


 WESTGEN
CANADIAN
CLASSIC
JUNIOR DAIRY SHOW

Teeing Off at 'The Moosters!'

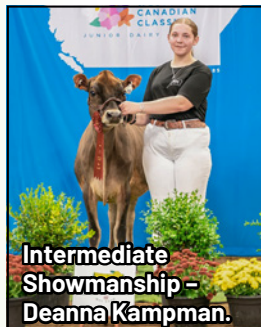
WCC Celebrates its 40th Anniversary



Conformation Champions: (L-R) Associate Judge Mike Flaman, Renelle Lovich (SK) with LOVHILL MAJOR ARIAT – Honourable Mention; Natalie Boonstoppel (MB) with ALCORN CAUGHT SMOKIN – Reserve; Deanna Kampman (MB) with BRAMVILLE GOLDORAK CRAZED – Champion; Judge Jon Kingdon.



Showmanship Champions: (L-R) Associate Judge Mike Flaman, Janaye Rietveld (AB) – 1st Junior & Honourable Mention; Chloe Vander Kooi (BC) – 2nd Senior & Reserve; Hannah Vanderlinde (AB) – 1st Senior & Champion; Judge Jonathan Rylaarsdam.



Intermediate Showmanship –
Deanna Kampman.



Junior Dairy Science Quiz.



Intermediate Dairy Science Quiz.



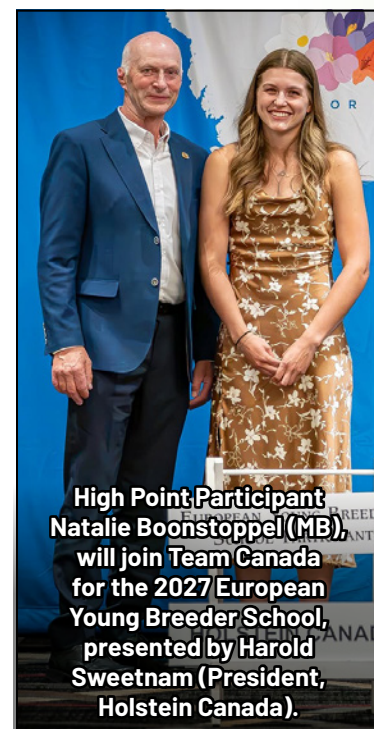
Senior Dairy Science Quiz.



Premier Province – Team Alberta!



Team Manitoba celebrates the Herdsmanship Award for the 4th straight year!



High Point Participant Natalie Boonstoppel (MB), will join Team Canada for the 2027 European Young Breeder School, presented by Harold Sweetnam (President, Holstein Canada).

Amanda Poelman

As the newly minted WestGen Canadian Classic celebrated its 40th Anniversary in Brandon, Manitoba, from August 18-22, there was no doubt that many more great moments would be added to the program's legacy. The theme, 'The Moosters,' was a fitting nod to excellence, as this year's 85 participants worked together throughout the week, enjoyed fierce yet friendly competition, and built camaraderie and friendships that the program has delivered for four decades.

Vicki Wiens, Manitoba WCC Chair, extended her sincere gratitude to all the sponsors for their generous support. "Your investment in this event allows young people from across the West to learn, compete, and grow together." Special thanks were also given to WestGen, not only for their long-standing support as Supreme Sponsor, but also for their committed investment over the next 10 years, which began in 2025.

As the buses and trailers rolled up to the Keystone Centre, Brandon's fantastic agriculture venue, the excitement for this year's WCC was palpable. A flurry of activity on set-up day resulted in four creative golf-themed displays that celebrated each of the provincial teams as well as WCC history.

Once again, Holstein Canada was on hand to administer the Dairy Science Quiz to all participants. A huge shoutout to Shannon Cartwright (Extension Specialist) and Toby Kleinsasser (Western Services Rep) for the **countless** hours they pour into creating and marking the quiz each year, as well as their work in the marshalling area to keep things running smoothly on show day.

