

Williamsport College

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training at Danville. Students are bused to Danville three days a week. Currently they are assisting in the harvesting of corn at the farm.

The Dairy Herd Management program provides training in the skills necessary to successfully manage and operate a dairy farm. The program covers all aspects of dairy farm management, from soil preparation and feed crop

production to milk processing. Dairy farm management, accounting, and decision making are included. Whether students plan to return to their family farms or to work as dairy herd managers for larger dairy operations, this program provides them with the necessary skills.

Courses studied include Soils and Soil Fertility; Forage Production; Dairy Feeding and Management; Dairy Herd Health; Financing Dairy Enterprises; Milking

Management; Farm Records and Analysis; Animal Breeding and Reproduction; Replacement Stock Management; Technical Mathematics One and Communications.

Another student in the Dairy Herd Management program is John W. Smith of Box 279, R1 Forksville. John, who grew up in Sullivan County on a farm used to raise beef, is the son of Walter and Mildred Smith. The Smiths have about 20 head of beef stock on the 60-acre farm. Since graduating from the Sullivan County High

School in Laporte in 1980, John has worked on the farm and on construction.

He is enrolled in the Dairy Herd Management program to learn more about farming and to become more employable since he would like to work for a farmer as a dairy herd manager.

Instructor Patton said he feels one reason the course is enjoying such a successful first year is directly related to the struggle of today's dairy farmer. "I think that right now the profit margin is so small that only top managers will survive. These students are willing to learn the basic business techniques which will enable them to survive. There is nothing worse than the feeling the dairy farmer is currently experiencing—that the life is being squeezed out of him. These students have come to College having made a commitment to make a go of it. They are reinforcing that commitment by learning all they can about the dairy industry."

Duane G Adams, R2, Genesee, Potter County; Timothy L. Beabes, R2, Somerset, Somerset County; Douglas W Comstock R2, Sartwell Creek Food, Port Allegeny, McKean County; Pamela J. Crom, R1, Jamestown, Crawford County; William H Flickinger III, R3, Ligonier, Westmoreland County; Ronald L. Kiefer, R2, Hamburg, Berks County; Todd A. Klue, R2, Knox, Clarion County.

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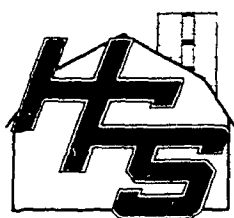
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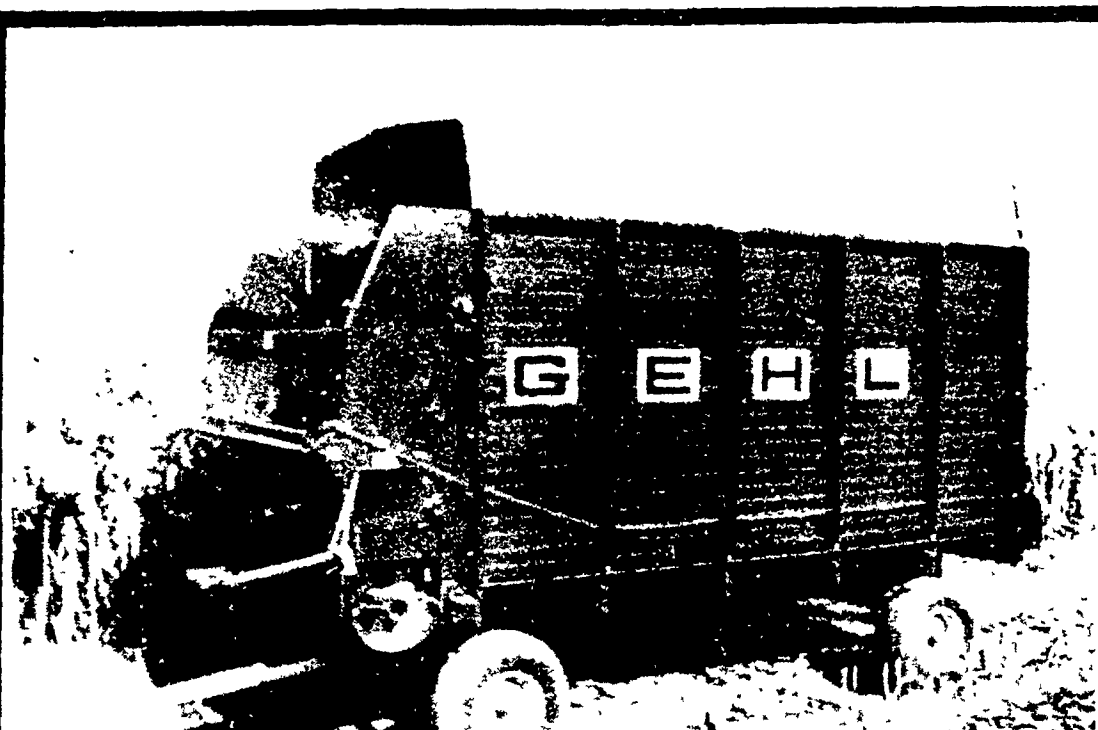
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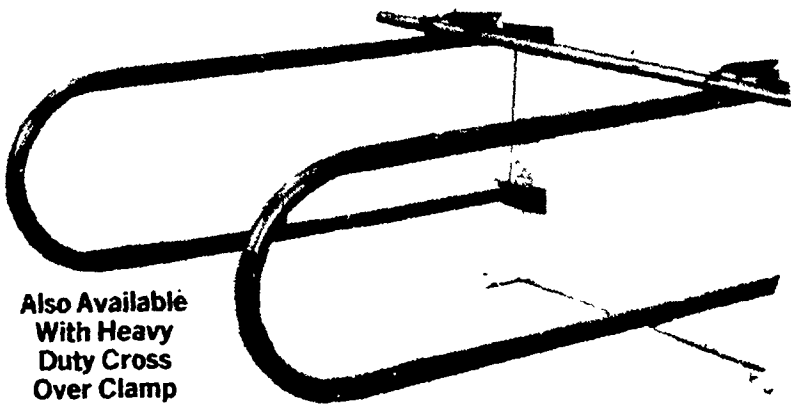
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