



Harold Herr farms without his legs

By DIETER KRIEG

KIRKWOOD — Harold Herr, 62, lost both of his legs in a corn picker seven years ago, but hasn't missed a corn harvest since. "I don't want to just sit around here and twiddle my thumbs," says the stong-bodied and strong-willed man. "Some people might say that I should be sitting in a corner somewhere, content to read magazines, but I'm just not made up that way."

The southern Lancaster Countian loves to farm too much to give it up. There are six tractors on the farm and five of them are equipped with hand controls for his use. Besides doing most of the field work on the two adjoining farms, which encompass a total of 250 tillable acres, Herr also works extensively in a garden which is nearly a half acre in size.

Admitting that he wouldn't have to work, the southern Lancaster County farmer leaves no doubt that he wants to. He's in partnership with his son, Karl, and appreciates the opportunity to remain active.

The Kirkwood area resident is strong in body, mind, and spirit, despite the loss of his legs. They were pulled into a corn picker on Nov. 24, 1972 and mutilated. It took an hour before he was rescued.

Although Herr is basically self-sufficient with his needs, he acknowledges appreciatively the help he receives from his wife, family, friends, and neighbors. Above all, he confesses his dependence on the Almighty. "this has been a tremendous help," he affirmed.

Mr. Herr's own testimony of the accident, his outlook, and faith appears on page 10.

Herr leaves no indication that he feels sorry for himself, nor that he is bitter. Neither does he wonder why it happened. The accident crushed his legs, but not his spirit. Rather than feel sorry for himself, he is instead highly sympathetic to those who have suffered severe accidents early in life. He is thankful that he had 56 years of life with both of his legs intact. "I've had my best years," he stated. "If a man doesn't do something in the first 56 years of his life, then he better not overdo it during the remaining years," he said. "But for a younger person..."

Herr emphasizes that people not take chances, and he knows that it's advice that is heard many, many times. He always considered himself to be a careful man. But he left himself open for disaster one fateful day, he says.

The gathering chains on one side of his 2-row corn picker stopped operating, he recollected. He shut the machine off and began to inspect the machine. He found no sign of the cause. Then he engaged the machine at low speed and looked around some more. He had no intention of touching the moving parts. He was simply giving it a visual inspection.

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Harold Herr, a southern Lancaster County farmer, has no legs, but that doesn't stop him from farming.

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Lancaster District Holstein Show

Frey has grand champion, Stoltzfus wins purple banners

By DIETER KRIEG

QUARRYVILLE — J. Mowery Frey, owner of Fultonway Farms, Willow Street, exhibited the grand champion at the Lancaster District Holstein Show on Thursday. It was the first time since 1973 that a Fultonway cow won the title. Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor titles went to Nathan Stoltzfus of Gap R2.

Judge Pete Blodgett chose Frey's 2-year old, Fultonway Elevation Fancy, over a 3-year old owned by Robert Kauffman of Elizabethtown. He commented that he didn't usually pick 2-year olds as grand champions, but that the Frey animal simply showed too much excellence to be overlooked. He described her as a clean, well balanced, lean-necked cow which excelled in frame and scale. The animal is sired by Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation and is out of Plushanski Fern Fultonway.

In winning the grand champion Holstein title for 1979, Frey snapped the four-year winning streak of Robert Kauffman. The well-known Holstein breeder from Elizabethtown had won the grand champion title every year since 1975, with three of those championship rosettes coming on the strength of his famous Andfar Astronaut Cinderella. He sold the animal in the Curtiss Classic Sale last Fall.

Kauffman's reserve grand champion for 1979 is out of Cinderella, and sired by Irvington Pride Admiral.

Although J. Mowery Frey had five "drought years" between grand champions, (Maurice Welk of Quarryville won in 1974) he was never out of the running, except possibly 1976. He captured one of the top banners last year when he was named Premier Breeder. In 1977 he was named both Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor. In 1975 he was Premier Exhibitor, and for the two years before that he captured both the Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor Banners.

Nathan Stoltzfus, winner of both purple banners for 1979, has a winning tradition as well. It is the second time he was named Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor at this show. He did so previously in 1976. Last year he won the Premier Exhibitor honor.

The junior champion at this year's show was exhibited by Chief Associates, a group of Lancaster County Holstein breeders. Their top entry Son-to-Son Chief Lispe, is a junior yearling sired by Marlu Perseus Chief.

Bob Kauffman of Elizabethtown

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Fultonway Elevation Fancy, bred, owned and exhibited by J. Mowery Frey of Willow Street, is the grand champion of the 1979 Lancaster District Holstein Show.