-place individual in reasons, just five points behind Styer.

Styer said it took a fair amount of practice to achieve such high scores.

"I've been judging since third grade with 4-H," Styer said. "Managing time to be part of a full-time team along with other obligations like a full course load can be challenging, but this is a special team, and there's no one else we'd want to judge with."

The University of Minnesota's longtime coach, Dr. Les Hansen, called the 2023 World Dairy Expo his best ever after the win. Hansen was also named National Dairy Shrine's 2023 Guest of Honor and received the award last night. Eric and Gabriella Houdek also coached the

team; both are alumnus of the university team.

"The consistency was there," said Eric Houdek of the team. "After (a disappointing) Harrisburg, it was onward and upward."

His wife agreed.

"This team is amazing — their attitudes especially," she said.

As the day's scores were announced, the Minnesota group members held their breath. The Milking Shorthorn classes had them worried.

"They were a little tricky," said Biel, who scored a 36 on that class but talked a 47-point set of reasons.

For her, the day was bittersweet.

"It was the last time we would be together as a team," she said.

Rott said theirs was a team that knew how to get the

job done.

"We're mentally focused," he said. "We know when it's time to work and when it's time to have fun."

That fun included a new experience for Beukema.

"I've been to Expo but having an opportunity to stand on the colored shavings was pretty great," she said.

The Cornell team that placed second overall and fourth in reasons in the National intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest included Rachel Van Buren, Adam King, Sophie Woodis and Jade Atherton. Their coach was Kevin Ziembra.

Virginia Tech's third-place overall and second-place reasons team included Atley Miller, Gabriella Rockwell, Erin Armitage and Sifford. They were coached by Katharine Knowlton and Jaiden Cain.

All-American Individuals (Top 25 Overall)

1. Ben Styer, University of Minnesota
2. Salem Sifford, Virginia Tech
3. Isaac Rott, University of Minnesota
4. Elise Bleck, University of Wisconsin-Madison
5. Colton Silveira, Iowa State University
6. Delana Erbsen, Iowa State University
7. Adam King, Cornell University
8. Gracie Krahn, University of Wisconsin-Madison
9. Owen Scheffler, South Dakota State University
10. Sophie Woodis, Cornell University
11. Garrett Hastings, The Ohio State University
12. Lane Bollenbacher, Purdue University
13. Kelly Baird, University of Kentucky
14. Rachel Van Buren, Cornell University
15. Lila Sloan, University of Wisconsin-Platteville
16. Gabriella Rockwell, Virginia Tech
17. Kelsey Biel, University of Minnesota
18. Quincee Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Platteville
19. Jack Saemrow, University of Wisconsin-River Falls
20. Mason Kruse, University of Wisconsin-Platteville
21. Brianna Hill, Michigan State University
22. Rachael Bosse, Michigan State University
23. Abigail Stoltzfus, Penn State University
24. Atley Miller, Virginia Tech
25. Adalee Thelen, Michigan State University




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