

# Junior Members named

(Continued from Page C34)

Barbara is a junior at Cornell University hoping to complete her four years of studies in three years so she can join her future husband on his Del-Rose farm after graduation.

Barbara divides her weekends between two farms, her family's Dairysmith farm and the Del-Rose farm, where she contributes her technical know-how to the dairy operations.

Somehow she still finds time to hold down a secretary's job at Cornell and to prepare for her heavy schedule of animal science classes.

Like other farm youngsters, Barbara learned personal commitment at an early age — feeding calves, bedding animals, cleaning the barn and other farm chores. When she got her first calf she learned the ins and outs of "show business." Showing cattle gave her an introduction to Holstein activities which later culminated in her being elected president of the New York Junior Holstein Association.

Barbara is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Smith. She has few doubts about the future. "I feel no other scope of work could give me as much satisfaction and pride as being part of a farm dairy. The desire to breed and develop the perfect Holstein cow will always be

my lifetime goal," she said.

### MARK YEAZEL

The sixth national winner is Mark Yeazel, 20, of Eaton, who is a sophomore majoring in dairy herd management at Eastern Kentucky University.

Yeazel's formal history of dairying began when he went into a limited partnership with his father and brother at the age of 16 years. Mark says his father felt that a five percent partnership would account for the number of cows he could acquire on his own working time at the farm.

At present, Mark is a partner with 25 percent interest in the farm which includes responsibilities for fulfilling financial payments in farm loans. After he graduates from college, Mark will become an equal partner in business with his father and brother.

Recognized for his production records, Mark has won a dairy production proficiency award given by the Ohio Purebred Cattle Association. Yeazel has also won FFA's Star State Farmer award.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yeazel, Mark looks forward to the day when he can do more to keep the farm producing at maximum efficiency each year. "I see many opportunities for success with our registered Holsteins and I believe that through them, my family can attain a rich and full life."

# Block praises FFA program

WASHINGTON — Young men and women don't have to wait until election day to begin constructing the future of America, says U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John Block. They can start preparing for tomorrow through the Building Our American Communities (BOAC) program of the Future Farmers of America.

At a recent luncheon honoring the 10th anniversary of the BOAC program, Block said private involvement is essential to our nation's recovery.

President Reagan feels, "the answer to our problems in this country must lie in the genius and vitality of its people," Block said. "The youth of today have that genius and vitality."

Building Our American Communities (BOAC) is a national project of the Future Farmers of America, an organization of nearly one-half million high school vocational agriculture students. Through the BOAC program, FFA members carry out community development projects and build their leadership skills.

The BOAC program is sponsored by R. J. Reynolds Industries, Inc., with technical assistance provided by the Farmers Home Administration.

"I know the 10-year history of the BOAC program has made an impression on the United States Department of Agriculture," Block said.

"The Farmers Home Administration youth loan program resulted from observing your BOAC program. Farmers Home saw how energetic the youth are and decided the benefits certainly

outweighed the resources that could be invested. As a result of our belief in this program, during fiscal 1980 alone Farmers Home provided over 1,100 youth loans amounting to \$4.9 million."

# FFA membership increases

WASHINGTON — The Future Farmers of America Organization is growing! FFA membership reached 482,611 for 1980-81, an increase of 935 members from last year. This increase reverses three years of declining membership.

"The increase in FFA membership is probably in part thanks to the 10-PLUS program and 100 percent recognition that was started this year," said Mark Herndon, National FFA President.

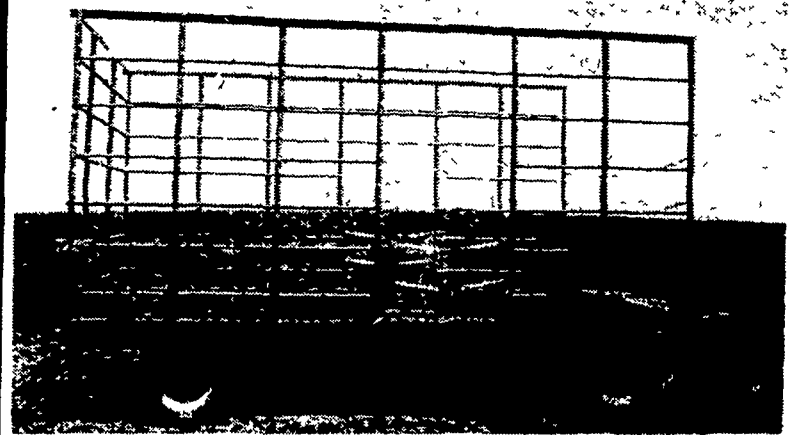
"High school enrollment has decreased over the past few years, but this program promotes the many benefits of being an FFA member so more vocational agriculture students join the organization. Through the 10-

PLUS program, 1,585 chapters gained 10 or more members over last year. Nationwide, 2,600 chapters had an FFA membership equal to or greater than the number of vo-ag students, so they were named 100 percent chapters. Many graduate vo-ag students continue their FFA membership so their chapters achieve even more than 100 percent membership.

"FFA offers endless opportunities for every vocational agriculture student," Herndon said. "The Programs prepare members for careers in agriculture and agribusiness by teaching technical skills as well as communication and leadership abilities."

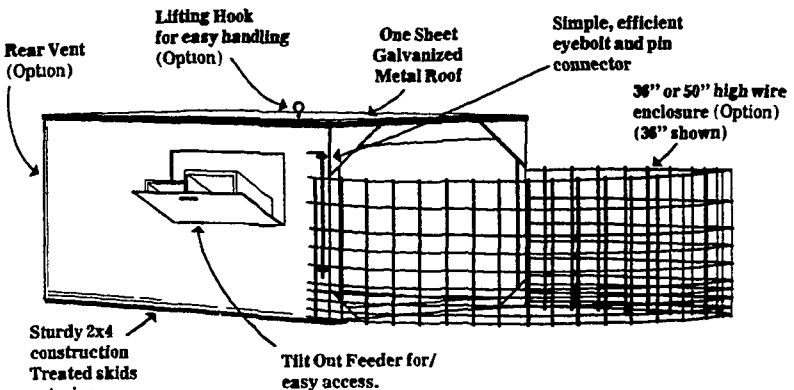


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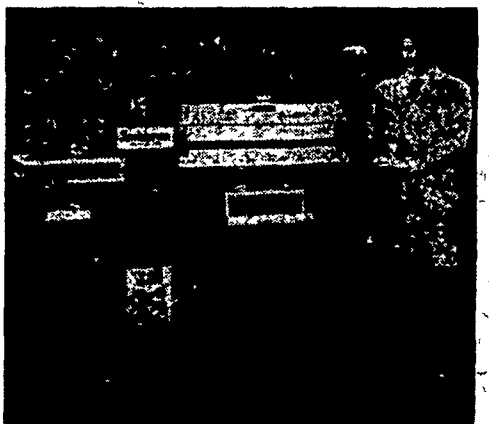
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