On Showmanship morning, the Opening Ceremonies began with a friendly golf competition on "the green," with representatives from each province teeing off, chasing the elusive green Moosters jacket, while Manitoba Branch President, Mark Sweetnam, provided colour commentary.

Jonathan Rylaarsdam (Winchester, ON) served as this year's showmanship judge and worked diligently through the numerous heats, making sure that every participant got a good look. At the end of the day, Rylaarsdam selected his winning Senior showman, Hannah Vanderlinde (AB), as his Grand Champion, giving Team Alberta its first showmanship win in 12 years! She was followed by second place Senior, Chloe Vander Kooi (BC), for Reserve. Rounding out the winner's circle was first place Junior, Janaye Rietveld (AB), who claimed Honourable Mention.

It has been 30 years since Team Manitoba

won Grand Champion Calf, the last time coming in 1996, also in Brandon. This year they ended that drought with a bang, capturing both Champion and Reserve Champion honours! Judge Jon Kingdon (Warwick, ON) selected his winning Summer Yearling, BRAMVILLE GOLDORAK CRAZED, exhibited by Deanna Kampman, as his Champion, followed by the first place Winter Heifer, ALCORN CAUGHT SMOKIN, exhibited by Natalie Boonstoppel, for Reserve. Honourable Mention was awarded to LOVHILL MAJOR LARIAT, the second place Winter Heifer, exhibited by Renelle Lovich (SK).

The Closing Ceremonies saw the final 'Moosters' tee-off, with Jordan McAvoy (SK) winning the famed green jacket as Team Saskatchewan hosts the 41st edition of the WestGen Canadian Classic next year in Moose Jaw.

At the final banquet, WestGen President Richard Boonstoppel said, "WestGen is proud to invest in this program. We believe in the opportunities, and we believe in youth. Understanding that the future will ask a lot of us, he added, "Nights like these are why I remain optimistic about the future of our industry." Richard encouraged all the participants to "keep learning, keep leading and keep believing in the future of agriculture."

Banquet MC, Miriam Sweetnam, noted, "A lot has changed in 40 years – hairstyles, cars and the way we communicate with each other." However, what hasn't changed is the "spirit" of WCC – the friendships, the competition, the dips in the water trough and the friendly pranks; all these things have made and will continue to make WCC what it is: **truly special.**

40 YEARS OF MEMORABLE MOMENTS

1985 & 1986 – First back-to-back Showmanship win (Ridley Wikkerink, BC)

2005 & 2006 – First back-to-back Conformation win (SKYCREST DUNDEE NEMO – AB)

1996 – 1999 – First (and only) time a competitor has won the same division for 4 straight years (Senior Judging Reasons, Linsey Chalack, AB)

1988 & 2022 – First time a competitor wins the same division as their parent (Len Congdon, JR Clipping – 1988, Levi Congdon, JR Clipping – 2022, AB)

2025 – First Jersey Grand Champion (BRAMVILLE BRIGHT KRISPIE – SK)

18 – The number of times Manitoba has won Herdsmanship! (Next closest is 12)

There are so many other moments we could have chosen that will always be cemented in history.



WestGen Canadian Classic 2026 Results

SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE:
Jonathan Rylaarsdam, ON

CONFORMATION JUDGE:
Jon Kingdon, ON

ASSOCIATE JUDGE:
Mike Flaman, SK

CLIPPING JUDGES:
Isaac Boonstoppel, MB
and Nick Isenschmid, MB



Junior Clipping

Sponsored by Lactanet

1. Georgia de Lange & Adair Hehli, AB
2. Keaton Wildeboer & Grayson Congdon, AB
3. Makayla Van Der Kooij & Wyatt Hehli, AB

