

# Birth of twins marks goat debut at Expo

**BY PAT KAUFFMAN**  
**HARRISBURG** — What do one letter, one man and one legislator equal? Goats at the Expo.

Snugly bedded down in the West Wing of the Farm Show Complex, 43 head of goats representing all five breeds, made their debut.

While the animals themselves were contentedly munching hay in the spacious blue pens, their owners spent time talking goats and explaining to bystanders how they came to be included in the Expo this year.

According to Sally Rehrig, it all started at the monthly meeting of the Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Association in January. Members discussed the absence of goats at the State Farm Show and what they could do to correct it.

A decision was made by some of the club members present that the most effective method of obtaining

space for their animals was a letter-writing campaign to their legislators.

As is typical with all good ideas, the time between outset of idea and actual practice tends to grow. Thus, it was approximately two weeks or around the beginning of February before Sally's husband, Ed, got around to writing his letter.

To everyone's amazement, only three business days passed before the Rehrig's received a call from officials of the Expo.

Furthermore, while the club's initial aim had been to include the goats in the State Farm Show, officials convinced them that the most direct route to that objective was to sponsor a show at this year's Expo, thereby getting their foot in the door.

The club then found themselves with the dilemma of organizing a showing before Expo and

between monthly meetings of their club.

After many phone calls, officers established two facts. First, that time would not permit organizing a show. And second, that sufficient numbers of club members were willing to move quickly to permit them to set up a display.

Three facets of the club's exhibit elicited the greatest public response.

The first was the birth of two kids on Thursday which drew an audience of approximately 50 on-lookers.

The second was the LaMancha goats which are born without external ears.

And the third was the goat milk products available for purchase.

Sherry Moyer, editor of the club's newsletter Goat Notes, explained the suspense around the pen during the birth of the kids was so great that nearly all sales of products ceased. However, once the kids were safely delivered and the tension eased, a real run on the ice cream supply occurred.

Available to hungry Expo goers were cottage cheese, hard cheese, two flavors of fudge, and three flavors of ice cream.

While the flow of visitors was a disappointment to the club members, sales seemed proportionately high. And all emphasized that customers often made repeat purchases.

Asked about their schedules during the Expo stay, all emphatically agreed they'd like to do it again.

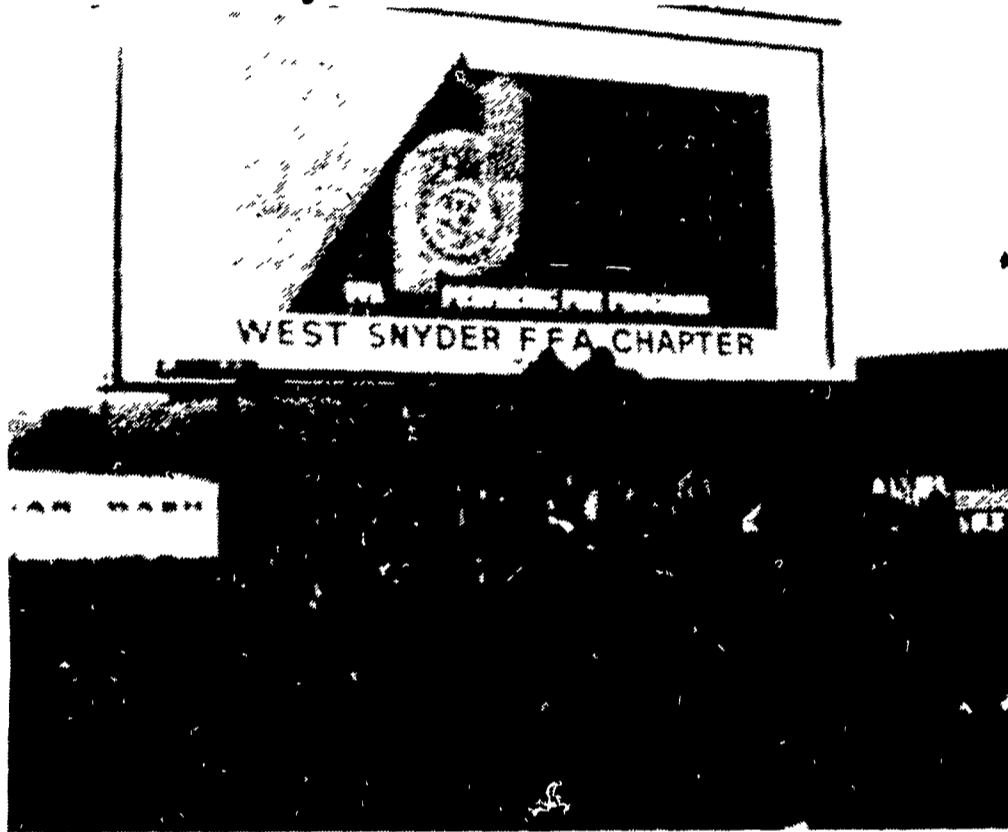
However, while those present indicated they had been approached during their stay about organizing a show for inclusion in the Livestock Expo in the Fall, a spokesman for Charles Ite, Farm Show Manager, indicated this week that at this time he has not been approached by and has no knowledge of any plans by the club to be included in that Exposition.

So while goats and their owners may have one foot in the door toward their objective, it appears they need to walk right in and have a chat with Farm Show officials if they hope to be included in any future functions.



The stars of the Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Club's Expo display were these kids born before a crowd of about fifty spectators.

## West Snyder FFA shows colors



A large display billboard was erected by West Snyder FFA along Route 522 east of Beaver Springs. This was one part of the club's support of National FFA Week. In addition, the club erected a display booth in the High School and donated placemats to Jo-Lees Restaurant at Troxellville and Rayauda's Restaurant at Beaver Springs. Several members presented a program on Food For America to the fourth grade students at Beaver Adams and West Beaver Elementary School. These students will also be taken on a field trip to the farms of Larry Frey, Beaver Springs and Larry Troxell, Middlecreek.

## First gasohol license presented

**KLEINFELTERSVILLE** — The gasohol farm still of Floyd Horst, Lebanon County, is back in operation legally.

The first gasohol license to be issued by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board was presented in special ceremonies held on the Horst farm near Kleinfeltersville on Friday morning.

Production of gasohol on the Horst farm was halted last November by the Liquor Control Board pending legislation. Subsequently, the State Legislature approved a bill to permit on-farm production under state license.

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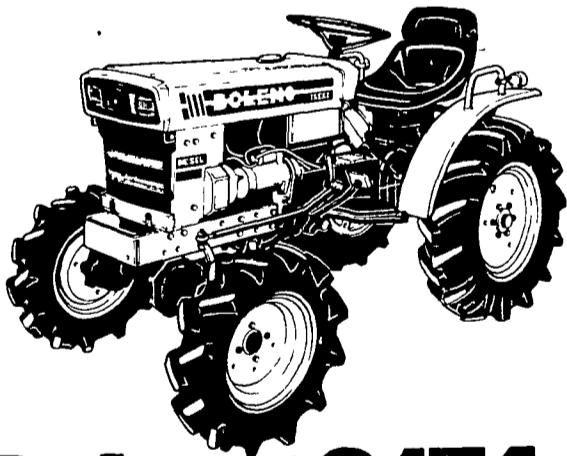
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