

Lew Ayres honored

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FFA dairy show for the past three years, and the champion County hog for four consecutive years.

This year, and once before in 1971, his dairy judging teams captured first place at a national invitation judging contest at Columbus, Ohio. A number of his judging teams have competed in Harrisburg, Richmond, and Springfield. Ayers may also take credit for having started the Lancaster County FFA hog show, the Ephrata Jaycees Steer Award, and the dairy show at the Ephrata Fair.

A graduate of Tyrone High School and Penn State University, Ayers credits his interest in agriculture to his farm background, the Tyrone High School FFA program, and his teacher, Sam Hayes.

While at Penn State, Ayers participated in numerous activities, including the

school's dairy judging team. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1961 and a Masters degree six years later. Since beginning his teaching career he has served as officer of several organizations, including the Pennsylvania Agriculture Teachers Association (president, 1970), and the Ephrata Area Jaycees.

Of particular satisfaction to him this year is the fact that the Cloister, Ephrata, FFA chapter is being recognized as one of three Pennsylvania outstanding FFA chapters. The citation, known as the "Gold Emblem Award," has been won twice previously during the years he has headed the vo-ag department at Ephrata.

The Cloister FFA chapter is guided by three other instructors besides Ayers. They are Ernie Orr, Carl Graybill, and Charles Ackley. The chapter boasts 131 members at the present time and offers an agricultural science course for sixth graders.

Queen

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PFA's regional talent competition and will be a contestant in the state farming association's contest later this month.

She is a member of the Lewistown Grange and plays the piano and organ for her church.

Dawn's face registered a smile of surprise when she was announced as the Queen. "I'm so happy I was able to try out for this contest and I'm anxious to serve the industry," she noted.

Dawn thanked the poultry associations for helping to carryout the pageant

program. Dawn was sponsored by Agway in Schuylkill County.

Other contestants vying for the title were Julie Lanius, of York County and Judy Stoltzfus representing Lancaster County.

Judges for the event were Carl Grubic, vice-president of Commonwelath National Bank; Delphine Lynch, former pageant coordinator and Melissa Piper Bowman, Associate Editor of Lancaster Farming.

The pageant is sponsored annually by the Pa. Poultry Federation and county poultry associations. John Hoffman, director of the Poultry Federation served as coordinator for the program.

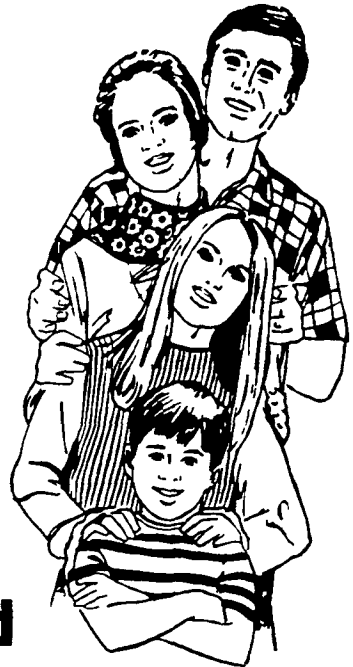
William Carlin, president of the Pa. Poultry Association gave remarks during the evening with a farewell address given by last year's queen Kathy Bicksler. Mac MacCauley served as toastmaster and emcee.

This year 92 teachers of vocational agriculture have been nominated to receive the degree during the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Mo. There are 11,500 vo-ag teachers in the United States. Ayers plans to attend the

national FFA Convention, which takes place Nov. 11-14, where he will be presented with the degree pending final approval of the nomination by the student FFA delegates who must vote on all honorary presentations of the National FFA organization.

A Farmer's Creed.

- I believe a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.
- I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.
- I believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on this earth.
- I believe farming nurtures the close family ties that make life rich in ways money can't buy.
- I believe my children are learning values that will last a lifetime and can be learned in no other way.
- I believe farming provides education for life and that no other occupation teaches so much about birth, growth and maturity in such a variety of ways.
- I believe many of the best things in life are indeed free: the splendor of a sunrise, the rapture of wide open spaces, the exhilarating sight of your land greening each spring.
- I believe true happiness comes from watching your crops ripen in the field, your children grow tall in the sun, your whole family feel the pride that springs from their shared experience.
- I believe that by my toil I am giving more to the world than I am taking from it, an honor that does not come to all men.
- I believe my life will be measured ultimately by what I have done for my fellowman, and by this standard I fear no judgment.
- I believe when a man grows old and sums up his days, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he's lived.
- I believe in farming because it makes all this possible.



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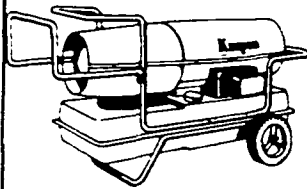
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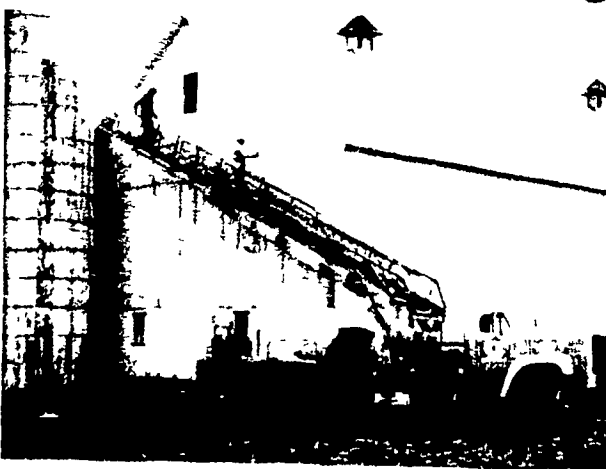
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