Fire destroys Brickerville barn



Firemen in a bucket loader shoot water over the remains of the Philip Seppi barn in Brickerville. High winds fanned the blaze and sent billowing

called suspicious.

clouds of smoke off to the East. Blaze has been

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BRICKERVILLE - A fire which started at about 8 p.m. Tuesday night completely destroyed a barn located on the North side of Rt. 322 just East of Brickerville.

The barn was owned by Philip Seppi, 121 E. 28th Division Highway.

Over 100 firemen from half a dozen companies fought the fire, but the building was given up as a total loss within minutes after the blaze was discovered.

Seppi said his wife looked out the window and commented that it looked like there was a fire up the road a

"It went just like a puff," he added.

High winds fanned the fire and sent billows of smoke off to the East. The winds also carried flames to the roofs of several neighboring homes. All of the smaller fires were extinguished immediately by firemen.

A neighbor first saw the blaze. Seppi said the neighbor told him it was not much of a fire until straw in a wagon caught and then the whole place went up in a

Responding to the fire were men from Brickerville. Lincoln, Durlach-Mt. Airy, Brunnerville, Penryn, and Manheim fire departments.

Other area companies were on standby alert.

Traffic was rerouted for several hours from busy Rt. through Brubaker Valley.

Investigators said the fire, which started in a small shed attached to the barn, was considered as being of suspicious origin.

Seppi said there was no electricity in the shed or in that part of the barn. But he said a neighbor was sure the fire originated in that part of the building.

The barn housed about 15 hogs. For a time rumor had it that the hogs had escaped the blaze. But unfortunately, Seppi said he figured only one of the animals got out of the burning building.

A number of small animals, cats and dogs, also were burned. A dog at the nearby tennant house was scorched.

Some farm equipment, grain and hay were lost in the fire.

Seppi said insurance appraisers were at the scene of the fire by the next morning.

But because of the suspicious origin of the fire no cleanup could begin right away until the state fire marshal had the opportunity to come to the farm and inspect the burnedout barn.

Seppi said he is unsure at the moment whether or not he will rebuild.—CH

Pork producers

choose queen

ST. LOUIS, Mo. - The 1980 National Pork Queen Title has gone to Beth Coody, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon C. Coody, Bentonia,

She was selected from a field of 19 candidates in coronation ceremonies last Thursday evening at the American Pork Congress in St. Louis.

First runner-up was Alicia Haynes, 19, Shongaloo, LA. The three other finalists were Paula Lynn Tenhouse, 21, LaPrairie, IL; Tanyia Greseth, 20, Wanamingo, MN and Kay Meyer, 20, Leipsic, OH. Miss Miss

Congeniality was Belinda Stephens, 20, Sapulpa, OK.

The new National Pork Queen received a \$3000 scholarship from National Pork Producers Council and American Cyanamid as well as special presentations from Wolverine and Moorman Feeds.







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