

D-Day

(Continued from Page C32)

academic consideration, Hall said, the school accepts about 150 students each year.

Those students who are

accepted must attend an orientation session, a one month trial in July or August, where they learn to work in the barns, gardens, and are taught the basics of agriculture.

Hall noted proudly the drop-out rate for the school is virtually nil, and daily

attendance, he boasted, is estimated at 98 percent.

In their first two years at the high school, Hall said, the kids are given a choice between the general or academic curriculum, along with their introductory courses in agriculture, such as meat cutting, livestock science, crop science, floriculture, landscape, soil science, laboratory animal science, and others.

During their last two years at Saul, the students specialize in the field of their choice, he added.

Hall recalled that when he graduated from Saul High School in the early 1970's, only 35 percent of the

graduates entered agriculture related fields. Now, he pointed out, about 65 percent of the graduates get into agriculture.

This success story for the city's agricultural students is attributed to the push given the students by the young teachers, Hall said. He pointed out the fact that Philadelphia FFA showed at the Farm Show, Keystone International Livestock Exposition, Eastern National, York and Allentown Fairs, and several students serve as Junior directors for the Pennsylvania Polled Hereford Association.

Hall added the school is a

member of both the Pennsylvania and American Polled Hereford Association, and he is one of the Junior association's advisors.

The Walter Biddle Saul High School teachers are enthusiastic about their program, as well as their D-Day. "We're expanding slowly but surely," said Hall. "The teachers want to do a lot of good."

So, the next time you walk up to a farmer and ask "Where are you from?", don't raise your eyebrows and step back if the answer comes back "Philadelphia". That person just might be a graduate of the Saul High School, like Ed Garlic, the school's first dairy herdsman who is now farming near Muncy, Lycoming County.

The results of the D-Day showmanship and fitting contests are as follows:

Dairy

1. Karen Takakjy, champion; 2. Aaron Weilerstein, reserve champion; 3. Matt Gilliano; 4. Jamal Hampton; and 5. Marty Baker.

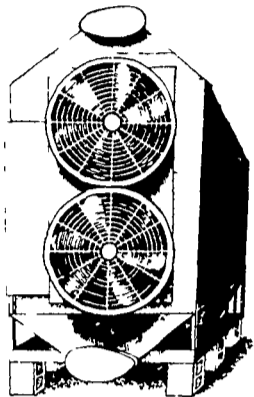
Hogs

1. Jamal Hampton, champion; 2. Aaron Weilerstein, reserve champion; 3. Matt Gilliano; 4. Karen Takakjy; and 5. Marty Baker.

Sheep

1. Jim McAndrews, champion; 2. Karen Takakjy, reserve champion; 3. Dana Kalins; 4. Aaron Weilerstein; and 5. Marty Baker.

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Jamal Hampton proudly shows one of the school's registered Polled Hereford heifers.

Williamsport foresters win college meet

ALLENWOOD — The Williamsport Area Community College's forestry team took first place at the Tri-State Woodsmen's event held recently at WACC's Earth Science Campus, near Allenwood.

WACC's team of forestry students garnered a total of 57 points in the 16 events, winning over Allegheny

Community College of Maryland (54) and Dabney S. Lancaster Community College of Virginia (29). About 300 persons attended.

WACC students participating in the woodsmen's events included Greg Priset, R2 Wellsboro; Barry Mohle, Johnstown; Victor Wise, Williamsport; Mark Reese, R3 Wellsboro; Bill Sanford, Mansfield; Bill Deangeles, Pottsville; Matthew McCourt, R1 Turbotville; Curt Shadle, R2 Hedges; Vic Walleit, Mount Union; Clifton Siple, Williamsport; Don Tate, Lewistown; Gary Laudeman, Minersville, and Jeff Niklaus, R2 Muncy.



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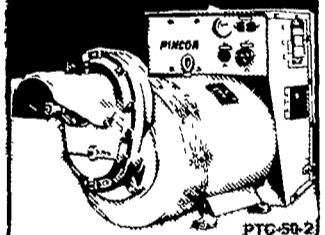
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