

Monica Allebach crowned for second year

BY SHEILA MILLER
HARRISBURG — For the second year in a row, Monica Allebach, a petite fourteen year old from Centre County, was selected as the Pennsylvania Draft Horse and Mule Association queen.

During ceremonies at the Wednesday evening Farm Machinery and Horse Pullers banquet, Connie Harness, the former Miss Pennsylvania, placed the sparkling crown on Monica's head to begin her second year's reign.

Talking to people about the draft horse and mule industry comes naturally for Monica because she was raised around the big animals. She recalled when she was about eight years

old she was on the wagon seat with her father, Abe, and he handed her the lines and said "drive." At the time, Monica said she thinks she weighed about eighty pounds. Now, at one hundred pounds, she smiles when asked if she was ever afraid to handle the drafts that easily weigh in at a ton.

"I know those horses so well, I've been around them so long. They are really very docile," she said.

Monica helps to show the huge drafts at halter, along with her parents, Abe and Mary, and her two brothers, Gerald, 16, and Rodney, 22.

The Allebachs raise Percherons, with about 10 head at the present time. Monica said the family also

keeps about nine light horses for riding. The big drafts are used to give hay rides, she added.

Along with their horses, the Allebachs milk 65 head of Holsteins on their dairy farm. And, Monica raises canaries as a hobby and small business.

"Right now I have six canaries, two females and four males, and a nest of three eggs," she said. Monica explained canaries aren't as hard to raise as most people think. She said they are not fragile and can take cold temperatures. What they can't take are fluctuations in temperature.

She said she makes the birds' nests out of food strainers that she cuts the handles from and wires the

strainers to the bird cages. Then she tears up burlap and puts it on the cage floor. Soon, the birds take the strings and begin to build nests, she added.

Monica has been raising canaries for a year, having gotten her first pair last Christmas. She laughed, and said, "Most people think I'm crazy when I tell them I raise canaries."

During her first year as the Horse and Mule queen, Monica travelled to various local fairs and the National at Columbus, Ohio. She said her teachers have gotten used to her asking for time off to attend fairs and parades, and the week-long Farm Show. "They're very understanding, even the



Monica Allebach will serve the Draft Horse and Mule Association as their queen for 1980.

Decker shows grand champion stallion

HARRISBURG — This year's Farm Machinery Exposition marked the first time in the show's history for a draft horse and mule show. The two year old show previously had only the draft horse and mule pulling competitions.

With slightly over twenty entries in the show's debut, the draft horse and mule people turned out with some of their best stock.

Robert W. Decker, Garrett, exhibited the senior champion stallion in the

Belgian class. Decker's six-year-old stallion, Master's General, went on to be tagged the grand champion stallion of the show.

A March 30, 1979 foal, shown by Charles B. Lindsay of Greencastle, was chosen junior champion stallion by judge Vernon Claypool, from Indiana, Pa. The colt, Sam Farceur, was the high placing animal in his class of yearlings.

The grand champion mare in the Belgian show was Orndorff's Roan Donna, a

fourteen-year-old owned by J. E. Zinn, Newville. Zinn also exhibited the top grade Belgian mare, Patsy, who is fourteen-years-old too.

Belgian Stallions
Senior Class

1. R. W. Decker, senior and grand champion.

Yearling Class

1. Charles B. Lindsay, junior champion; 2. Allen S. Smith, Hollidaysburg; 3. Charles B. Lindsay; 4. Everett G. Wagner, Chambersburg; 5. Allen S. Smith; 6. R. W. Decker.

Belgian Mares

1. J. E. Zinn, grand champion; 2. Jacob L. Kanagy, Belleville.

Grade Mares

1. J. E. Zinn; 2. R. W. Decker; 3. R. W. Decker.

Geldings
All-Breeds

1. Howard F. Streaker, grand champion, Percheron; 2. Howard F. Streaker, Percheron; 3. R. W. Decker, Belgian; 4. Tom and Peggy Metcalf, Camden, N.Y., Clydesdale; 5. Tom and Peggy Metcalf, Clydesdale.



Master's General, the grand champion Belgian stallion at the Equipment Expo, was exhibited by R. W. Decker, Garrett.

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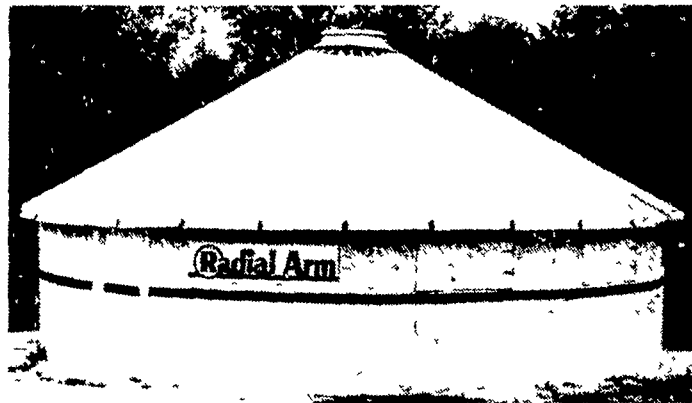
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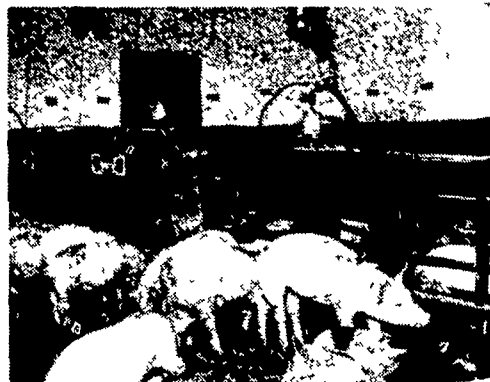
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