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Farmers have a good year at hand, Pennsylvania bankers are told

By DIETER KRIEG

UNIVERSITY PARK — More than 100 representatives from banks throughout Pennsylvania were given an optimistic farming report here on Thursday.

Livestock and poultry farmers are in an especially enviable position, the bankers were told, although sharp management and cautious expansion are still the watchwords. At any rate, Pennsylvania farmers supposedly have an opportunity before them which will mean increased business for both the agriculture and banking industries. While various factors contribute to the good outlook, the state's close proximity to markets is a major consideration.

Speaking specifically about poultry and hog production, Robert Graybill, president of Pennfield Corporation, said: "The potential for substantial growth is here right now. We are in the position to increase our state's share of the Northeast regional market at a time when farming within that region is falling well short of meeting the demand for several key feedstuffs, and our farmers can undertake establishment or expansion of their operations in poultry and hogs with confidence in their ability to succeed, thanks largely to recent developments in farm science and technology which have significantly in-

creased the efficiency and potential profit of such operations.

"The only ingredient missing from this scenario is the financial aid needed to get today's hard-working, dedicated Pennsylvania farmers on the track and headed in the right direction. And that, my friends, is where you come in," Graybill challenged.

The dairy outlook is also favorable for the remainder of the year, according to Penn State's dairy marketing specialist Bill Johnstone. Emphasizing that there is a delicate balance today between supplies and demand, he nonetheless predicted good dairy quarters for the remainder of the year.

"For the past several years Pennsylvania has taken a bigger share of the national market. We're within the top five milk producing states in the nation," he said. Growth will continue, he predicted, but it will most likely be only in those counties which have shown expansion in previous years. That's been the case in the past, he pointed out. His main concern is that dairymen expand cautiously so as not to disrupt the delicate balance between production and consumption. Additionally, he has the caution flag up for dairy imports and some milk cooperatives' financial burdens.

(Turn to Page 36)

Farm & Home scholarships awarded to 14 Lancaster County students

By SALLY BAIR
Staff Writer

LANCASTER — Fourteen scholarships worth \$650 each were awarded to deserving high school seniors by the Farm and Home Foundation at their regular meeting Tuesday at the Farm and Home Center.

The fourteen winners were selected from among 34 qualified applicants for the awards, which are given on the basis of financial need, scholarship and leadership. The scholarships must be used at an accredited college and are awarded in agricultural, home economics and nursing.

Winners were presented to the Board of Directors and a reception was held for Board members and scholarship winners to get acquainted.

Those receiving scholarships for study in the field of home economics include:

Lani Jo Benjamin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

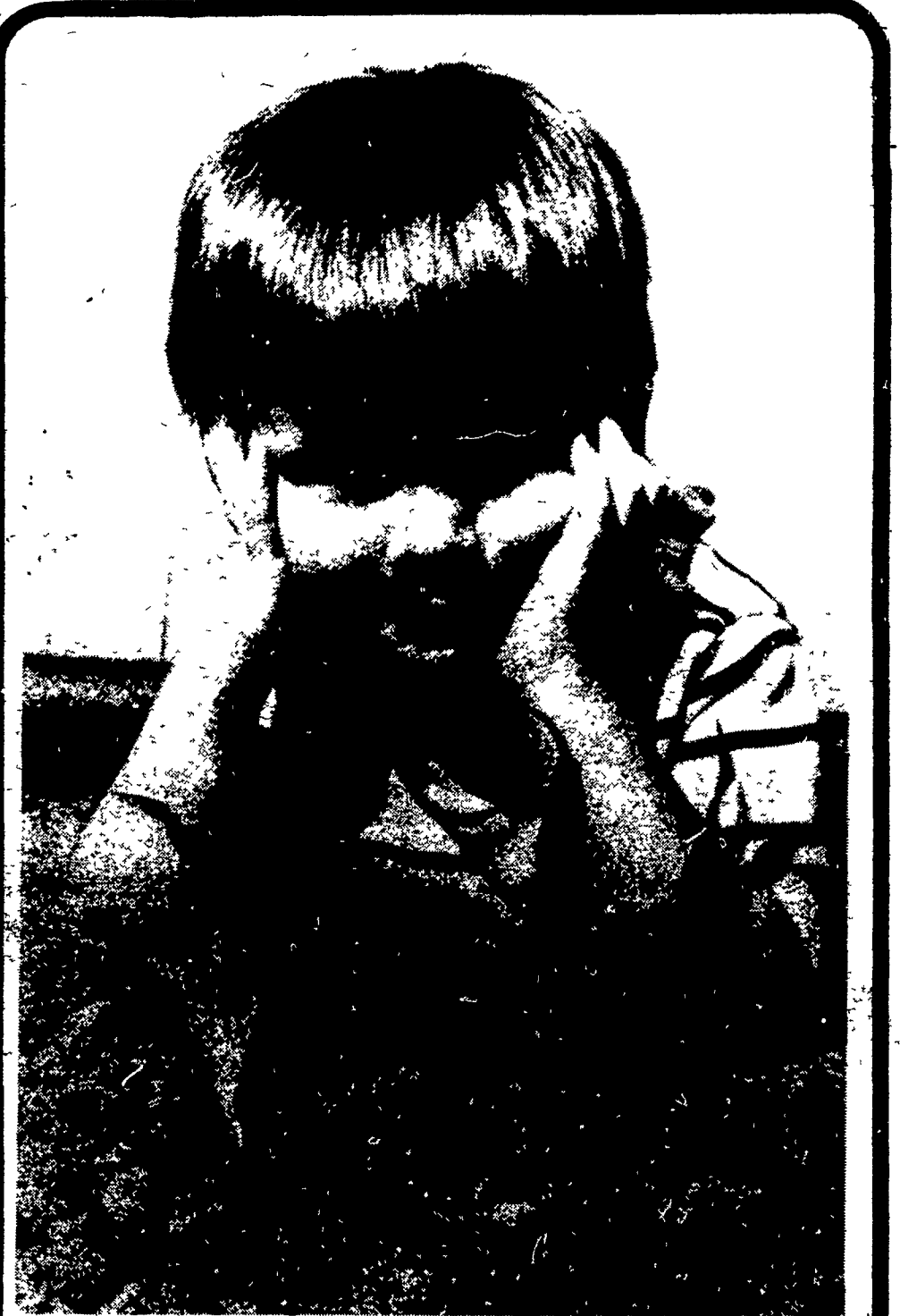
Arthur F. Benjamin, Jr., 1153 Old Eagle Road, Lancaster. Eighteen-year-old Lani will graduate from Hempfield High School in June and will attend Virginia Institute of Technology and State University to study interior design. Lani said she is interested in design because "we moved a lot and I got to help decorate each house. My grandmother is a professional artist and my mother is an artist and I have some ability from them." Lani is a member of the National Honor Society, captain of the varsity tennis team, a member of the steering committee at school and a member of the church youth group at Highland Presbyterian Church. When notified of the scholarship, she said, "I couldn't believe it — it was great."

