

## Co. Pork Producers Honor Scott Heisey

Scott Heisey, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Warren Heisey, Elizabethtown RD1 was honored by the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association Friday night when he was presented the annual James Z. Martin Swine Achievement Award.

Veteran pork producer Warren Leininger, presented the award to "one of our most outstanding youths in the pork industry."

Heisey, a former president of the Elizabethtown 4-H Pig and Rabbit Club, has raised over 200 market hogs in his 4-H projects. The high school senior has also won numerous awards with his swine at various fairs and at the State Farm Show.

The young pork producer presently has 21 Durocs and Yorkshires.

Also honored at the banquet attended by over 300 area pork producers was Paul H. Gehman, owner of Gehman Feed Mill Inc., 44 N. Third St., Denver.

A hog under contract by Gehman was named grand champion in the recent hog

carcass contest.

Gehman's crossbred barrow weighed 220 pounds live and 165 pounds chilled, with a backfat average of 1.1 inches. The loin area was 6.81 square inches with a ham-loin percentage of 47.87 per cent.

The reserve champion carcass hog in the field of 15 entries was owned by John Strawbridge, York County.

In the group's first attempt to start a production barrow test show, Ervin Rutt, Manheim RD4, had the top entry in the preliminary daily rate competition.

Rutt's crossbred had a daily rate of gain of 1.78 pounds, compared to an average of 1.2 pounds. Placing second was Laysen Sherk, Manheim RD3.

Roy Keppey, past president of the National Pork Producers Council, told the group that pork producers must take pride in the quality of hogs they raise in order to keep the consumer satisfied.

The Iowa producer said the future of the industry depends largely on the attitude of its producers.

"Some men say packing houses don't pay any more for good quality hogs, but this just isn't true," said Keppey. "If a housewife buys a poor quality ham for Easter it might be next Easter before she has

forgotten about it and tries another."

The executive board member of the NPPC told local producers at Blue Ball Fire Hall they must be conscious of constantly promoting their product.

Keppey also urged the members to tag their hogs.

"When you tag a hog, right then he develops his own personality," he said. "If that hog is a prize winner you certainly will want to be able to point to the sow and boar that produced him."

According to Keppey, the

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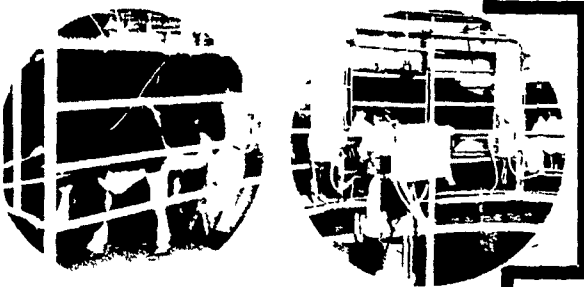
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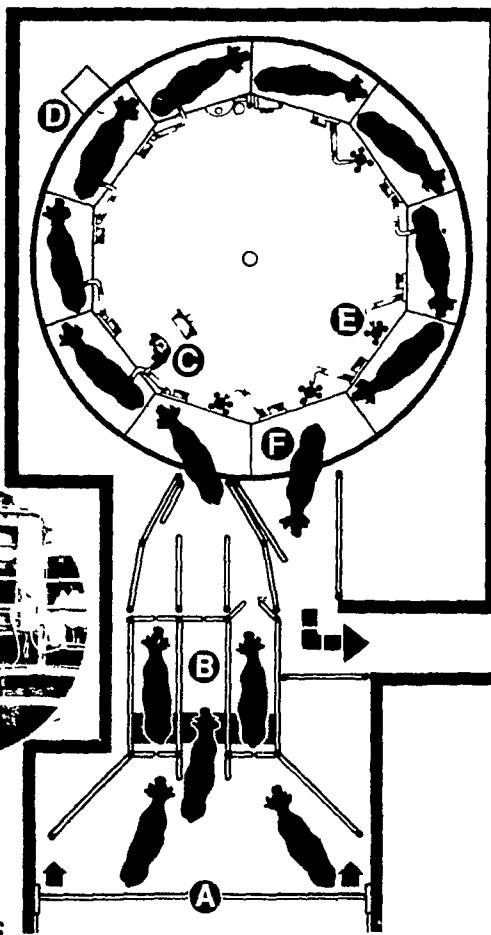
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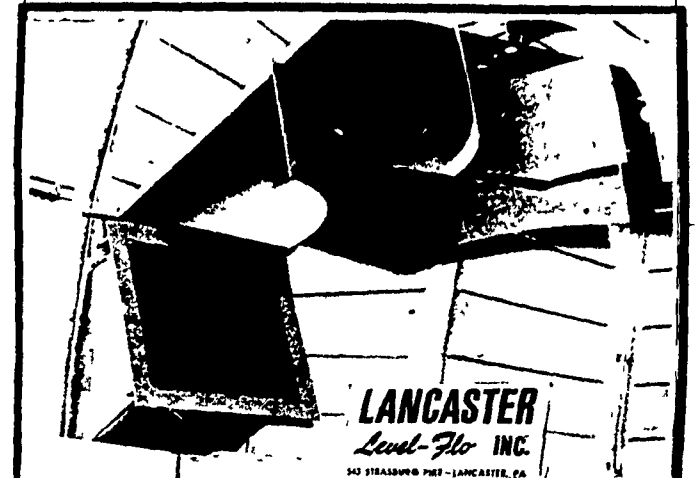
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pork in the supermarket meat case is a new product. He said the pork of today is unlike it used to be as a result of pure breeding stock and judging.

He also stressed that young, prospective pork producers shouldn't be discouraged by thinking thousands of dollars are

needed to start an operation. "If he's got some management ability and likes hogs," said Keppey, "he could at least rent some land and raise those animals."

"If a fellow thinks he has to have the latest, most modern facilities he might as well forget it," he said.



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