

mmm!

A fair, kids, and candyfloss. The three have gone together for generations. Here 12-year-old Amanda Farke of Palmer Avenue,

Richmond Hill provides a good example of the phrase 'eat your heart out!'



Fantastic fair!

By Marilyn McDonald

Early Sunday morning was an especially good time to enjoy the 128th edition of the Richmond Hill Spring Fair.

The weather was perfect, and drew 10,000 visitors, up 4,000 from last year.

Parking spots were plentiful, the gates were open but the ticket booths were unmanned, the general exhibits had all been judged and there were no crowds around the displays.

There was plenty of time to note that Grade 5 students from Ross Doan public school took all four prizes in the special school competition — the Silver Anniversary project depicting in picture and story, the life and times of Queen Elizabeth.

11 year-old Darin Grodzinski's first-prize winner featured a collage of pictures of the Queen and a well-researched, concise history of the monarch's reign.

Irene Boyle of Richmond Hill was awarded the silver tray for the most points in the 27 domestic science classes despite strong competition from Don Head School's baking students.

Proving, perhaps, that even the best formal training can't beat mom's traditional "a pinch of this and a dash of that".

The pony show was just starting. Grays, chestnuts, palominos and piebalds were rustled through the straw, down the tailgate-ramps of horse trailers and quickly checked by young riders sporting windblown hair and comfortably sloppy shirts.

They all wore tight-fitting tan breeches and they all wanted to win.

"Mom, try to get me number 19," yelled a young horsewoman as she fussed with the braided mane of her golden mare.

"I won a first with number 19 the first time I rode," she explained.

Finally, hair netted neatly under dark velvet caps, trim tailored jackets and long black boots in place, they were ready to ride.

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community news

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The Richmond Hill horse show is a prestigious event.

"It's what's called a 'recognized' show," said one proud father, "and quite a nerve-wracking experience for a 12-year-old."

He was anxiously eyeing the ring for number 101.

"The following are excused," commanded the judge's assistant, "Number 101, number..."

The riders are well-bred, too. There are no tears, just a short silence and a smart trot off the field.

As the day on the fair moves into high gear.

The midway has come alive with

candy floss, the roar of rock music and the squeals of kids having fun.

The Richmond Hill Lions Majorettes are bravely competing for attention against the jarring grind of the midway-generator. Nobody is watching the generator.

In the arena, Angoras, Lops, Silver Grays and Standard Chinchillas (bunnies to you) are being judged.

At least one spectator learns that a guinea pig is properly called a cavy.

Elsewhere sheep are being sheared and the piglets in the pens on Old MacDonald's Farm are, as usual, asleep.

(Turn to Page C6 for results of Spring Fair competition.)

PHOTOS BY
BRUCE HOGG
AND
TOM GALE



Old and beautiful

For the first time this year, the Richmond Hill Spring Fair honored the Senior King

and Queen. Eva Cadwell and Russell Boynton will be sovereigns for a year.



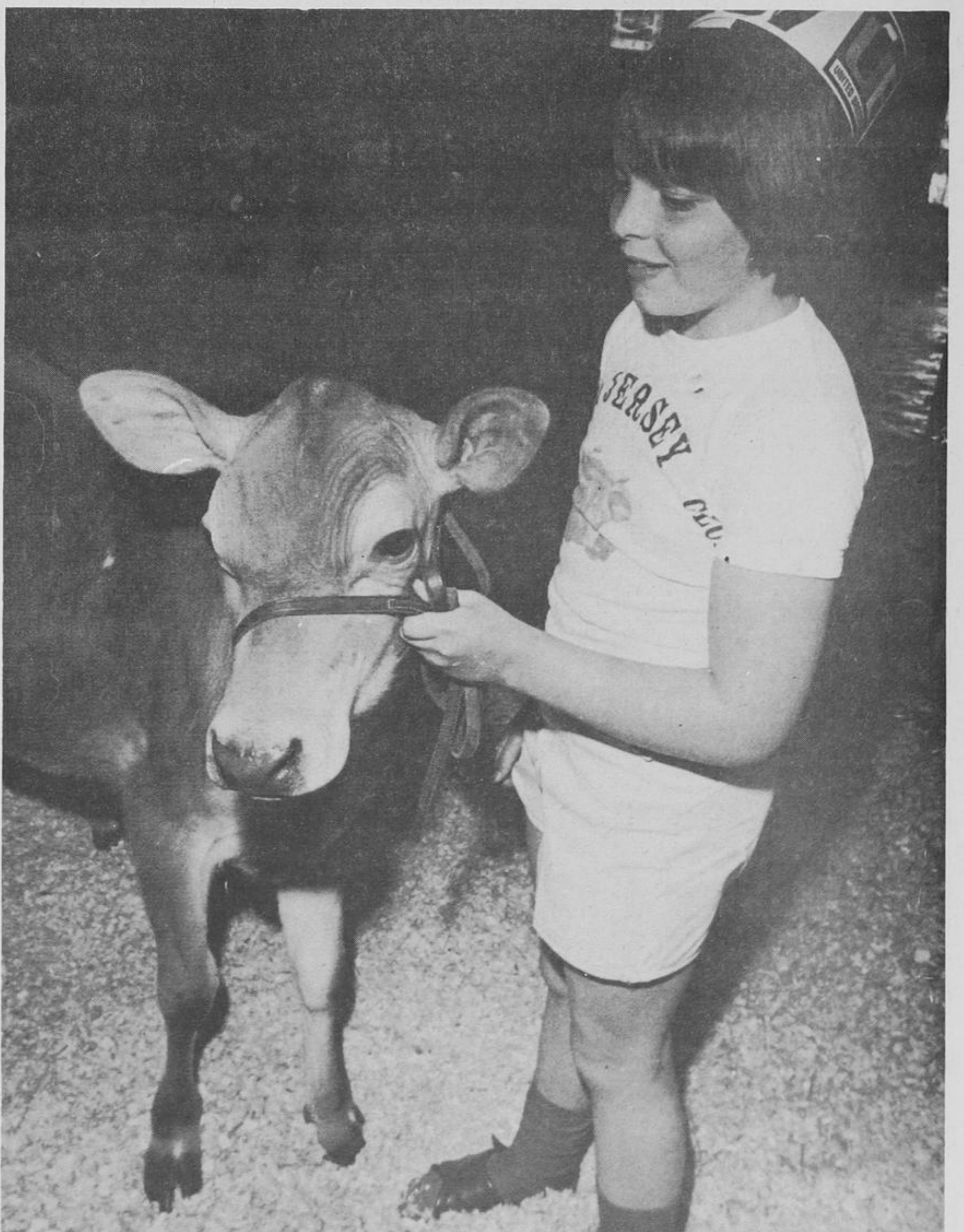
Peace

If the hurdy gurdy got you feeling dizzy, it was good to remember the lambs were nearby.



Young, beautiful

New Queen Marilyn Payne receiving the ribbon from last year's winner Janet Hofmann.



This is Meadow Lawn

Leilly Little, 9, of Steeles Avenue, Markham shows off his Jersey calf Meadow Lawn Faith Edie.