

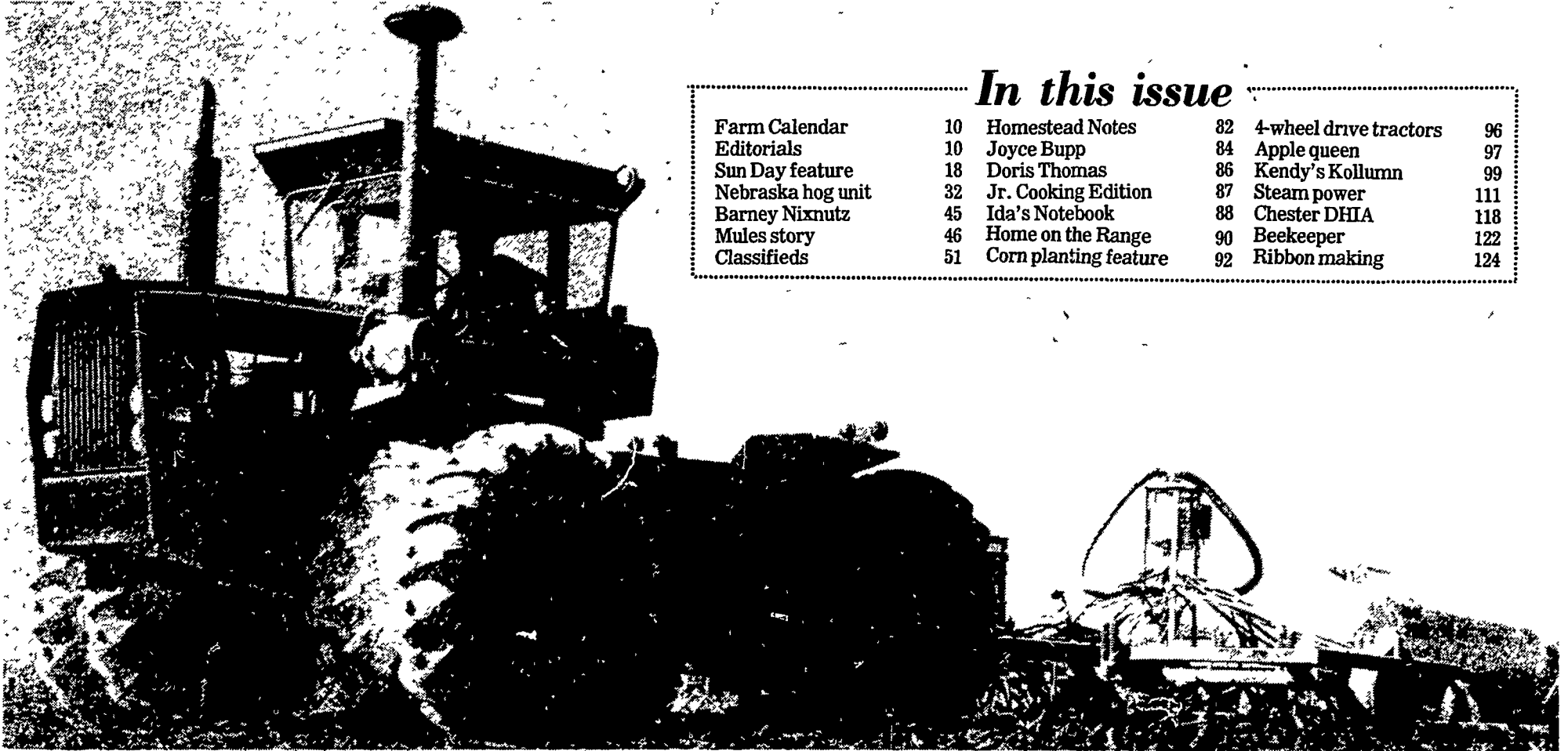
Lancaster Farming

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Throughout the Lancaster Farming area, farmers could be seen working in their fields, preparing the soil and planting crops. Although a survey at the beginning of the week reported dry conditions, the rain that started

Thursday eased the situation. This tractor was seen working in the fields farmed by Don Hoover, near Lawn, in Lebanon County.

