

On being a farm wife - And other hazards

Joyce Bupp



Southern Hospitality. Until recently, that was just a phrase. Empty, impersonal words. But no longer. Southern Hospitality now has meaning, a collage of faces, places and memories.

This was the first such cultural exchange in which our local school district had ever participated. In January, 20 seniors and two teacher advisors from the high school in Talledega, Ala., spent a week here, in hosts' homes and hearts. Welcomed with snow, some had gone sledding for their very first time. Crammed into their week were chilly visits to national and state capitols, Inner Harbor, and local "Pa. Dutch" historic and

industrial attractions.

Then it was April, time for the reverse exchange, our students' exposure to Southern culture. Lucky me - a chaperone vacancy developed shortly before departure date.

For most of the 18 students and us two adults, it was a week of "firsts."

First time to actually live with another family in a different sort of environment. First time to attend classes in a round school - yep, round - with study subject areas radiating from the central round gymnasium like spokes from a wheel.

First time to be exposed to a community enveloped in

education. Talledega's economy is education-centered, with a college, and several state training centers for the blind, deaf and handicapped. Visits to these outstanding centers were both impressive and inspiring in their accomplishments.

First-time exposure to a school where military training is a selective part of the curriculum. Students may enroll in the ROTC program, learning drills, riflery, and military preparedness, along with English, history and algebra. If they remain the entire four years, their college education is paid. Also, first exposure to a curriculum where ninth graders can explore career alternatives during six-week studies, from food service to auto mechanics to textile manufacturing.

Even worship experiences for some of us were new. For a liturgically-steeped Lutheran, the "preachin'" of a Bible Belt Baptist congregation was profoundly different. But still moving and inspirational. Surprising, though, was the strong position by men that women have no place of leadership in the church.

Other cultural differences which impressed; debonair gentlemenly manners, but more conservative views about female equality; a stronger emphasis on family togetherness and more focus on church-centered activities; iced-

tea as a regular menu item at fast food restaurants; preference for large, American-made automobiles; and no bumper stickers.

And, while I thought we were having some difficulty understanding Southern-spoken English, we, to them, are the ones who "talk funny."

"You all talk so fast we sometimes can't understand a word you say," teased a host one evening as we enjoyed a cookout at the family's spacious, almost an-

tebellum-style home. We do?

Other special firsts included memorable visits to the space center at Huntsville, a world-premier Shakespeare theatre presentation, and even the breaking of the world's stockcar racing speed - 212 mph. - during time trials at Alabama's International Speedway.

As a cultural exchange, it was profoundly successful. And 20 more York Countians now know what Southern Hospitality is REALLY like.

Hey, y'all, it was great.

Adams County Seeks Dairy Princess Candidates

GETTYSBURG - The Adams County dairy promotion committee is seeking contestants for the county's annual dairy princess pageant. All single young women between the ages of 16 and 24 from a dairy farm background are eligible to compete in the contest, scheduled for 8 p.m. June 14 at Biglerville High School.

Young women who have completed their junior year in high school and who will not reach their 24th birthday by Dec. 31, 1986 are eligible. Contestants must also have never been married and must

be the daughter of a dairy farmer, a dairy farm manager or herdsman. A young lady is also eligible if she is a full-time employee on an operating dairy farm or owns at least two dairy animals in a 4-H or FFA project prior to May 1, 1986.

All contestants will be required to give a radio-spot presentation promoting dairy products the evening of the pageant.

The winner will attend a training seminar July 8 to 10 and will compete in the State Dairy Princess Pageant in Harrisburg this September.

Young women interested in entering should contact Mrs. Robert Clowney at 334-7269 for applications as soon as possible. Applications must be completed and returned by May 20.

