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Tammy Lefever, 19, is Pennsylvania's new FFA Princess. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lefever, Strasburg, and a 1978 graduate of the Willow Street Vo-Tech School.

Southeastern schools win most state FFA contests

By DIETER KRIEG
UNIVERSITY PARK — In what might be called the Olympics of the Pennsylvania FFA, the best vocational students from all across the state gathered here this week to compete for "gold", "silver", and "bronze" medals. It was FFA Activities Week, the annual climax of 23 FFA contests. Some 1700 students took part. A few perennial powerhouse schools ran away with more than an average share of winnings. The most victorious FFA chapters were in southeastern Pennsylvania, particularly Lancaster County. Additional glory came to Garden Spot when 19-

year old Tammy Lefever was named State FFA Princess. She graduated from the Willow Street Vo-Tech school a year ago and will be attending Penn State University this Fall to study landscaping. The daughter of Paul and Lucille Lefever, Strasburg, Princess Tammy won first place in an ornamental landscaping contest at last year's FFA Activities Week.

Following is a rundown of how the contests went:

Dairy Cattle Judging
Box Fox of Ephrata was high man in this contest, which had more than 190 FFA'ers entered. Second place went to Ken Arnold of the ELCO FFA Chapter, Myerstown. Doug Her-

shberger of Solanco was third and Alan Wayright of Gettysburg placed fourth.

Fifth high individual in the dairy cattle judging contest was Dale Eby of the Octorara Chapter, while Nancy Stephens of Newport was sixth. Seventh was Steve Shaw from Oley Valley, followed by Susan Kulp from the Owen J. Roberts Chapter, Chester County, and Tim Peachey of Huntingdon.

Tenth place went to Dale Keen from O.J. Roberts High School. Bernie Hostetter from Oxford was 11th, while Charles Hayes, also from Oxford, placed right behind him. York Countian, Barbara Kilgore, (Turn to Page 24)

Slaughter steer prices rally after last week's slump

By KENDACE BORRY
LITITZ — Slaughter steer prices which slid \$3.50 to 5.00 lower last week in Lancaster County markets rallied at the beginning of the week only to drop Wednesday at the Lancaster Stockyards, and remain fully steady on Thursday at the New Holland Sales Stables auction, according to reports received from the USDA.

Nationwide this week the USDA reported 468,000 cattle slaughtered compared to 482,000 last week and 541,000 a year ago.

At the Lancaster

Stockyards on Monday of this week, compared to the previous Wednesday, slaughter steers were \$2.00 to \$3.00 higher, although the standard and good Holsteins were mostly steady. High choice and Prime, yield grade 3 to 4 steers weighing 1075 to 1425 pounds brought 70.35 to 72.10 per hundredweight; with a load of yield grade 4 to 5 at 1360 to 1480 pounds selling for 67.60 to 68.50. Choice, mainly yield grade 2, 1150 to 1525 sold for 70.75 to 72.25; choice yield grade 2 to 4 at 1000 to 1425 pounds brought 68.50 to 71.10.

There were 991 cattle reported at market, with the supply being 84 per cent slaughter steers. The previous Monday 1357 cattle were reported, compared to 1408 a year ago.

At the Vintage Livestock market on Tuesday, compared to the previous Tuesday, slaughter steers were \$1.50 to 2.00 higher. High choice and Prime, yield grade 3 to 4 at 1075 to 1325 pounds sold for \$70.75 to 72.75 per hundredweight, with a few lots of yield grade 4 to 5 at 1350 to 1430 pounds.

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Recent rains take toll of region's first hay cutting

By KENDACE BORRY
LITITZ — The rainy weather that plagued southeastern Pa. has taken its toll of the first cutting of the alfalfa and mixed hay crop. Some farmers labelled their fields as a "total loss".

Lancaster County Extension Agent Max Smith remarked that he thought that the first cutting of hay would be one of the greatest losses in memory, and it was all due to the weather, he said.

"A considerable percentage was lost," he stated. "Perhaps 15 to 20 per cent

was damaged or destroyed and they could have gotten to it with hay rotting a week ago.

depreciating in the fields.

Farmers reported that the hay that had been cut between rainy days lay in the fields until it rotted, and they could only watch it happen, having no other choice. And those with hay still standing, which they are now busily mowing and harvesting in this week's sunny weather, report that it has lost much of its feed value due to its total maturity—they said that it isn't worth near as much as it would have been

There was a report of a farmer being so unhappy with his hay that he simply lodged it up on a manure spreader and spread it on a field that was to be plowed, while another told that he plowed his alfalfa under, giving up on getting the first cutting that he had hoped for, before planting another crop.

Spokesmen for the local hay markets noted that so far there have been few loads of new hay sold on the

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Berks County holds first Agricultural Exposition

By DIETER KRIEG
READING — Berks County farmers, agribusinesses, and others interested in agriculture held their first-ever Agricultural Exposition here all this week which drew enthusiastic responses from sponsors, organizers, and visitors. Among the dignitaries on hand for the opening ceremonies on Monday were Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell and Deputy Secretary Chet Heim.

The Berks County

Agricultural Exposition, which concludes tonight with the coronation of a new dairy princess, has been going on all week at the Berkshire Mall. Exhibits of the County's agriculture and allied industries and agencies were set up throughout the modern, indoor shopping center.

The effort drew praise and congratulations from numerous visitors and official representatives such as Hallowell and Heim. It was noted that such promotional efforts are in line with the Pennsylvania

Agriculture Department's desire to bring the state's farm products closer to the forefront in the market places of the Northeast.

Although Secretary Hallowell had a conflict in his schedule and could not remain at the Mall for a special dinner, the Department was represented by Heim.

Heim said that farming is "too often talked about by ourselves." Noting that agriculture is the second biggest industry in the state and that its importance is

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