

## Penn National Horse Show hosts Mounties

HARRISBURG — The doors of the farm show building in Harrisburg swung open on October 12, to welcome the start of the 34th annual Penn National Horse Show. Over one thousand horses and riders competed in this nine day event, during which time, over \$60,000 dollars in prize money and trophies were awarded.

The Penn National Horse Show first was held in 1946, immediately after World War II. The show started as only a four day event, but as interest and participation grew, the show was expanded to its present arrangement.

During the period from 1948 to 1972, the international teams competed at the Harrisburg show. This year, the show featured the precision and skill of the

Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Thirty-two Mounties, dressed in the traditional red coat and "Smokey-bear" hats, rode their black horses through difficult figures and maneuvers. The spectacle was performed to music, and culminated in a "charge" across the arena floor. The Mounties were complete with battle lances, which they twirled with great skill. The "Musical Ride" was first performed in 1876.

The Penn National Show featured a wide variety of events for the exhibitors. There were several major divisions: Hunter, Jumper, American Saddle Horse, Tennessee Walking Horse, and Hackney and Harness Pony. This was the first year for the pony divisions. Other divisions included Roadster Pony and Equitation.

The show built to a Saturday climax with the \$10,000 Grand Prix de Penn National. This has been an annual event since 1972. Only horses who had entered and shown in two other classes within the open jumping division were entered. This was the most difficult jumping competition at the show.

A minimum of 16 hurdles, including one double and one triple, had to be cleared in this event. The course was designed by Frank D. Chapot, former captain of the U.S. Olympic Show Jumping Team. Chapot also designed the jumping courses for all the previous classes.

Some of the best horses and riders in the country competed in this point show. Entries came from all over the United States, as well as from Canada and Venezuela. Top national riders, like Rodney Jenkins, Harry de Leyer, and Hugh Mutch competed.

From Lancaster and surrounding counties, exhibitors included: Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Boyd, Lancaster; Symbol Acre Farm, Lancaster; Pamela Graybill, Lititz; J. Larry Hollinger, Lititz; Julie Meiskey, Lititz; Babsi Neidhardt, Lititz; Mr. Rick Patt, Leola; Peterson-Glazier, Lancaster; Ms. Jean Ramsay, Lancaster; Claire Ricci, Emmaus; Mary Seward, Elizabethtown; Jill Todd, Lititz; Marsha Tome, Red Lion; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Welkowitz, Lancaster; Mr. and Mrs. Ron Wise, Lancaster; C.G. Sweigart, Denver; Judy

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Never before did this lady taste such an eye opening mixture as Gold Strike, a raw-egg based breakfast drink offered by Cynthia Hilsher, Lancaster County's alternate poultry queen.

## County farmers inform their city cousins

BY DEBRA STRICKLER  
LANCASTER — Seeking improvements in farm-city relationships, the Lancaster County Farmers' Association sponsored Farm-City week at Park City this week. Each mall features a particular agriculture commodity.

A major Lancaster County industry, poultry, is featured in the Gimbels Mall. Lancaster County's alternate poultry queen, Cynthia Hilsher, was on hand to prepare and distribute Gold Strike, a breakfast drink. The drink is easily prepared in a blender using one egg, orange juice, and honey. It provides a hearty breakfast that uses nourishing eggs in a refreshing way.

Live chickens are hatched every day for the admiration of all. The Omelet King was a feature on Wednesday evening, with the staff at Weaver's promoting omelets, turkey ham, other poultry products every evening.

The dairy industry is featured in the Sears Mall with a cow capturing the attention of young and old. The word of a cow about to be milked spreads and a large crowd soon appears. Young children offer mixed reaction; some cry with fear while others reach in to pet the animal. Local dairyman supply cows through out the week.

The children all enjoy the miniature golf course sup-

plied by the Middle Atlantic Dairy Association.

The Porkettes, the ladies auxiliary of the Pork Producers, advertises the success of the porcine heart valve in humans. The auxiliary has conducted a fund drive for future research at Hershey Medical Center and St. Christopher's Hospital in Philadelphia.

