Mike Young urges Blair Holstein Breeders to use all resources

BY BETSY STITT Staff Correspondent

WILLIAMSBURG - Blair County Holstein breeders met at the Williamsburg School March 6 for their annual banquet.

Featured speaker for the evening was Mike Young, director of promotion for Holstein World. Young said 1986 will be a year of decisions, one of which farmers have already had to make - to participate in the dairy herd buyout program.

Some other decisions dairymen may face is whether to register calves or not. The National Holstein Association reported that registrations are down 20 percent.

A Holstein breeder himself, Young said he would not want to risk missing a good calf by not registering her because her dam wasn't at the top of the herd.

Still another decision is whether to classify every seven or 14 months. Young spoke out in support of the seven-month option. He said he believes that to get out and stay out of the current economic situation Holstein breeders must use all tools available to them.

Young also urged breeders to pay more attention to the amount of protein when selecting bulls. Although some dairymen are not being paid for protein now, in three to five years, they will be. And, he continued, if they choose bulls with high protein now, it will pay for itself later.

Young noted that although he doesn't see droves of new Holstein breeders in the United States, he does see foreign markets opening



Winners in the milk and fat contest, from left, were Doug Smith, Miriam Kelly, Kevin Diebold, Alice Smith and Ken Diebold.

Following Young's speech, the memberships to the five high new directors: Martin Brumbaugh, Tom Kelly, Max Smith and Randy Huntsman.

Blair County dairy princess Sheila Biddle reported on her activities, which have included talking to 90 school groups.

Ken Raney from the state association offered an update on state activities and reminded everyone that the June issue of "Profiles" will be taken to the National Holstein Convention. He also reported that Tom Kelly, state director from Blair County, was selected to represent Pennsylvania on the national board of directors.

The Blair County club presented

association selected the following schools and donated trophies to the dairy show. They also toured Lancaster County and donated funds to the Dairy Promotion Committee to purchase T-shirts for local T-ball teams.

Judy Black, youth director, presented awards to outstanding junior members. In the milk and fat contest two-year-old competition had Miriam Kelly in first in both milk and fat; Susanne Kelly was second in milk and fat. Susanne was also first in the three year olds, while Dan Smith was second. Doug Smith was second for

Four-year-old competition ended with Susanne Kelly first in both milk and fat, while Kevin Diebold was second in both categories.

Alice Smith was first in the five year olds for fat and Kevin Diebold was second. Karen Diebold was first in the milk contest and Susanne Kelly, second.

Jennifer Frederick, a member of the Morrisons Cove 4-H Dairy Club, was named outstanding junior Holstein member in the junior division. Senior division winner was Ken Diebold, a member of the Warriors Mark FFA and Sinking Valley 4-H Dairy

Kristen Metzker was recognized for competing in the state distinguished junior member

Ken Diebold and Jennifer Frederick are Blair County's **Outstanding Junior Holstein members.**

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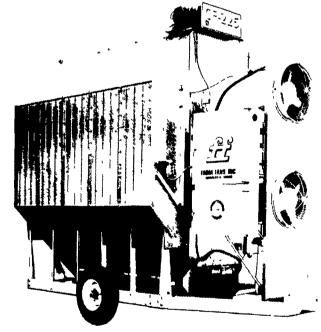
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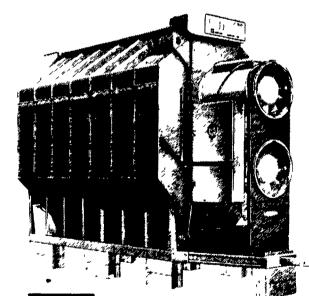
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