

Meet Pennsylvania's top two 'Stars'



FFFA



Holding her 1984 FFA Star Agribusinessman Award, 17-year-old Jamie Frey, of R2 Quarryville, displays the other "star" awards which lead to her state title.

Jamie Frey - Keystone Star Agribusiness

BY LAURA ENGLAND
QUARRYVILLE — Seventeen-year-old Jamie Frey is a star.

No, she hasn't left her serene country home in Quarryville for the bright lights of Hollywood, but nonetheless the high school senior is a star.

Jamie, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Frey, R2 Quarryville, utilized her four years in the Solanco Future Farmers of America Chapter and her talents in the greenhouse business to win stardom - she is the 1984 state FFA Star Agribusinessman.

The only girl in her vocational agriculture class, Jamie said the school's FFA advisors had to talk her mother into letting her join the organization. It was a decision that the Freys can now be proud of.

It was through Jamie's greenhouse operation, which has

received the support of her family for the past four years, that she qualified for the state agribusiness award. In fact, her father suggested the idea of a greenhouse operation while Jamie was a freshmen and looking for her first FFA project.

Jamie began her greenhouse venture with plans to specialize in ground cover crops. The idea sprang from a conversation her dad had with Rick Rineer, owner of Black Rock Nursery in Quarryville. Rineer suggested ground cover plants which are fairly easy to grow and are in demand market-wise.

Jamie got underway with her business after she and her father built the first greenhouse - a 100 by 35 foot structure. After that, it was time for planting, and Jamie chose to grow pachysandra, which is

used in shady places receiving little light.

To get her first crop established, Jamie went to neighbors and friends and got cuttings from their pachysandra plants. The cuttings were planted in flats during the summer and were marketed the following spring. The first crop was a success as she sold all her plants.

When making plans for her second crop, Jamie took the suggestions of her customers to heart. "People asked for myrtle and ivy in addition to the pachysandra," she said, "and I decided to add those my second year."

A second greenhouse was added that year in addition to another business proposition. Jamie's younger brothers, Eric, now 14,

(Turn to Page A38)



Solanco FFA Chapter president Jamie Frey stands between two of the greenhouses she and her father, Ernest, constructed.

John Hauck - Keystone Star Farmer

BY LAURA ENGLAND
NEW BERLIN — John Hauck, a Future Farmers of America member at Mifflinburg High School in Union County, remembers his first speaking contest well. He was a freshman competing in an area FFA contest and was addressing the topic of applying

new techniques to a large farm. He was nervous and stage fright took control. "I couldn't express myself as well," he recalled, "and I placed last."

For John, the last placing did more good than harm. "It really got me going," he said, "and it broke the ice for other FFA ac-

tivities."

The 17-year-old son of Phyllis Hauck and the late John Hauck Sr. of New Berlin, John has come a long way since that first speaking contest. He is president of his local chapter and the SUN (Snyder, Union and Northumberland counties) Area Chapter and most recently was selected the 1984 state FFA Star Farmer.

Receiving the Star Farmer award was something John thought he'd never get. "I was really surprised and nervous and didn't know what to think," John said of the day he received his award.

But looking at John's past and present FFA record gives one little to wonder about his qualifications for this state award.

John decided to enroll in the vocational agriculture program because he wanted to learn more about mechanics and apply these skills to his dairy farm background. His first projects included four Holstein heifers and a garden of sweet corn.

Not to be tied down to his projects, John also competed in tractor driving, dairy judging and public speaking contests. He was elected to serve as his chapter's assistant treasurer for the following year and was awarded the Star Greenhand award.

With his first year of FFA under his belt, John was ready for his second. He maintained his four heifers, two of which were fresh and had had heifer calves themselves. He continued his home garden as well and added five acres of corn.

John was still just as eager to enter FFA contests and participated in ag mechanics, dairy judging, parliamentary procedures and land judging. It was in this contest that John



With the aid of a computer used at Mifflinburg High School, 1984 FFA Star Farmer John Hauck can keep abreast of his farm records.

received his last individual red ribbon; everything after that was blue.

For his accomplishments, John received the Star Chapter Farmer award and was elected chapter treasurer. He was nominated to the school's Honor Society and was looking forward to a good junior year.

However, some changes took place over the summer and John had to reevaluate his FFA program.

John's father, a used farm machinery dealer, died that summer and John had to take a new look at his farming situation. "The summer my father died changed a lot of things," he said. "I had to look at the farm and see what the whole operation involved."

Now looking at the farm in an overall view, John decided to keep a Pa. Farm Account Book on the family farm as his FFA project. This was done with the help of his

uncle George, who was farming in partnership with his father.

John's farming program now included the whole operation - 200 acres of crop land and 40 cows.

In addition to his busy farm schedule, John continued to compete in area FFA contests and develop his leadership skills. He was named Union County Star Farmer.

As a senior, John continues to keep farm records and is looking forward to this spring's FFA contests. He is also looking into Penn State's two-year agribusiness program and says he would like to "hang onto the farm or get a job in agribusiness."

Although his speaking contest days are over, John is sold on parliamentary procedures and has high hopes for this year's state contest. The team placed fifth last year and wants to better its record.

With John's leadership skills leading the way, that goal may be possible.



Seventeen-year-old John Hauck checks one of the milking units used to milk the 40 cow Holstein herd.