

Top regional FFA speakers picked

BY VIVIAN PAUL
Staff Correspondent
SCHNECKSVILLE — Over 100 members of the Future Farmers of America participated Wednesday in the regional parliamentary procedure and public speaking competition at the Lehigh County Community College. The event represents nearly 60 chapters throughout eastern Pennsylvania.

Deborah L. Miller, a student at Conrad Weiser High School in Berks County placed first in the FFA public speaking contest with her presentation, "American Farmer, Take a Bow."

Winner in the extemporaneous category was Howard Griest, Twin Valley School, speaking on "Building Agribusiness by Borrowing."

Barry Geib of Manheim Central took first place in the conservation category with his presentation titled "Water, Water Everywhere, But Not a Drop to Drink."

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Winners in the regional FFA extemporaneous speaking competition are, left to right, James Tretter, Howard Griest and Bruce Latslaw.



FFA public speaking competition winners at regional level are, left to right, Douglas Her-shberger, Deborah L. Miller and Steve Imes.



Conservation speaking contest winners are Steve Kearns and Teresa C. Fink.

Ag fair

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He listed several advantages to the Keystone Race Track site.

First of all, it would be available free. Track general manager Harry Rossi has offered the Track's 300 acres, all enclosed by fence, to the

Department for such an event.

The Keystone Race Track, just outside of Philadelphia, is within 25 miles of about one-third of the state's population and within 50 miles of over half of Pennsylvania's citizens, Hollowell figures.

He said he sees the proposed state fair as a good opportunity to introduce agriculture to a large number of urban people who otherwise may never come into direct contact with farmers, livestock, and farm products.

Timing of the event would make it attractive to Philadelphia schools looking for educational field trips, he said.

James Sumner, director of the Department's Bureau of Markets, said the event could become a showcase for Pennsylvania products at a minimum of expense.

Several funding options are open. The state fair could become an offshoot of the Farm Show. Or, money could be requested from the state fair fund. That alternative would require a three year delay, by law, before money would be available.

Another option would be to go to the legislature for funds.

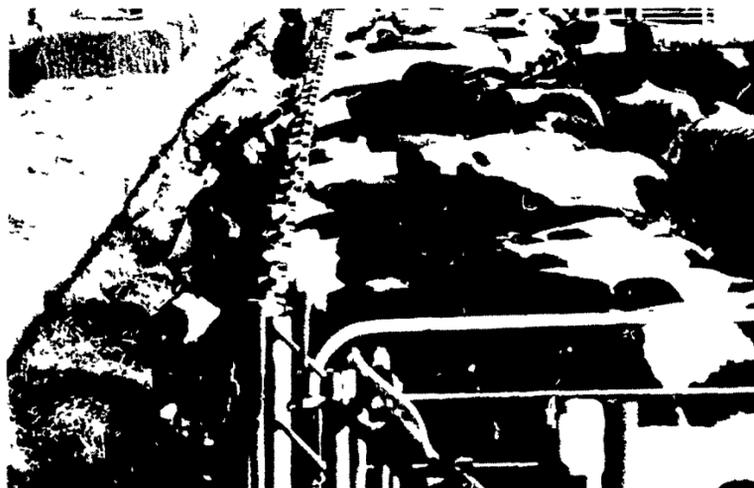
Hollowell said he is soliciting opinions on the proposed state fair from all farm organizations, breed associations, and interested farmers.

Comments and suggestions can be sent directly to the Secretary of Agriculture, 2301 N. Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

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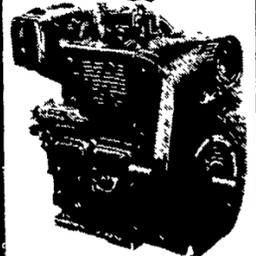


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