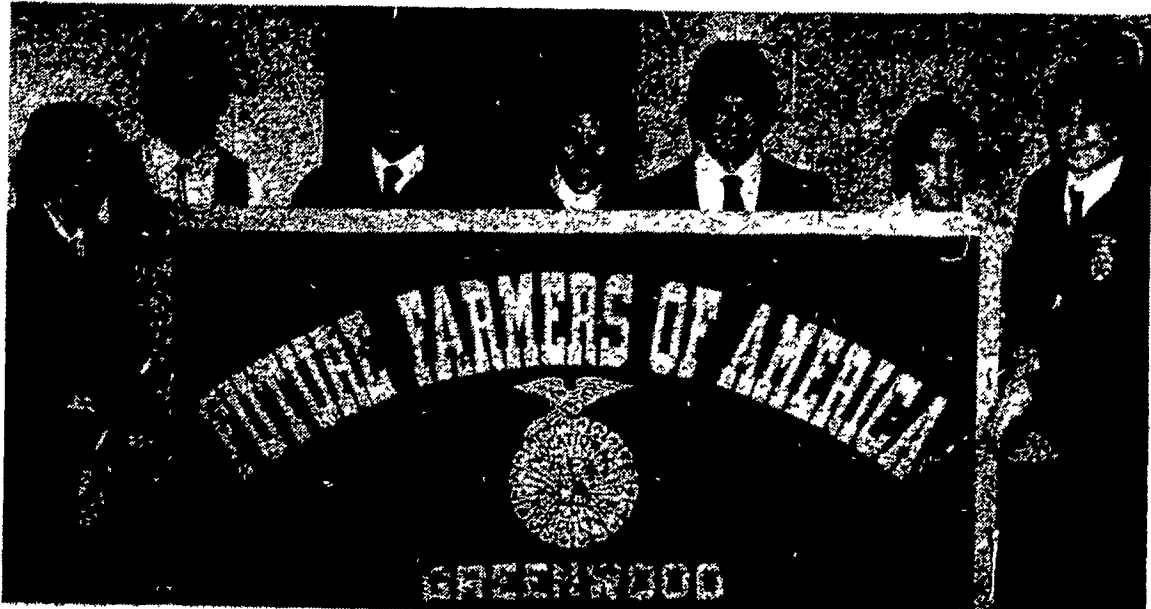


Lancaster Farming

VOL. 27 No. 6

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, December 5, 1981

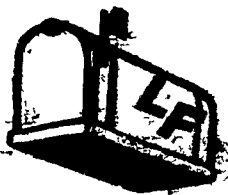
\$7.50 per year



FFA officers at Greenwood High School, Millerstown, Perry County, proudly display banner for the state's newest Future Farmers of America chapter. Officers include, from the left: Myron Byers, president; Wade Sarver,

secretary; David Bratton, treasurer; Raymond McGowen, reporter; Tom Gothel, sentinel; James Lower, chaplain; and Mike Sarver, vice president.

Inside
This
Week's...



National 4-H Congress in Chicago again this year has drawn to a close as 15 members from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey earn national awards. Find out more on pages...B18 and B24.

Two Lackawanna County dairymen shoot for a baker's dozen when it comes to high herd averages. Read their story on...B20.

Elco Young Farmers honor top crop, dairy producers. See the winners on...A27.

Tax reform bills face farmer opposition

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania House Finance Committee wrapped up its hearings on the Stauffer tax reform bills this week, according to a spokesperson for Rep. Benjamin Wilson (R-144th), committee chairman. The Committee will be considering this legislation at a meeting scheduled for Dec. 9 at 8:30 p.m. in Room 140 of the Capitol Building.

Senate Bills 1085 and 1086, which would replace the school property tax with a local personal income tax and a business use or occupancy tax, moved to the House Committee in October after the Senate passed the legislation with a vote of 30-16. The prime sponsor of the legislation is Senate Majority Whip John Stauffer (R-19th) County Republican.

Since the bills reached the House Committee, little progress was made in getting them passed. For, during the second week of November, the Committee voted 22-2 to hold public hearings on the issue.

Committee Chairman Wilson, who is described by the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce as a proponent of local tax shifting, has his own set of tax reform bills

in the till — House Bills 1184-1188. It has been predicted that the Stauffer bill will not remain intact in the House, and will probably be amended by Wilson and others.

Two of the three major farm organizations have gone on record as opposing SB 1085-1086. The Pennsylvania State Grange submitted testimony on November 18 against the Stauffer package and the business use or occupancy tax.

"Tax reform would provide relief to farmers and rural property owners, but the Stauffer bills don't go far enough," said a Grange spokesperson. The State Grange policy calls for a gradual shift from real estate taxes for education to net income tax on personal income or incorporated businesses.

Saying the tax reform proposal would create a double burden for the farmer, the State Grange said it feels farmers would have to pay the taxes that were reduced for landlords. And, taxes lost on vacant lands or from idle farms held by absentee landowners would also become additional burdens to the paying public.

