

Lancaster Farming

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Tops in baby beef competition this week at the Lebanon Area Fair were Cindy Eberly, left, Jeff Heisey, center, and Donald Bollinger. Heisey's crossbred was the show grand champion, Bollinger's Hereford was reserve, and Miss Eberly showed the top Angus. (See story on page 7)

Jeff Martin

Nat'l FFA Chorus Member

by: Melissa Piper

Jeff Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Martin, RD1, New Holland, is a member of the Grassland Chapter of FFA at Garden Spot High School. And while he has taken many of the same livestock projects as have the other members, Jeff has a special interest in FFA and that is singing.

Recently, Jeff was accepted to sing with the FFA Chorus at the FFA national Convention to be held at Kansas City in October. Only two FFA members from each state are asked to sing with the special chorus and must go through several special auditions before finally being chosen.

Jeff began singing when he

was in grade school and has continued practicing all through junior-high school and his two years in senior high school. Jeff is a tenor and enjoys leading singing as well as participating in choral activities.

While in high school, Jeff has sung with the chorus at many of the special functions such as baccalaureate and graduation.

On Thursday evening, Jeff led the singing at the Lancaster County 4-H Achievement Night activities.

Along with his singing, Jeff also has outstanding public speaking abilities. He has participated in numerous 4-H and FFA speaking contests.

One of his award winning speeches was prepared when he was a freshman. Jeff gave a talk on "threats to the American Farmer" a topic in which he has much interest.

I did the speech since I was interested in how farm land is being taken for roads and shopping centers," he explained. "Personally, I know how it feels since the new route 23 will be taking a section of our farm land."

Since Jeff will be a junior this year at Garden Spot, he will again be eligible for the FFA speaking contest. When asked what topic he has chosen for this speech he remarked that he would like to expand his former speech on threats to farmers since it is a problem that is increasingly prominent.

Jeff was president of his Jr. Ag Club and is news reporter for the Grassland FFA. He is also a member

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For at Least Another Year . . .

Fertilizer Supply Seen Still Tight

by Dick Wanner

With the new fertilizer year just under way, it looks like supplies are going to be just about as tight as they were last year. It looks, too, like prices are going to be up by about 20 to 30 percent. That's what we were told Friday morning when we talked to fertilizer industry officials.

Dr. Bill White, vice-president of the National Fertilizer Institute in Washington, D.C., said there are three main pressure points on fertilizer supplies. "Last year the USDA asked farmers to farm out to the fences," White said. "This year they're going to want the farmers to plant under the fences, through the fences and over the fences. We'll have even more acreage under cultivation this year than last, and more acres means more fertilizer."

"Farm prices will be high, \$3.50 to \$4 for corn, \$5 wheat and nobody knows where beans will stop. The pur-

chasing power of farmers is still very good. They've got good cash positions, and I don't think any banks will be turning down farmers with good records."

Last year, farmers in this area began buying fertilizer for spring plantings in late October and early November, a good two to three months earlier than the normal buying pattern. Will they start buying even earlier this year?

Mark Hess, who manages Agway's Garden Spot operation, thinks there's no point to buying now. "The tonnage will be here in the fall and winter. We might not

have as much as we'd like, but it'll be here. Right now, the fertilizer supply pipeline is drained, and it's just in the process of being filled.

"Farmers are under so much financial stress now," Hess continued, "that I don't think most of them will really have the money to buy until after their crops are harvested in the fall. Nitrogen will be in short supply, but we might be a little better off with P and K. The crops that failed in the Midwest didn't use up the P and K that were put on for this year's crop, so we might

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4-Hers End Season With Achievement Day Program

For most of Lancaster County's 4-H members, Thursday evening marked the close of another busy season of projects and activities.

Youth from numerous clubs across the county gathered at the Farm and Home Center on Thursday for the annual Achievement Day Program. Members exhibited their projects that ranged from knitting to rabbits in the morning and assembled in the auditorium at 7 p.m. for the Talent competition and the 4-H Queen selection.

Susan Harrold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Harrold, 208 West Conestoga St., New Holland was crowned Lancaster County's 4-H Senior Queen with Jr. Queen honors going to Alice Stauffer daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stauffer, RD1, Ephrata.

Susan is member of the Garden Spot Home Economics Club and has helped the club by serving on the Fashion Show Committee. When questioned by

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Nanette Musser, Lancaster, who is a member of the Penn Manor 4-H Club displays her garden vegetables which won an award at the 4-H Achievement Day.

Hog Show Winner Takes One Last Prize

In his very last year of 4-H competition, Michael Grube, Elm, took grand champion honors Tuesday morning at the annual Lancaster County 4-H Pig Show. Last year Mike won the reserve champion ribbon in the same show. Mike is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Harold Grube, Elm, and a 1973 graduate of Warwick High School. He works as a full-time herdsman for Mark Nestleroth, Manheim R5, a purebred Duroc breeder and president of the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Association.

Mike's champion hog, a 240-pound purebred Yorkshire, was sold Tuesday

afternoon for 99-cents a pound to Hatfield Packing Co., Hatfield, Pa., netting the winner \$237.60.

Reserve champion honors in the annual event went to Bruce Sipling, Marietta R1, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Sipling. Unlike the grand champion winner, Bruce is just beginning his 4-H career as a member of the Elizabethtown 4-H Pig and Rabbit Club. His hog sold for 65-cents a pound to Penn Packing Co., Philadelphia, netting \$149.50.

In all, there were 111 pigs sold by the 43 4-H'ers competing. The pigs

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