Yvonne Eshelman wears Potato Queen crown

BY DEBBIE KOONTZ FARM SHOW — "If tonight was any indication of how the rest of my year will be, it's going to be tremendously exciting," said Yvonne Eshelman of Lancaster County, moments after the glittering crown which proclaimed her the new 1982 Pennsylvania Potato Queen was placed on her head.

Yvonne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Eshelman of Millersville, was bestowed the new title Thursday evening at the 65th annual banquet of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers, Inc.

This marks the second year in a row that a Lancaster County girl wears the crown

Last year's winner Gail Graybill, was on hand for the crowning, but it was actually special guest Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell who placed the coveted sulver circle on Yvonne's head

Named first runner-up was 17year-old Rhonda Horner, hailing from Clarion County.

The title of second runner-up was given to Kathy Orbanick from Waterford in Erie County.

The new queen, a 17-year-old blue-eyed, brown-haired senior from Penn Manor High School said she received her experience working with potatoes from the 175acre operation her father farms impartnership with her grandfather Clyde Eshelman and her uncle Jay Stauffer.

During the pageant, Yvonne received applause from the



Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell gives Gail Graybill, last year's Potato Queen, a special certificate for her "tremendous effort" in promoting the potato.



Yvonne Eshleman, Lancaster County, proudly poses for the camera after being named the 1982 Potato Queen. She is flanked

audience when she told them to go home and do just what her dad did: get out their cookbooks and everywhere a recipe calls for 'Idaho potatoes,' write in 'Pennsylvania potatoes.'

Yvnone is currently applying to colleges for the fall and though she has no particular curriculum in mind as yet, she does admit that a big possibility might be agribusiness. But for now Yvonne keeps busy playing piano, hockey and track and is a member of

audience when she told them to go concert, marching and pep bands the work is all worthwhile. She said home and do just what her dad did: at Penn Manor. as queen she hopes to stimulate the

First runner-up Rhonda is a senior at North Clarion High School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Horner. Her experience in the potato industry comes from her parents' farm, a 143-acre operation.

Katharine Orbanick, second runner-up, told the audience that "having worked on a potato farm, I know how difficult the work can be," but admitted that in the end,

County, second runner-up, and Rhonda Horner of Clarion County, first runner-up.

the work is all worthwhile. She said as queen she hopes to stimulate the young people and bring them to know the true value of the potato. Kathy is the daughter of Mrs. Patricia Orbanick.

Also named during the evening were the winners of the 4-H Potato Grading and Judging Contest, held this week at Farm Show. The winners come from Adams County under the coaching of Jared Tyson.

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