Kristie Lynn Kelly is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kelly, 423 Trena Avenue, Lancaster, and will graduate from Manheim

Township High School. Kristie, 18, will attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania and major in food service management. "I like working with foods and cooking, and would like to be a researcher." Kristie is getting experience in her proposed field by working at MacDonald's. In high school she participated in hockey and girls basketball as a manager and timer, is a member of the National Honor Society and the Tri-Hi-Y service club. She also attends the youth group at Highland Presbyterian Church. Kristie said, "I was really happy to get the scholarship. And I was surprised."

Christine M. Weidinger, 17, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weidinger, 244 Hawthorne Drive, Lancaster. Graduating from Penn Manor High School, Christine will attend Mansfield State College where

(Turn to Page 26)



Lancaster Farming photo by Dieter Krieg

Three-year old Jeffrey Balmer contemplates at an early age what wonders are contained in the soil. This is Soil Stewardship Week, a time set aside to become more aware of the land that feeds us. Jeffrey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Balmer, 572 Millway Road, Lititz.

May 20 to 27 is Soil Stewardship Week

By KENDACE BORRY

LANCASTER — "We basically have two types of landowners, the 'takers' and the 'caretakers,'" Tom Johnston, administrator for the Lancaster County Conservation District, commented.

"The 'taker' can be characterized as looking at a natural resource with a dollar and cents attitude, and exploits the resource during his lifetime with little regard for future generations," he continued.

"The 'caretaker' on the other hand, stops to reflect on how he is managing his resources so that the land is left in a better condition than he found it."

"Many of the soils of Lancaster County have been severely eroded in the past 200-odd years of cultivation," Johnston further stated. "We are currently losing farmland at a rate of 7,000 acres per year to non-

farm use. Our streams are heavily polluted by agricultural, industrial, and municipal wastes. Nuclear wastes are to be stored for thousands of years along Lancaster County's borders."

"Let's stop to assess our situation before it is too late," he urged. "Become active caretakers or stewards of our natural resources and impress upon the 'takers' the folly of personal gain in this generation at the expense of depleted resources for future generations."

May 20 to 27 is Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance emphasizing man's responsibility to protect and conserve soil, water, and other natural resources. This year's theme is "Interdependence."

"Soil Stewardship Week is one way to appeal to a person's interest in the future,"

(Turn to Page 32)

In this issue

Farm Calendar	10	Homestead Notes	52	Dauphin DDEA	111
Sheep and wool festival	15	Jr. Cooking Edition	54	FFA land judges	114
Poultry feature	20	Joyce Bopp	57	Farm exports	119
Beef and hog outlook	33	Home on the Range	58	Lancaster DDEA	124
Dairy outlook	34	Kandy's Kolumn	62	Soil Stewardship Week	133
Farm exports	36	Ida's Notebook	64	N.E. poultry conference	143