Shey-land Holsteins are embryo transpa

BY BARBARA MILLER **Staff Correspondent**

JERMYN — Vowing that "I would do it again," George Sheypuk of Shey-land Holsteins in Lackawanna County, explained the evolution of his embryo transplant operation. They are now collecting from excellent cows with records over 24,000 pound of

In 1982 George and Paul Sheypuk again led the state in dairy production with 23,511 pounds of milk and 881 pounds of fat. One year later the brothers sold their herd, except for young stock, and "vacationed" for a short time.

Then with occasional selective additions from outside their herd. they began rebuilding their

operation in 1984. This time the focus was placed on selling embryos from a few top individuals.

The Sheypuks have been very successful in their new venture. Last year they exported or implanted approximately 200 embryos from a few top individuals.

Walebe Christe ET, a Bell daughter out of Quietcove Matt Cinderella, is the Sheypuks' highest index cow. This index is currently 1736M, .09%, 80F and \$235. She classified VG 86 as a two year and had a record of 24,968M, 1090F with a 4.4 percent test in 313

George says he is even prouder of their second highest index cow, Shey-land Valiant Athene, because she is homegrown. Her index stands at 1307M, .16%, 76F and \$203. Born January 5, 1982, Athene classified EX 90 as a junior threeyear-old.

She is currently working on a record as a three-year-old of 26,473M, 1253F with a 4.7 percent test. Athene's dam is Shey-land Elevation Allure who classified EX

A good cow index is important to George. "Maybe you're not cow index oriented," he says, "but it's today's market." Although he's aware of changes now to pounds of protein and butterfat, George says farmers will have to work at what the market demands.

They began flushing cows two years prior to the sale, according to George, and decided to become serious about selling embryos because, "It was the wave of the future.'

Paul, however, is a bit more cautious, and is still reserving judgement on the changeover. "I don't know yet," he says, "I'll know better in a couple years."

George and Paul started farming 30 years ago at ages 15 and 13 respectively. The youngest of five children, they eventually pur-chased the farm from their father. Through hard work, they expanded and improved the herd until it became one of the highest producing in the state.

The work is divided so that George represents the farm at sales, conventions and in farm groups while Paul stays home and takes care of things.

According to George, Parkmont Glendell Joell, the first cow they purchased after their sale, has given them the highest number of embryos. To date they have ob-

with a 51 percent cheaper. \$136

repeatability. She classified EX 91

The majority of their embryos, George says, are surgically im- favorite is Rotate. planted. With surgical implantation, George says he can He's a high milk and test bull...we

tained 125 embryos from Joell benefit from an extra calf but, he whose index is 911M, .46 adds, nonsurgical implants are

To aid in selecting bulls the 2E and has a record in 365 days of Sheypuks use the Holstein 27,130M, 1133F with a 4.2 percent Association's Red Book as a guide. At present they are using Rotate, Mark and Ned Boy, but George's

"Rotate is on top of the heap.



Paul, left, and George proudly stand with the ribbons and trophies their herd has accumulated.

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Paul and his wife, Diane stand in front of the barn that

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