

Hickorymea boasts polled Holsten

BY JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent

AIRVILLE — There are farms from which the younger generation cannot flee fast enough in order to pursue careers outside of agriculture.

And then there are farms like Hickorymea Holsteins, home of the T. Edwin and Doris Johnson family.

Hidden back a farm lane, on the edge of the village of Airville, Hickorymea boasts a herd of 65 registered Holsteins (a majority of them polled), three members of a winning FFA dairy judging team, a trio of DHIA testers and a fourth generation already enjoying the

family farm.

The Johnson's five children are deeply committed to the dairy business. All have graduated from, or are presently students in the Red Lion High School's vocational-agriculture and FFA program. Most of them have grown up with 4-H dairy judging, and showing experience. All have, or expect to, continue working in the dairy industry.

"I wouldn't want to do anything else," affirms Patti, the oldest, and a 1976 graduate of vo-ag. Although she had worked briefly at a nearby restaurant, several years ago Patti accepted a position as a DHIA tester. She now has 37 herds



Generations of Johnsons

All promoters of polled registered Holsteins, the Johnson family also includes three DHIA testers and three members of a winning FFA judging team. From left are Patti, Abbe Schott, Doris with granddaughter Amanda Schott, Chip, Edwina, Ed and Keel.

Winning dairy judges



Red Lion's FFA dairy judging team took first-place honors at the Harrisburg All-American competition. From left are Chip and Edwina Johnson, Jerry Taylor, and Keel Johnson. Edwina's former 4-H project Holstein, Hickorymea Brett Connie, is scored EX-91-2E, and by Chambric Happy Brett.

in southern Lancaster County on her testing route.

"Every day, every place, every farm is different; no two days in a row are alike," says this busy DHIA staffer.

On those rare days she has off, Patti generally chooses to stay home, lending a hand with whatever chores are on schedule for the day. She is also one of the farm's chief calf raisers, caring for the young replacements bet-

ween milking hours of her clients.

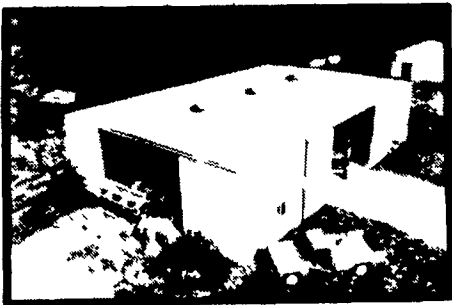
Abbe Johnson Schott, a 1980 Red Lion vo-ag graduate, didn't even wait until she'd finished school to start testing milk. Through most of her senior year, Abbe worked several mornings and evenings each week on her own DHIA route. She had been encouraged to accept the opportunity by her vo-ag instructor, John Myers, and received the blessing of the school principal. A study hall for her first



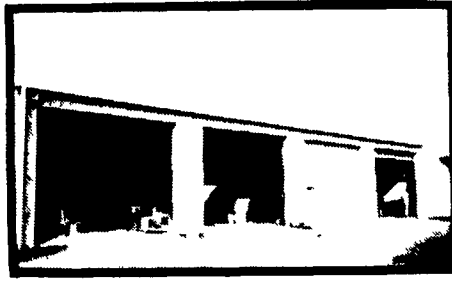
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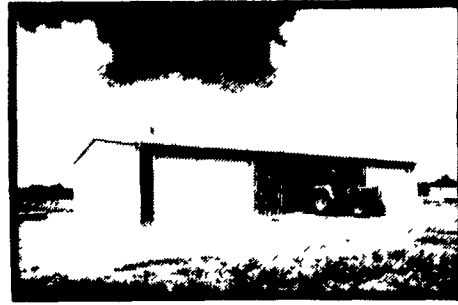
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