

Marcia Hess

FFA Princess will do them justice in '76

By JOANNE SPAHR
QUARRYVILLE — The phones had been ringing at her Quarryville R2 home for nearly a week, and photographers and interviewers had been taking up whole chunks of her time since she had received the title of State FFA Princess and Miss Congeniality at FFA State days the week before. Yet, with all this hustle and bustle in her life, Marcia Hess was poised and friendly, with an air of sophistication about her when it was time for our interview. It was obvious she is going to make a good representative for the Future Farmers of America during her year's reign as princess.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert S. Hess, she's an advocate of FFA.

"It's really a great organization. I have so much respect of everybody in it," says the sleek and stylish young lady with conviction. Her belief in the

organization was especially strengthened by her week at FFA State Days in the middle of June, during which time she received her title.

"Everyone there was working so closely together for the same cause," she explains. "It was unbelievable how close we became in that short time."

She expresses a desire to see all of her newly found friends again, sometime, and is certain she will meet a few, at least, in the upcoming months. Her itinerary is quite full. This is only the third year FFA has had a princess, and they plan to use Marcia to a fuller extent in their public relations work this year.

One of the bigger events on her schedule, and one she is looking forward to, is the National FFA Contest in Kansas City in November, where she will be escorted by this year's president, Randy Ranck. Randy and Marcia have been neighbors for years and attended high

school together, so the national event will carry special meaning for both of them.

Some other things she will do as princess are speaking at banquets and participating in fairs.

So now, FFA is going to become a large part of her life. Marcia says it wasn't always that way in the beginning of high school, but her years at Willow Street Vo Tech were instrumental in changing her attitude.

"It's a great experience and a good opportunity to learn a trade," she says speaking of Vo-Tech school. "My second year was really rewarding," she continues.

Floriculture - her specialization - and hor-

ticulture are the two programs in Vo Tech which are part of FFA. This is how she became affiliated with the program which she now represents

Through her two-year course at Vo-Tech she earned her Star Chapter Farmer degree, and was treasurer of her chapter. She also participated in committee work

Her floriculture courses included design, flower arranging, greenhouse work, bookwork, and other necessary skills needed to run a florist business.

Floriculture is one of the careers Marcia may pursue now that she has graduated from Solanco High School. She's already begun the job

by working part-time for her mother, who has a small florist business.

The other career Marcia is considering as a possibility for the future is working with children who need special education.

She should know because she student-taught this type of child at Quarryville Elementary School during high school and found it fulfilling.

Some of her other school related activities were chorus, student senate, and youth education association. And, during her sophomore year, she was treasurer for FFA.

Marcia is also active in the Mechanic Grove Church where she is secretary of the youth group.

In her spare time - which she is going to have a lot of this year - she enjoys delicate artful hobbies. The home is decorated with floral arrangements planted on of sand painting, which Marcia does herself

"I love working with plants the most of all my hobbies," she explains. Crewel work, embroidery, flower arranging, macramé are just a few of the other crafts she enjoys.

Lucky for FFA, Marcia does enjoy plants the most because of this interest, she found themselves a princess who is certain to represent them well in the upcoming year.



Marcia Hess, this year's Pennsylvania FFA Princess, poses before her home in Quarryville. For 12 months she will reign over the state organization of Future Farmers of America and will compete in the national American Royal Queen Contest in Kansas City in November.

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