Intermediate Clipping

Sponsored by Farm Credit Canada

1. Everleigh Boerchers, MB
2. Graison Wildeboer, AB
3. Sabrina de Vos, BC

Senior Clipping

Sponsored by KyVision Sharpening & Clipper Repair

1. Levi Congdon, AB
2. Adyson Wildeboer, AB
3. Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

Junior Dairy Science Quiz

Sponsored by Holstein Canada

1. Callista Drury, BC
2. Addison Dunne, BC
3. Paisley Huisman, AB

Intermediate Dairy Science Quiz

Sponsored by Holstein Canada

1. Sabrina de Vos, BC
2. Jens Verkuijlen, MB
3. Everleigh Boerchers, MB

Intermediate Dairy Science Quiz

Sponsored by Holstein Canada

1. McKenzie Gyorkos, BC
2. Nicole Verhoef, MB
3. Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

Junior Overall Judge

Sponsored by Agrifoods

1. Keaton Wildeboer, AB
2. Georgia de Lange, AB
3. Addison Dunne, BC

Intermediate Overall Judge

Sponsored by Twinairview Holsteins Ltd.

1. Silas de Lange, AB
2. Wyatt Baas, AB
3. Graison Wildeboer, AB

Senior Overall Judge – Jamie Donohoe Memorial Award

Sponsored by Donfield Farms

1. Ashlee McAvoy, BC
2. Adyson Wildeboer, AB
3. Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

High Point Participant

Sponsored by Jersey West

1. Natalie Boonstoppel, MB
2. Keaton Wildeboer, AB
3. Georgia de Lange, AB

SHOWMANSHIP

Junior

Sponsored by Cowsmopolitan Country

1. Janaye Rietveld, AB
2. Kylie Luymes, BC
3. Keaton Wildeboer, AB

Intermediate

Sponsored by Mason Farms Ltd.

1. Deanna Kampman, MB
2. Kaycee Meier, BC
3. Owen Vanderlinde, AB

Senior

Sponsored by Select Sires Canada

1. Hannah Vanderlinde, AB
2. Chloe Vander Kooi, BC
3. Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

Grand Champion Showman

Sponsored by Tristar Dairy Centre Ltd.
Hannah Vanderlinde, AB

Reserve Grand Showman

Sponsored by Rippleview Hoofcare
Chloe Vander Kooi, BC

Honourable Mention Showman

Janaye Rietveld, AB

CONFORMATION

Spring Heifer (8)

Sponsored by: VH Dairy Ltd.

1. KENBERT TRITON AVEN
Bethany Friesen, SK
2. ROSWITHA MAJOR HEIRLOOM
Jocelyn Hueging, MB
3. RF ENERGY RIVIERA
Jaylan Vandenbrink, SK

Winter Heifer (25)

Sponsored by Perfection Pumping Corp.

1. ALCORN CAUGHT SMOKIN
Natalie Boonstoppel, MB
2. LOVHILL MAJOR LARIAT
Renelle Lovich, SK
3. MAZYLAK DESTINATION SPAIN
Levi Congdon, AB

Fall Heifer (27)

Sponsored by Sunny Dairy Farm

1. RF CAUGHT UP LIZZIE
Tyler Vandenbrink, SK
2. THORNSPYC ARMOUR CADENZA
Rose Huisman, AB
3. JACREST MAJOR LADYROSE
Bentley Berg, SK

Summer Yearling (15)

Sponsored by Grand Valley Fortifiers/Farmers Depot

1. BRAMVILLE GOLDORAK CRAZED
Deanna Kampman, MB
2. CHUBANNA AMAETHON DRAMA QUEEN
Graison Wildeboer, AB
3. DETIMDALE KAMERON AZOOM
Georgia de Lange, AB

Spring Yearling (8)

Sponsored by Tri Lea Farm Inc.