Corn planting started, conditions now good

By KENDACE BERRY
LITITZ - "Extremes" is the way one farmer put it when he described the

condition this Spring. "A couple of weeks ago we were all worrying because we thought it might be too wet,"

he explained on Wednesday. "Now it's too dry and dusty and what we need is rain." Farmers were happy to

see the rain which arrived in the area on Thursday. Earlier some of them had been holding back on

planting their corn, hoping rain would come and put some moisture back in the topsoil.

Jay Foreman, Lititz, who does custom fieldwork in both Lebanon and Lancaster

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Beef cattle prices continue escalating trend

LANCASTER - Cattle prices have been moving upward since the beginning of Spring and are continuing to climb. If the trend con-

tinues, some new records may be set.

Nationally, the average for all beef cattle prices for

the month of April advanced an average of \$3.50 per hundredweight to \$47.50. According to USDA statistics, that average price

is the second highest in the history of the cattle business, with the record average having been set in August of 1973 when the peak

reached \$51.70 per hundredweight.

In southeastern Pennsylvania, some auctions are registering prices of more

than \$57 per hundredweight for high choice and prime slaughter steers, compared to \$55 a month ago and \$48 in

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Tractor pulling season is starting again

By DIETER KRIEG

LANCASTER - Tractor pulling contests are pulling

enthusiastic fans to trackside faster and faster each year. Whereas 10 years ago the sport was virtually

unheard of in the East, tractor pulling events are now being scheduled in many Pennsylvania coun-

ties, as well as other states and even other countries.

The tractor season for 1978.

Pennsylvania's 1978 tractor pulling season has already begun. It began yesterday with a pulling

event near Chambersburg. Tomorrow (Sunday) activities get underway at

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Gloomy, cold weather has orchardists on thin ice

By JOANNE SPAHR
LITITZ - Growers report that this week's early morning freezing temperatures

did an undetermined amount of damage to fruit crops in Lancaster Farming's coverage area, and at least

one orchardist is concerned for the days ahead with their gloomy, rainy, cold weather forecasts.

Donald Haas, owner of Overlook Orchards, Inc., Copley, in Lehigh County, is typical of most fruit growers

contacted this week. Monday morning's mid-twenties temperatures created concern in his mind and has

him wondering how much of his crop was lost.

"I can't ascertain the (Turn to Page 15)

Solanco FFA land judges are fifth, nationally

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. - Solanco High School's FFA Chapter - perennially a powerhouse in land judging competition - is bringing back unprecedented honors this weekend after having placed fifth in the nation in an international FFA land judging contest.

Coached by Dr. William Fredd, the team consisted of Doug Hershberger, Tina Bucher, David Holzhauser,

Dwayne Pifer, Steve Herr, Margo Armstrong, and Sam Long. Hershberger placed second nationally in individual competition. Betty Trimble of Holtwood placed third.

Held here at the Oklahoma City Fairgrounds during the middle of this week, the contest had more than 950 entrants from 32 states. The fifth place taken by Solanco is the highest placing a

Pennsylvania team has ever received. Led by Doug Hershberger, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hershberger, Quarryville, the team and coach received their awards at a banquet held here on Thursday night. Hershberger, a junior, was high individual in the state a year ago.

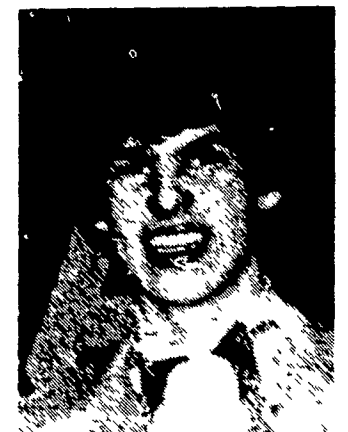
In addition to the school's FFA team, Solanco had a second team - their Red

Rose team - entered in the contest. That team, which placed first in Lancaster County, a week ago, did not place within the top 10.

Also going to the contest was a Pennsylvania FFA team consisting of Sam Long, Solanco; Gerald Martin, New Holland; and Marty Hoover and Willard Good, both from Ephrata.



Betty Trimble



Doug Hershberger