

# Cloister FFA captures land judging trophy

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Staff Correspondent

**QUARRYVILLE** — The traveling trophy for the Lancaster County FFA Land Judging Contest returned to the Cloister Chapter this week after a two-year absence. In 1978 Solanco captured the trophy and in 1979 New Holland took the trophy.

This year the Cloister Chapter took the top five individual places thereby easily commanding the team placings.

The Roy Eager farm, Quarryville R1, hosted the county land judging contest this past week with 34 students from five schools participating in the contest. Five trenches were dug over the farm area at various sites. Contestants evaluated the individual sites in five parts including slope, stoniness, texture of the surface soil, depth of top soil, depth of soil (topsoil and

subsoil) and internal drainage all of which were covered in the first part.

Natural limiting factors for agricultural use such as slope, topsoil depth and drainage were judged in the second part for scoring each site. The third area for evaluating each site called for the contestants to recommend one category for best land use such as row cropping, pasture or wildlife and recreation. The fourth segment included checking six of a possible sixteen conservation practices needed on each site. These practices ranged from contouring to tile drainage to development for wildlife food and cover. The fifth area for evaluation was identifying specific hazards at each site for constructing a homesite with basement, a septic tank and disposal field and lagoon construction.

Team standings after the

contest named Ephrata first, Solanco second, New Holland third and Manheim Central fourth.

Individual standings were as follows: 1. Stanley Horning, Cloister; 2. Dennis Saylor, Cloister; 3. Avery Copenhaver, Cloister; 4. Tim High, Cloister; 5. Marvin Horst, Cloister; 6. Phil Aument, Solanco; 7. Marvin Weiler, Cloister; 8. Matt Arrowsmith, Solanco; 9. Harry Witmer, Penn Manor; and tied for tenth—Ernie Frey, Solanco and Lori Fox, New Holland.

Judge for the contest was former Solanco teacher and co-author of the book "Land Use and Management" William Fredd. Tom Johnston of the Soil Conservation District was on hand to award the first place individual plaque to Stanley Horning. The County FFA provided a plaque for the second place individual Dennis Saylor.



Top placing individuals in the land judging competition were from left: first place, Stanley Horning; second place, Dennis Saylor.



Ephrata's Cloister Chapter which captured top honors at the Lancaster County FFA Land Judging is shown. From left are: Tim High, Marvin Horst, Marvin Weiler, Dennis Saylor, and Stanley Horning.



Students survey the trench on the Roy Eager farm that was used in Tuesday's land judging.

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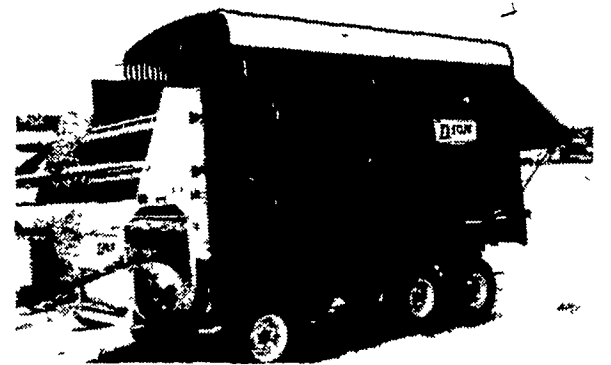
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