4-H'ers clown around

LEBANON — For the past three Saturdays, seven Lebanon 4-H'ers learned how to "clown around."

The new members were taught the difference parts of clowning, including make-up, costumes, balloon animals and skits, by Mial Hillhouse, a member of the Professional Clown's Club of America, from Manheim.

"Milo," as he is known in the clown circle, began by showing how he becomes a clown and ended

with a "clown revue" where each new member displayed his new clown image.

"The 4-H clown club will be more than an entertainment group," says Gwen Bowman, 4-H Program

Assistant. "It will provide the member with a chance to do things behind a mask, helping to strengthen his self-confidence. Many individuals overcome shyness, get a chance to meet different kinds of people, develop interpersonal communication skills and learn to perform in front

of strangers."

The 4-H clowns will be conducting regular monthly meetings, where they will practice the skills Milo taught them. They also plan to perform skits at preschools, visit retirement homes and take field trips to such places as The Magic Shop.

Simmental youths receive special awards

BOZEMAN, Mt. - Nine outstanding junior members of the American Simmental Association have been named as the initial recipients of the newly instituted ASA Merit Awards.

Established by the ASA Trustees, the Merit Awards are designed to provide recognition to junior members who have made 'significant contributions to their community, home, school, family, and the Simmental breed.'

The nine award winners are as follows: Robert S. Alger II, 19, Broadway, Vir.; Pam Dicken, 19, Newton, Kan.; Wendy A. Feik, 21, Le Moille, Ill.; Jerry L. Hill, 17, Tuttle, Ok.; Thomas E. Hook, 19, Tracy, Minn.; Christopher C. Ragland, 18, Magnolia, Ky.; Tracy Risinger, 19, San Antonio, Tex.; Patricia Ann Ten Eyck, 17, Sandy, Ore.; Jan Elmor Unger, 17,

Carlisle, Ind.

The award includes a \$500 grant to be used by the recipient for postsecondary education purposes.

The nine winners were named from among more than 60 applicants.

"The decision was not an easy one," said Earl B. Peterson, ASA Executive Vice President. "We had numerous highly qualified candidates and the screening committee had a rugged task in settling on the eventual award winners."

Peterson encouraged unsuccessful applicants to apply again next year.

"If the enthusiam shown during the first year of the Merit Award program is any indication, it would appear that it will be a most popular part of our Youth and Education Program", he said.



The whole Lebanon County 4-H clown crew poses for a picture, modeling their new looks. They are, back row, I-f, Molly Wood, Jenny Kase, Heather Mentzer, Barb Umbenhauer. Front row, Tammy Lineaweaver, Bonnie Hoover, and Teresa Rhoades.

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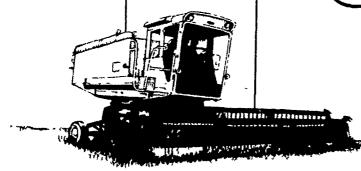
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