Cumberland County 4-H Council

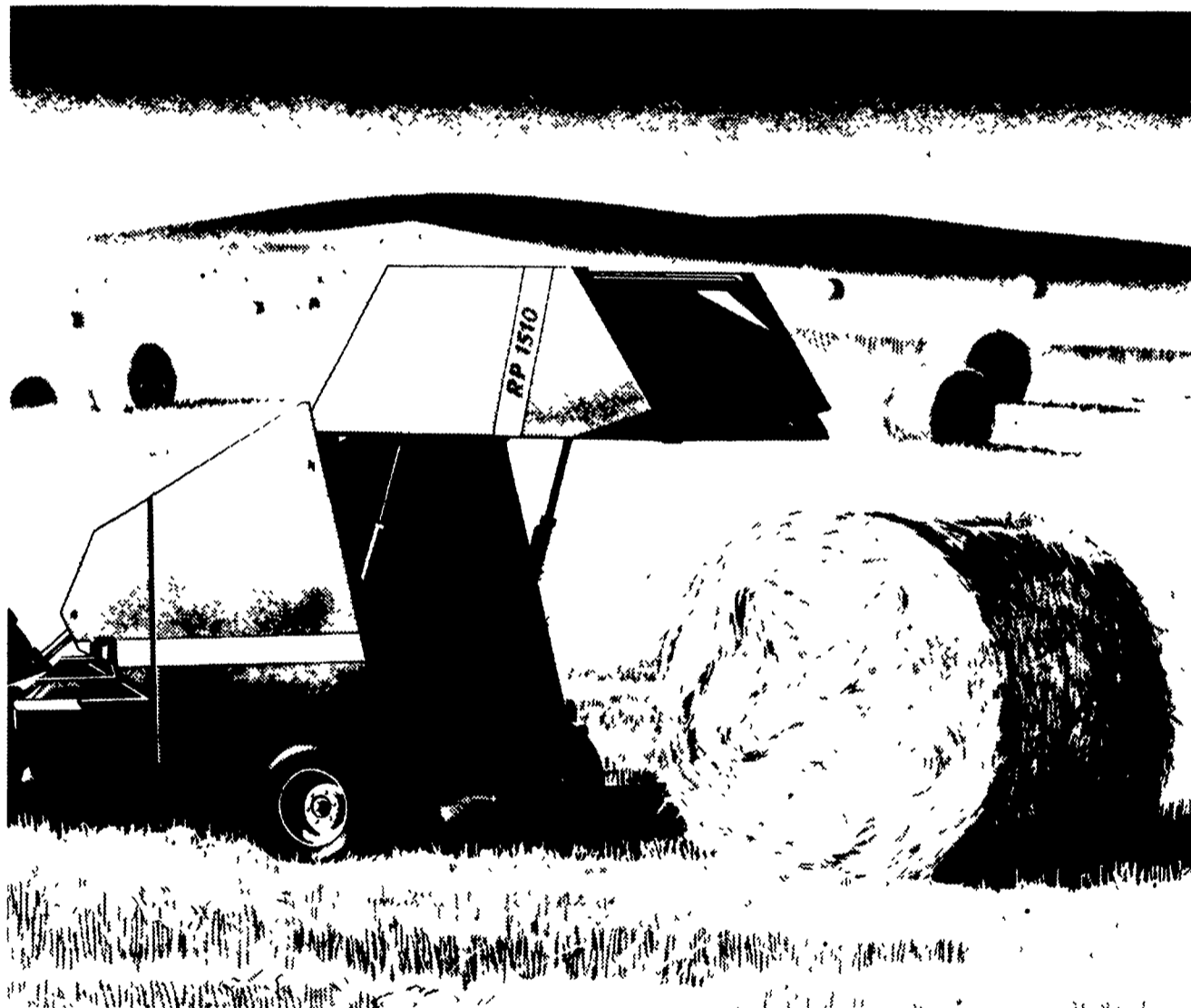
The Cumberland County 4-H County Council met April 28 at the Extension Office.

Sept. 6 has been designated 4-H Day at the Penn State Football Game. Members who want to attend the game will be charged \$15.

Members discussed the possibility of buying a computer with the money made from selling cookbooks.

Speak-Out Night will be held June 18. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

The club will meet again May 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Extension Office. The meeting will highlight the IFYE program.



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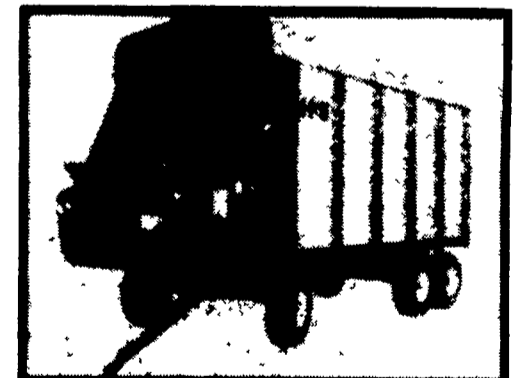
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