E-town FFA'er selects dairying as his career

By MELISSA PIPER
ELIZABETHTOWN While the future of dairying
may well be tinged with
problems and questions, one

best

by every test...

youth has expressed his interest in staying with the enterprise because "someone has to provide food for the consumers."

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Elizabethtown High School, would like to have his own farming operation following his graduation this spring and the youth feels that dairying is the specialization he'd like to try.

As many young people have expressed. Jim is

As many young people have expressed, Jim is concerned about what agriculture might be like in the future but agrees that farming will still be needed in years to come.

Jim is no stranger to farm work as he has helped extensively on his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Rutt, farm near here. Raising about 125 acres of corn has been a hig project for the youth and his father, along with fattening about 70 head of beef and milking 36 Holsteins. Jim has also raised capons for the past three years which have provided a little extra income for the FFA'er.

A member of the Elizabethtown FFA Chapter, Jim has served the local group as secretary for the past three years and is currently secretary of the county (Red Rose) FFA organization.

The youth has also been a member of the banquet, sports, awards and executive committee for his chapter.

Jim has been active in

many FFA activities along with his project work. The senior has been the recipent of several awards for his projects book - earning a bronze medal for his six enterprise book at both county and state level.

A participant on the small gas engines team, Jim won first place in the local contest and went on to Penn State to finish third in the technical competition.

As a freshman, Jim won the FFA creed contest at Elizabethtown and since that time has been named the Star Chapter Farmer and the Star Red Rose Farmer in the local club.

At last year's FFA awards banquet, the youth received the dairy management award, the chapter's soil and water conservation honor and was also selected as having contributed outstanding leadership.

When asked why he had chosen to join FFA, Jim explained, "many of my neighbors had been in the program and enjoyed the work, I joined for that aspect and have appreciated the many ideals it has provided me with."

As a young FFA member, Jim named the Keystone Farming Degree as his one goal to work for. During his four years, the youth diligently prepared for the degree by both participating in activities and by project work in the beef-dairy field.

Four years of hard work paid off though for the farming youth as he recently

Jim Rutt, Elizabethtown R1, recently received his Keystone Farming Degree, a goal he has worked toward for four years.

received the Keystone Farming Degree at the FFA Mid-Winter Convention held in Harrisburg.

Agriculture may have many changes in store, but Jim will be one of many young farmers in the area who will be striving to keep farming in high regard.

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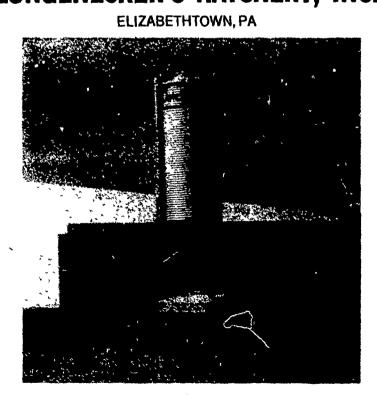
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