

Top bull holds \$10 million insurance

LITITZ — The star of Broadway's current biggest hit was insured recently by the play's producers for \$2 million.

The owners of a major league baseball club hold a \$3.5 policy on their prize athlete.

But these figures appear paltry when compared to the price tag on a 2600 pound Simmental bull, which is valued by livestock authorities at \$10 million.

"He is worth that much because he does what he is supposed to so well," says Roger Caras. Of royal an-

cestry, the bull works about three minutes a week.

"And what he does," Caras says, "is produce sperm. Each time this superbull ejaculates, he produces enough sperm to impregnate — at least in theory — some 300 cows. He has been on the job for 10 years, and nothing else will be asked of him.

"He is so good at his work that he will probably be spared the indignity of the abattoir. Bulls like him are allowed a quiet death, often a grave and occasionally, a headstone."

There are 29 bull farms in the United States, a number of which possess bulls worth \$5 million or more. Semen from prize bulls, used in artificial insemination, is pure gold. 60 percent of the 11 million working dairy cows in the U.S. today (plus their 10 million calves and attending bulls), have been bred by artificial insemination.

By contrast, only five percent of the 80 million beef cattle in the country are bred by artificial insemination. Caras, who broadcasts on ABC-TV and CBS-Radio and has written 44 books on all facets of animal life, describes the new efforts underway to upgrade the genetic quality of beef cattle in order to meet the worldwide demand for protein.

"Crucial as it is, artificial insemination is only the first step," he explains. "The other frontier being

traversed is something called embryo transfer, or ET. The great advantage of ET is that it permits a single cow to have not just one calf or even the odd set of twins but to have a litter or 10 or more calves at a time. This year more than 20,000 calf embryo transfers will be made."

More miraculous events are on the way.

"The next step is the use of frozen embryos and eventually the establishment of frozen embryo banks around the country," Caras says in the August issue of GEO Magazine. "Scientists are creating a brave new bovine world."



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(Continued from Page D10)

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Joan	3 4	305	18 604	3 8	705
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Bertha	6 5	305	18 148	3 7	668
Rhonda	3 10	305	18 093	4 1	739
Molly	3 9	305	17 609	3 9	691
Rose	2 9	305	16 125	4 2	684
John F Stoltzfus					
47	7 4	305	18 871	3 8	709
31	5 8	305	21 607	3 6	754
88	4 4	297	18 847	3 7	706
Hemlock Meadow Farm					
Brenda	6 2	294	16 334	4 2	679
Mark M Wehr					
81	6 5	305	17 125	4 3	742
W's vin B Nissley					
56	5 8	305	18 074	4 1	738
Melvin K Stoltzfus					
Beth	6 11	305	23 922	3 1	736
Sadie	7 4	305	19 203	4 3	822
Ben Martin					
27	4 4	291	14 801	4 6	680
Chris S Stoltzfus					
55	5 5	305	19 760	3 9	780
Ben S Yoder					
Lell	3 5	302	17 395	4 0	704
Daniel Z Stoltzfus					
Robin	5 8	305	17 862	3 7	667
Beauty	2 11	305	18 741	3 8	712
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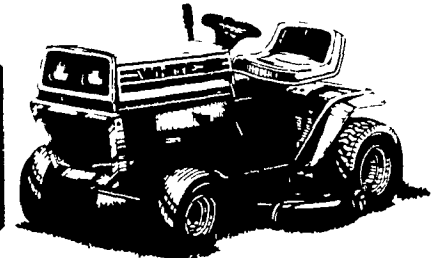
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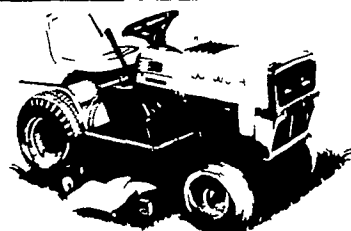
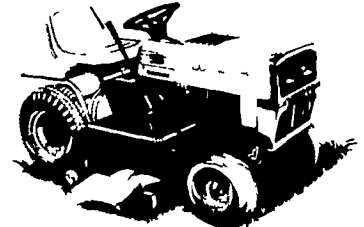
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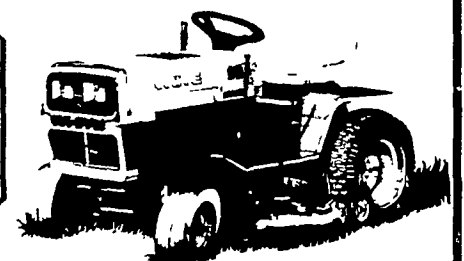
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