

# Berks Ag Day scheduled on Thursday

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS  
Staff Correspondent

**READING** — The city will meet the farm as Berks County farmers prepare for their "best ever" Ag Day on Penn Square in the city of Reading. City folk will be treated to exhibits, demonstrations, and contests, as county farmers take a day off from their field work to explain agriculture.

Ag Day on Penn Square is scheduled for Thursday and in the event of rain, will be held Friday. Continuing from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ag Day will feature local celebrities as well as county farmers, and volunteers from the spectators.

Master of Ceremonies for the events will be Jack Gounder, radio announcer from WEEU. He will be officiating and calling for volunteers for the many contests scheduled throughout the day.

On the agenda is an ice cream eating contest, cow milking contest, beef cook-off contest, apple dumpling with milk eating contest,

animal dressing contest, water conservation race, and weight and age guessing contests for steers, lambs, and hogs.

Each contest is sponsored by a related organization as the farmer groups take advantage of the occasion to promote their products. The Berks County Dairy Farmers will be sponsoring the ice cream eating contest in which they will select 15 people from the public to vie for fastest ice cream eater.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Pork Producers will make a 100-pound pork burger and sell individual pork burgers for 50 cents. The cow milking contest will be sponsored by the Berks County Holstein Club and will feature a Holstein cow, a Guernsey cow and a Jersey cow.

The beef cook-off contest is sponsored by the Berks County Cattlemen's Association. Samples of all-beef bologna will be available to the public. The Berks

County Fruit Growers and the Berks County Junior Holstein Club will sponsor the apple dumpling and ice cream eating contest. Celebrities on two teams will attempt to dress goats in people's clothes in the animal dressing contest, sponsored by Berks County 4-H.

Other contests and exhibits will be sponsored by the Berks County Conservation District and Soil Conservation Service, Berks County Sheep and Wool Growers, Berks Agri-Women, Twin Valley FFA, Berks County FFA, Pikeville-Equipment Company, Berks Pomona Grange, Sheerlund Forests, Ontelaunee Orchards, Virginville Grange, and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Commodity and Dairy Queens will also be on hand to promote their products and answer questions. Live animals, farm crops, and machinery will

bedisplayed as agriculture is explained to the public. Everyone is invited to take the day off to

promote and enjoy Pennsylvania agriculture.

## Methane digester meetings set

LANCASTER — Practical, down-to-earth information about methane digesters — how they work and how they pay off — will be offered at meetings to be held in Lancaster and Somerset next week.

Speakers who have had direct contact with various types of digesters will talk directly to farmers about their experiences with the systems.

The Lancaster session is scheduled Tuesday at the Farm and Home Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Somerset session is planned Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at

the Ramada Inn.

Among speakers will be representatives of the Governor's Energy Council, the Lancaster Conservation District and digester companies, such as A.O. Smith, Ag-Way, RCM, Inc. and Perennial Energy. Among systems discussed will be the cooperative methane digester program being studied in Lancaster County.

The digesters and their value will also be related to the effort to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

The \$10.00 fee for the session includes lunch and a workbook to assist farmers in calculating costs and savings under a methane digester system.

## Lancaster Pig Show

(Continued from Page A31)

Placings in the show judged by Matt Parsons, former Penn State swine specialist who is now working as a swine consultant out of Hadley, Mass.:

### Lightweights

Class 1 — 1. Steven Heisey; 2. Sharon Heisey; 3. Floyd Huber.

Class 2 — 1. Andy Groff; 2. Chris Chapman.

Class 3 — 1. Duane Sauder; 2, 3. Tim Pfautz.

Class 4 — 1. Sheldon Heisey, 2. Chad Folker; 3. Gwen Myer.

Lightweight champion, Andy Groff; Reserve Champion, Duane Sauder.

### Middleweights

Class 5 — 1. Delvin Huber; 2. Andy Groff; 3. Tim Pfautz.

Class 6 — 1. Heidi Fisher; 2. Sheldon Heisey; 3. Duane Sauder.

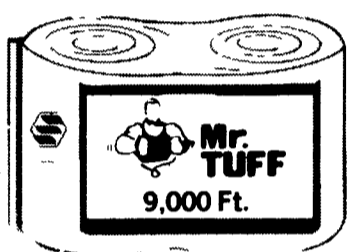
Class 7 — 1. Andy Groff; 2. Michelle Dean; 3. Fred Weaver.

Class 8 — 1, 2. Michelle Dean; 3. Sheldon Heisey.

Middleweight champ, Andy Groff (Reserve Grand Champion); and Reserve Champion, Delvin Huber.

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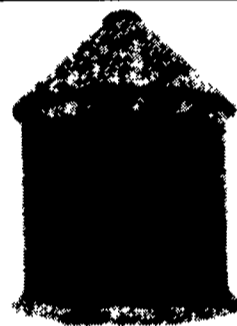


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