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Reaction to McHale is mixed

By Dieter Krieg

LITITZ - Until they know who will replace Jim McHale as Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture, most farmers would rather not say whether McHale's recent defeat in the Senate is for better or worse.

Out of 36 farmers contacted by this writer on Wednesday, 12 indicated

they were undecided about the action taken by the State Senate on Tuesday when McHale lost the confirmation vote 27 to 20. It was the second time within a six month period that the 47-year old former dairy farmer was rejected by the Senate. McHale has served as the state's Agriculture Secretary since the begin-

ning of the Shapp administration in 1971 and is the governor's hand-picked choice to lead the Agriculture Department.

But his days in office are numbered now, and he is expected to be assigned to another position by the end of the year.

Two of the 36 farmers contacted said they thought

McHale's removal from office was definitely for the betterment of Pennsylvania agriculture. Only one individual, who spoke on her own behalf, as well as for her husband, believed the Senate action was a blow to the state's farmers.

Eleven farmers said they

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Economy tied to world trade

CHICAGO, ILL. — The future of American agriculture is tied to the world market and the world economy, William J. Kuhfuss, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, said here recently in addressing the Fifth International Commodities Conference in the Palmer House.

"The outlook for a healthy and viable U.S. farm economy is bright, if agricultural producers are free to compete in the world market without interference from government in the form of export restrictions, participation in international commodity agreements, government-held reserves, or high commodity loan

rates," the national farm leader said.

The head of the nation's largest general farm organization with 2.5 million farm families in 49 states and Puerto Rico said that the dramatic changes in the agricultural situation since 1970 offer almost unlimited opportunities for a dynamic

and productive U.S. agriculture.

Among the fundamental changes that have occurred in the past four years, Kuhfuss cited the following:

Under the present system of "floating" exchange rates, the U.S. dollar is no longer overvalued and the ability of U.S. farmers to

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Production awards presented

By Melissa Piper

LANCASTER - Three hundred and ninety-three dairy herds in Lancaster County exceeded an average production of 425 pounds of butter fat for the year with their herdsman honored for their efforts at the annual DHIA banquet held here on Tuesday afternoon.

J. Z. Nolt's herd of

registered Holsteins recorded the highest figures by producing 709 pounds of butterfat with 19,216 pounds of milk. The Leola R1 dairyman's herd was the only herd in the county to exceed the 600 pound butterfat mark.

Four other dairymen having over 650 pounds of butterfat in their herds in-

cluded: Rufus G. Martin, Ephrata R3, with 687 pounds of butterfat and 18,953 pounds of milk; Ben K. Stoltzfus, Gordonville R1, 687 pounds of butterfat and 18,504 pounds of milk; Paul B. Zimmerman, Ephrata R1, 678 pounds of butterfat and 16,275 pounds of milk and Curtis E. Akers, Quarryville R1, with 666 pounds of but-

terfat and 16,844 pounds of milk.

Six plaques were also presented to county dairymen having the best breed production. K. D. and Elsie Linde, Oxford R1, captured the award for having the best producing herd of Guernseys with

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Dairymen praised for records

By Melissa Piper

LANCASTER - "Lancaster County dairymen have produced invaluable DHIA records which I'm confident could not be matched elsewhere in the United States," noted Don Ace, dairy extension specialist, at the annual DHIA meeting held Tuesday

afternoon at the Farm and Home Center here.

While his opening remarks reflected the high production

character of most herds in Lancaster County, Ace quickly reminded the dairymen that production in

the northeastern portion of the United States has been "lacking over the years."

Explaining that two problems had been recurring over the years, Ace expressed his hope that they could be controlled. "Controlling reproduction problems and herd mastitis

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