

Greg sees no clouds on his horizon

By LAURELSCHAEFFER
Staff Correspondent

BERNVILLE — Gregory Koenig, Bernville, is a dedicated 17 year old senior of Tulpehocken High School. He is president of his FFA chapter and a hard working farmer as well.

Like many of his counterparts, Greg has been active in his chapter and on the county level ever since he joined FFA. He has been secretary and vice-president of the Tulpehocken FFA in past years and is now serving as Berks County Treasurer.

Greg has been active in dairy judging and land judging teams, participating in this past year's Summer convention at Penn State as a dairy judging team member, and earning top honors at the county soil judging contest held last year. Of all his experiences in FFA, Greg stated the trip to Penn State was one of the most enjoyable, explaining that the campus and Agricultural Research Centers impressed him a great deal. This year also, when he received his Keystone Farmer Degree.

This young man finds time for all his FFA activities even though he also works full time on a dairy farm, which includes milking every day of the week, morning and evening.

To accomplish this and go to school also, Greg starts every day at 4:45 a.m. getting the feeding and milking finished before he is due at school, and going right to work after classes are over. Farm work is

nothing new to this student. He was raised on a farm and was responsible for feeding the herd for several years while at home.

Greg is presently working with a great-uncle, John Luckenbill, and has hopes of eventually taking over the farm when his uncle retires. Farming has always been Greg's primary interest and is what he is looking forward to once out of school.

"I think people who feel young people can't get started in farming these days are wrong," Greg stated, adding that he thinks it can be done. "There is money to be made in farming," he continued, "if you change with the times and keep an open mind to allow for a needed change." "But," he added, you have to keep at the profitable end.

There doesn't seem to be any phase in dairy farming that this ambitious young man likes better than any other. "I have always liked field work," he explained, "better than working with



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cows until I got more involved with the milking." Now he has more interest in cows and enjoys them as much as the field work.

Greg enjoys the mechanical end of farming also. "I like to see how things work," he smiled. If he wasn't so involved with farming he remarked, he

would like to work in a mechanics shop, learning how to work on Diesel engines.

The ever present problems involving surplus milk in the dairy industry has not dimmed this man's view on farming. "If farmers would

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