1. MOSNANG AMBROSE DRAMATIC
Eve Luymes, AB
2. RF HAVE NO FEAR ACE
Corban Friesen, SK
3. DREAM MAKER MASTER DECEPTION
Nick Kooyman, BC

Winter Yearling (2)

Sponsored by Nutrition Partners

1. MOSNANG SALUTE DOUBLE TAKE
Edwin Slingerland, AB
2. LAMPADA STORM
Ryan Donohoe, MB

Grand Champion Heifer

Sponsored by Gay Lea Food Co-Operative Ltd.

- BRAMVILLE GOLDORAK CRAZED
Deanna Kampman, MB

Reserve Champion Heifer

Sponsored by Jefe Nutrition Inc.

- ALCORN CAUGHT SMOKIN
Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

Honourable Mention

- LOVHILL MAJOR LARIAT
Renelle Lovich, SK

Group of 3

Sponsored by WestGen

1. Manitoba
2. Alberta
3. Saskatchewan

Logan Chalack Heart & Hustle Memorial Award

Sponsored by The Chalack Family

- Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

European Young Breeders 2027 Trip Winner

- Natalie Boonstoppel, MB

Herdsman Award

Sponsored by Trouw Nutrition

1. Manitoba
2. Alberta

Premier Province

Sponsored by WestGen

1. Alberta
2. Manitoba

Continued on next page ➡

Thank you!

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WestGen Canadian Classic Dedication

The Manitoba WCC committee was proud to dedicate this year's show in memory of Desmond Donohoe, one of the program's founders.

Born on February 3, 1943, Desmond grew up on his family's dairy and grain farm, Donohoe Farms, in Petersfield, MB. He raised his children on the very same farm, where many memories were made along the way. In 1998, Desmond, Diane, Jeff and Andrea started Lakefield Farm, only a few miles away from the original farm, which Jeff and Andrea still operate.

In 1964, Desmond graduated from the University of Manitoba with a diploma in Agriculture. He was heavily involved in 4-H as a club leader while his kids were growing up, but often stayed home to "hold down the fort" while brother Pat and son Jeff exhibited Donohoe and Lakefield cattle across Western Canada.

Desmond worked hard his whole life, never really retiring from farming, and enjoyed various trips with Diane in his later years as well as attending the activities of his grandchildren. He was always passing out words of wisdom to his family, no matter their ages, and was their "go-to" for advice and guidance.



Desmond, along with a group of passionate Western Canadian breeders, recognized the need for a Junior Dairy Show in the West and was instrumental in bringing the Western Canadian Classic to life. He served on Manitoba's WCC committee for many years, eager to encourage the dairy youth in Manitoba.

We proudly honour Desmond's life, his commitment to the dairy industry in Manitoba, and especially his dedication to the next generation of dairy leaders. His ringside presence and warm smile are greatly missed, but his legacy lives on through WCC: the program he loved.

"Inheritance is not money, sometimes your father's good reputation and name are enough, and wherever you go, you are told that your father was one of the best people."



★ **Logan Chalack Memorial Award - Natalie Boonstoppel (MB), presented by Andrew Wildeboer. Pictured with previous winners (L-R): Adyson Wildeboer (2025), Martin Rypma (2017) and Mark Sweetnam (2016).**



★ **Senior Overall Judge - Jamie Donohoe Memorial Award - Ashlee McAvoy (BC), presented by Garry, Garda & Ryan Donohoe.**

J.R. (Tim) Armstrong Memorial Bursary

For Students in Agriculture or Journalism Programs



Application Deadline: December 31, 2026

Visit: www.bcfwa.ca/bursaries-and-grants

The Tim Armstrong Memorial Bursary is open to British Columbian students who are enrolled in their second year or higher of a full-time agriculture or journalism program at a university, institute or regional college in Canada.



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BC Farm Writers' Association
Ronda Payne, Scholarship Chair
bcfarmwriters@gmail.com

Thank You...

to the "caddies" who kept the greens clean during the Moosters! (L-R) Thatcher Priest, Bailey Kampman, Allister Priest, Kinsey Priest.



TEAM BC 2026 WESTGEN CANADIAN CLASSIC

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