"This package is almost a

(Turn to Page A38)

Pa. FFA welcomes Greenwood Greenhands

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
MILLERSTOWN — Pennsylvania welcomed its newest Future Farmers of America chapter Thursday night — the 209th throughout the Commonwealth.

It's a chapter with 30 members — not bad for a high school that has a graduating class of about 60.

All the members are Greenhands, first-year vo-ag students, naturally.

It's a chapter that's gradually adding equipment and courses of ag-related study and FFA activities.

It's a chapter with a busy civic-minded farmer serving as instructor and chapter adviser during its first year.

It's a chapter that had been absent from the vocational

agricultural scene for more than a decade and a half and was finally reborn Thursday night after some three years of continuing interest and active encouragement by a group of Perry County farmers and other persons.

It's the Greenwood FFA Chapter of Greenwood High School in the rural Perry County borough of Millerstown.

And farmer-advisor Glenn Cauffman expressed the chapter's rebirth best Thursday night during initiation ceremonies for the Greenhand membership:

"We lack many things in our new chapter," he said.

"But the students overcome this lack of things with a wealth of

(Turn to Page A38)

PMMB studies milk price reversal; may appeal

BY DONNA TOMMELLE
HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board will possibly appeal a recent Commonwealth Court ruling which reversed and remanded the PMMB's ordered price increase in three eastern Pennsylvania counties, Earl B. Fink, Jr., PMMB executive secretary said Thursday.

Fink explained the board is still studying the ruling, which eliminated the proposed 12 cent per gallon retail price hike in Bucks, Chester and Montgomery Counties (Area 1 Zone 2).

The PMMB can grant an increase in the minimum retail price, providing dealers present sufficient evidence to indicate their production costs have risen. The Area 1 Zone 2 hearings included the testimony of four dealers.

The unanimous decision, handed down last week by Judge David Craig of Pittsburgh, capped a 15-

month battle spearheaded by consumers and Lily Penn, which operates a chain of convenience markets in suburban Philadelphia.

Lily Penn and the consumer group opposed the PMMB's price increase and appealed to the Commonwealth Court.

The court's ruling will probably produce a few changes in the PMMB's 44-year-old price determining system, according to Henry Geisinger, vice president of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers.

"I don't think it's the end of milk control," said Geisinger, "but there is going to be some changes."

Geisinger, whose group is presently studying the court's ruling, said one of the changes may be in the area of interstate movement of milk.

"The board can't go across the

state line and ask to see figures," Geisinger explained.

According to a spokeswoman from Judge Craig's office, the interstate and inter-zone movement of milk was a significant factor in the court's decision.

The board report indicated that 29.2 percent of the milk sold in zone 2 was processed in zone 1 and 11.6 percent of the milk sold in zone 2 was processed out of state.

Judge Craig wrote, "the operations of dealers or handlers located outside the marketing zone so intergrally affect the sale and distribution of milk within the zone, we believe that the language of the section should not be so strictly construed as to limit board consideration of dealers only to those physically situated within the subject area."

(Turn to Page A35)

Columns

Editorials, A10; Now is the time, A10; Brockett's Ag Advice, A19; That's a good question, A30; Farming's Futures, A36; Ladies, have you heard?, B4; Joyce Bupp's Column, B10; Ida's Notebook, B7.

Dairy

Lancaster DHIA, D4; Bradford DHIA, D12; Milk Market News, A30; No. 1 Red & White Herd in PA, A22; Delaware dairymen grow no-till corn, A16.

Home and Youth

Homestead Notes, B2; Home on the Range, B6; FWS news, B9; 4-H news, B13; Kids's Korner, B12; FFA news, B16; Chester 4-H dairy banquet, B26; Farmland Preservation, D9; Farm Safety, B30.

A closing year means Farm Show's near

LANCASTER — It's hard to believe that already we have leaped through all 12 pages of our calendar since our last Farm Show issue hit the press. But as the coming cold weather and short days indicate, Farm Show is only a little over a month away.

This year's LANCASTER FARMING Farm Show issue will be in your mailbox January 9, the weekend the show opens. And, in sticking with tradition, the issue will be even larger and better than last year's.

Farm Show 1982 will run from Sunday, January 10, to Friday, January 14. The usual array of quality livestock, association meetings, machinery displays and

farm-related booths will await visitors.

We want to take this chance to remind readers and advertisers to gather up material of interest for submission. This year, our closing advertising date will be December 31, and for news our deadline is Wednesday, January 6.

Our Farm Show issue will have advance publicity on all action including a schedule of events, handy pull-out maps of the show, articles on FFA Keynote Degree winners, a list of exhibitors and more.

If you have something to contribute, contact LANCASTER FARMING, Box 367, Lancaster, PA 17603, or call (717) 299-3141 or 3141-3047.