Local FFA chapters have constructed exhibits on land use and soil conservation in the Penney's Mall.

For people who are not aware of machinery costs, the Watt and Shand's mall includes various sizes of farm equipments with cost analysis provided for each tractor. Free miniature farm equipment supplied by area dealers will be given away.

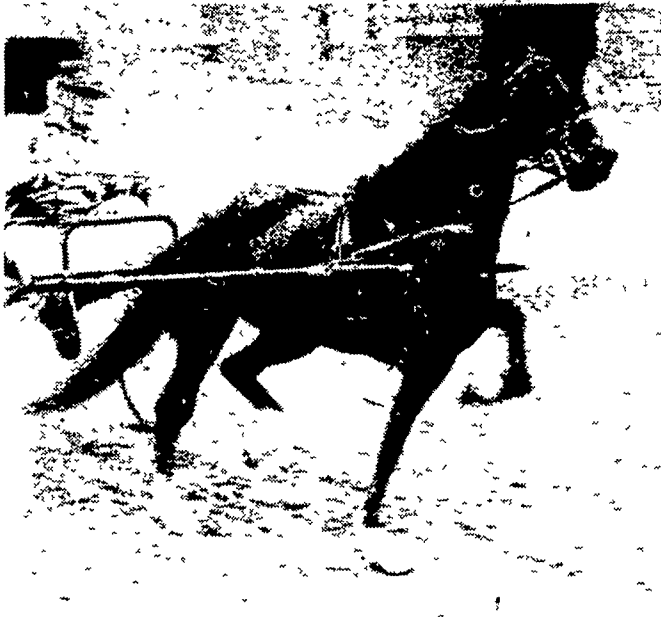
According to Helen Wivell, information director, Farm-City week at Park City is a "public relations feat." "It is an annual affair because it is important for people to keep current with the farming industry," she added.

The steering committee for the week included Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Brenneman, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Newcomer, president of Lancaster County Farmers' Association. There were chairmen for each commodity.

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Gib Marcucci, of Monmouth, Iowa, works his world champion road pony mare, Black Magic before the Wednesday afternoon roadster class.

### No public safety hazard

## Show alarm system too sensitive to use

BY CURT HARLER  
HARRISBURG—Quite a cloud of dust has been raised over the Farm Show smoke alarm system. And it's all due to a cloud of dust.

As part of the \$6.5 million renovation to bring the Farm Show Complex into compliance with the state's Fire and Panic Code, 92 smoke detectors were installed in the building.

But at last week's horse show the smoke detectors were turned off. They will be off at the hardware show held at the Farm Show Complex this week. And they probably will not be on for the big Farm Show in January.

The problem, explains

Farm Show Director Hugh M. Coffman, is the detectors work too well.

Every time a cow or horse passes below one of the smoke detectors, the sensor sets off a false alarm. Even opening a box or carton covered with normal storage dust will set an alarm off.

Smoke detectors work on an electric eye principle. When a particle of smoke (or dust) passes the eye, the alarm sounds. And cows raise dust.

As a result, the smoke detection system in the Farm Show has been turned off.

There is no danger to public safety since the smoke alarm system is only

an auxiliary. Several hundred heat detectors and a sprinkler head system are fully functional at the Farm Show.

The smoke alarm system was installed at the Complex over the protests of former Farm Show Director Wellington Smith and against the best recommendation of the Harrisburg area firm which installed the system.

Farm Show officials found that the smoke alarm system could set off false alarms from almost any one of the conditions which often prevail at the Farm Show.

A cow walking past one of the alarms kicks up more than enough dust to trigger

the sensitive mechanism in the smoke detector.

The smoke from a tractor or other vehicle being moved onto the exhibit floor will set the alarms off.

Even the small amount of dust raised from a pile of straw or opening a box full of samples can be enough to set off an alarm.

The decision to install the smoke alarm system was made before Coffman took over as Farm Show director.

But his predecessor, Wellington Smith, was opposed to the action.

"I'm not a professional engineer," he said. "All I could was object—and I did object."

The Department of