

Dover FFA'er plans a future with dairy cows

By JOYCE BUYP
Staff Writer

DOVER—With no agriculture courses available in his home area school district, Nelson Brenneman, Jr. opted to transfer to the Dover High School for his ag training. Now a senior, and aiming at a career in dairy farming, Brenneman is heading up the Dover's Future Farmers of America chapter as their president.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Brenneman, Spring Grove Rd, the FFA'er is the oldest of six children. At 18, Nelson has been helping with the family farming operation for many years.

About 500 acres are included in the Brenneman's cropping program, with plantings in corn, hay, small grains and pasture. The barn houses a 46-head milking herd of Holsteins, and production goes to Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative.

With 30 acres rented near the home farm, Nelson farms his FFA project crops in corn, oats and hay. He also owns the beginning of a dairy herd, headed by his 3-yr.-old registered Holstein, a Harrisburg Gay Ideal daughter, which finished her first lactation with a 13,400-pound milk total. Growing

and their place in his milking string are five other registered and two grade heifers.

Rounding out his farming investment is a 730 John Deere tractor and 4-bottom plow and a bale wagon.

Being elected president of the chapter was just one more step up the ladder in FFA offices and awards for the Dover senior. Nelson won the county parliamentarian seat last year and has served as the chapter sentinel.

In his fourth year of Future Farmer membership, he's been awarded

recognition in crop and dairy production, earned his chapter degree and the star greenhand award. His flair for salesmanship has earned Nelson honors as both high seed and citrus salesman.

At Penn State competition last June, Nelson competed at state levels with the York County FFA land judging team. He competed in York Fair tractor driving contests, and helped to organize the chapter's exhibit at the York Fair, which included an award winning honey entry from the Brenneman farm.

Nelson's interest in

beekeeping came from his parents, who maintain ten hives on the property. As a member of the county beekeepers' club, he takes part in educational meetings and exhibits.

A York County 4-H'er, Nelson is in his fourth year of tractor club project work and has been involved in the beekeeping club as well.

"I like the idea of being my own boss," reflected Nelson on his reasons for choosing an agriculture career. Following graduation in June, he plans to join his father in the farming operation, with the dream

someday of owning his own farm.

Because Nelson enjoys working with a herd of cows,

as well as the field work necessary to feed the cattle, he intends to stick with dairying.



Heading up the Dover FFA chapter are, front from the left, Brad Shoemaker, treasurer, Nelson Brenneman, Jr., president, and Randy Montag, parliamentarian; back row includes advisors Richard Coons, John Traver, and Robert Armstrong, secretary.

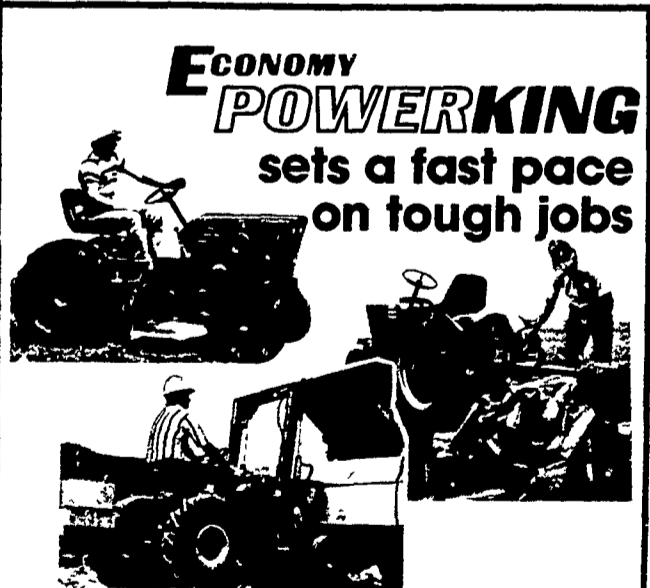
Camping workshop planned

NORRISTOWN - Spring is in the air and its time to plan for Summer vacations. If one has ever considered a camping vacation or using a recreational vehicle, there is a workshop planned for them. The workshop will include information for the new and not so new camping family.

There will be information on selecting a vehicle, equipment, canvas mending,

tips on foods, safe trailer hitches and much more.

The program will be on March 8 from 9 to 12 a.m. with a repeat from 7 to 9 p.m. A collection of recreational vehicles and equipment displays and demonstrations will be available from noon to 9 p.m. at the Montgomery Co. 4-H Center, Snyder Road, Lansdale. Food will be available. Everyone is welcome.



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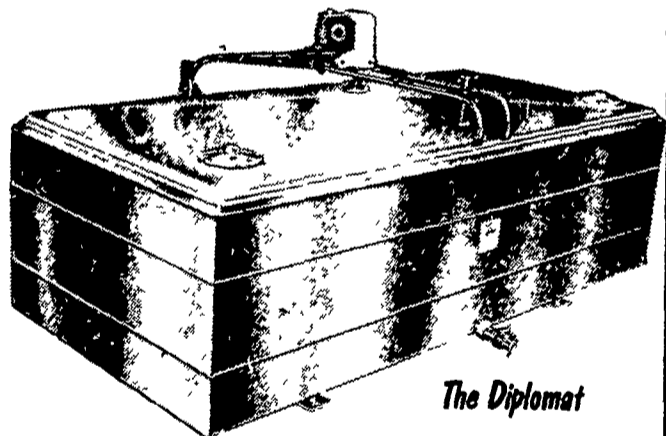
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Mon, Thurs, Fri 9:00 to 2:00 and 4:00 to 9:00
Tues, Sat. 9:00 to 12:00



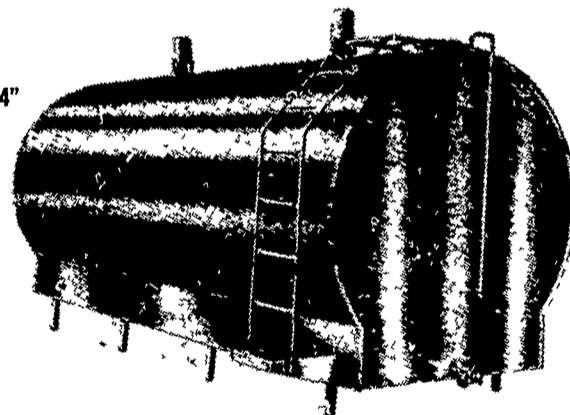
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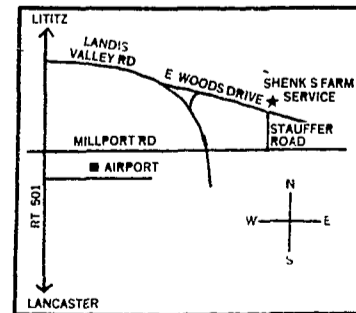


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