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Here we see last years
 'Schwinger-king'
 Abderhalden
 wrestling with
 this years champion
 Forrer, both from
 Toggenburg, Can-
 ton St.Gall.

see also
 colour photo
 of Forrer Nr. 1
 and Grab Nr. 2
 on page 16

**Sunny Nyon celebrates
 wrestling and Swiss
 diversity - weekend
 26.8.2001**

The lakeside town of Nyon, bathed all weekend in glorious sunshine, became a melting pot of Swiss cultural diversity, as people from all over the country came to watch the Federal Wrestling and Alpine Games Festival - one of Switzerland's biggest traditional sporting events.

The final was won by 23-year-old St Gallen cheese-maker Arnold Forrer. In the tightest finish for more than 50 years, Forrer drew his final with former champion Jörg Abderhalden, but was crowned "Schwinger king" having won half a point more than his opponent in the preceding bouts.

Some 120,000 fans of Swiss-style wrestling, most of them from German-speaking cantons, descended on the Lake Geneva region for the festival, which is held only once every three years, and which has grown into one of the most important gatherings to celebrate Swiss alpine culture.

"Only once every three years do we get to see all of the best wrestlers together. It's really special to meet up with people from all over the country," one fan from Bern told swissinfo. "I'm from central Switzerland, and it's a fundamental part of our culture," said another, from canton Schwyz. "It's a great sporting event, but also a great social event." The organisers have made no secret

continued on page 14

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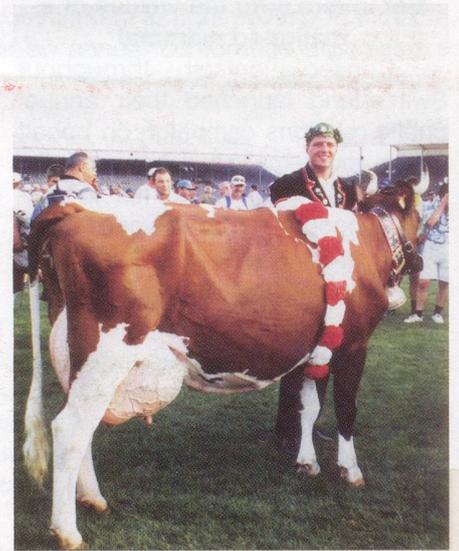
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The 'Mystery Tour 2000' of the Auckland Swiss Club ended with a delicious lunch at the "Art of Cheese Café" at Puhoi / October 2000. Photo supplied by T.Fill

↙ See article 'Member's Profile on p.5



'Schwingerkönig Arnold Forrer' in his traditional costume of the Toggenburg. He received a breeding bull as first prize at the 'Eidgenössische Schwingfest' at Nyon



Vreni Vetsch with one of the Masai Guides
See article on page 9/10 -
Four Swiss-Kiwis on Safari in East Africa

← Photo by
Rae Achermann.

Second prize-getter **Martin Grab** of Rothen-
thurm received a
'Simmental dairy Cow'
at the
'Eidgenössische Schwing
and Aelplerfest' at the lake
side town
of Nyon in the region of
Geneva!
See article on p. 13/14

Photo by E. Rust

