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The three top speakers in Monday's FFA area public speaking contest at Brownstown Vo-Tech were, left to right, Jeff Rutt, Solanco High School,

third place finisher, Dolores Nolt, Garden Spot, second place, and David Nolan, Owen J. Roberts High School, winner.

FFA Students Compete for Area Speaking, Parliamentary Awards

Seven schools were represented in an area FFA public speaking and parliamentary procedure competition held on Monday at Lancaster County's Brownstown Vo-Tech school. Students from Chester and Lancaster County schools vied for spots in the Eastern Region contest set for next month at the Lehigh Community College in Allentown. The parliamentary

procedure team from Garden Spot High School's Grassland Environmental Chapter took top prize in the competition. The Solanco team finished second, followed by Ephrata High School's Cloister Chapter group. The teams from the Octorara and Oxford chapters finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

The winning team consisted of Dean Weiler, acting

as president, Richard Martin, vice-president, Nelson Eberly, secretary, Derrill Nolt, treasurer, Linford Weaver, sentinel, Lynn Stoltzfus, chaplain, J. Alvin Wise, student advisor, and Rick Groff, reporter. The team was coached by Clifford Day.

The second place Solanco team, coached by Dr. William Fredd, consisted of Tom Jackson, president; Tim Smeltz, vice president; Lee Landis, secretary; Ken Tucker, treasurer; Merle Ressler, reporter; Bruce Kreider, sentinel; Gordon Herr, student adviser; and Dewey Atkins, chaplain.

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DHIA reports mean cutting, assembling and typing for Mrs. Lois Risser of 564 Lampeter Rd., Lancaster. Mrs. Risser has been doing the monthly reports for 16 years.

The Lady Behind Lancaster County's Dairy Herd Reports

by: Melissa Piper

Production records have always been an important tool to dairy farmers and while the information contained on the Dairy Herd Improvement Association registers have remained relatively the same, the method of reporting them back to the farmer has changed over the years.

Mrs. Jay (Lois) Risser, 564 Lampeter Rd., has been compiling, typing, and assembling the Lancaster

County DHIA report for the past 16 years, a job which is not enviable by many farm women.

Although most dairy farmers are familiar with the DHIA testing procedures that occur in their barns during the morning or evening hours, many do not realize that numerous steps go into the final report which appears in this publication each month. For this reason, Lancaster Farming paid a

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DER Head Vows No Pressure on Farmers

by Dick Wanner

"Farmers are not major polluters of air and water. That's why they're at the bottom of DER's (Department of Environmental Resources) list of priorities," Dr. Maurice Goddard, Pennsylvania's Secretary Environmental Resources told Lancaster Farming last Thursday night. "And I can't see any time, in the next ten years at least, when DER will require any farmer to erect fences to keep cattle out of his stream."

Goddard was the featured speaker at the 20th annual dinner meeting of the Berks County Conservation District in the new Berks County Agricultural Center in Bern Township. He talked about the DER program to the more than 200 people at the meeting, and afterwards answered this writer's questions about the effect of DER regulations on farmers.

"We do not want farmers to get permits for plowing," Goddard emphasized. "We want them to get conservation plans that will help them solve their soil erosion problems."

Asked when these plans should be put into practice, Goddard replied, "It doesn't really matter. We want farmers to have plans for their farms by July 1, 1977. If they have plans and if they're working on putting them into practice, that's really all we care about. I do hope that farmers will get plans as soon as possible."

How far does DER want to go in curtailing soil erosion from farms, we asked. "We've never really defined

exactly what is an acceptable soil loss," he said.

Would three to four tons per acre per year be acceptable to DER? "Yes. Definitely. We couldn't expect anybody to do better than that. There's no way we're ever going to stop all erosion. There's also no doubt, though, that we have a problem right now and we should be doing something about it."

"Actually, we'd rather

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Jay Bomgardner

Award Winning Livestock Judge

When it comes to receiving awards for outstanding work with livestock, Jay Bomgardner is a young man who is well experienced.

Jay, who lives on a farm with his parents at Annville, R1, Lebanon County, has been an active 4-H member for the past six years. He has been involved in the Ellgrove Community Club as well as being a member of the Lebanon County Livestock Club.

As projects, Jay has taken baby beef, swine fattening and broiler production. He

has shown his steers and swine at the 4-H Round-up, the state Farm Show and the Lebanon Fair.

Although Farm Show competition is quite keen, Jay has shown his steers to third and fourth places in his classes and has also shown purebred Hampshire swine in the breeding swine classes.

Jay is well known in Lebanon County for the many grand champion steers he has exhibited and for his outstanding showing

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Jay Bomgardner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bomgardner, Annville R1, has been an active 4-Her for the past six years. Along with his project work, Jay enjoys doing farm work and showing livestock.