

# 4-H Livestock Banquet

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 out wonderful," he recalls, pointing out that three of the calves chalked up three consecutive Farm Show grand championships. The three winning Herefords were immediately followed by two grand champion Angus steers, also shown by Lancaster County exhibitors. "That seemed to encourage our club, and after that it (enrollment) really jumped up," he points out.

Smith's efforts did not go unnoticed nationally, and in 1956 the American Hereford Association named him one of the top 10 county agents in the nation. Five years later he received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agents.

Since his retirement, Smith keeps his hand in county 4-H activities by serving in an advisory capacity. In the past half century, both the livestock and the 4-H'ers themselves continue to improve, he observes. Today's cattle are much taller, longer and more rugged, he points out. "I think it's good to have the cattle more growthy than they were 50 years ago."



Patti Greider received the beef club's Red Rose 4-H award and Fritz Frey received the Jason L. Weaver Leadership Award.

And as for the exhibitors, Smith notes that, while it's harder to get young people to attend meetings now because of their increased scholastic and extracurricular demands, "I think the quality and ability is as good or better now than it was.

"If I had to do it over again, I'd

do the same thing," Smith summed up after receiving a 50-year pin from the club in recognition of his longstanding involvement with 4-H.

The banquet featured many more awards presented by the Red Rose Beef Club and Woolies Club to club members and supporters. This was the second year for the



Former Lancaster Extension agent Max Smith looked back on 50 years of service to the county's young people at the Lancaster County 4-H Livestock Banquet on Thursday. Behind him is club leader Elvin Hess who presented Smith with award.

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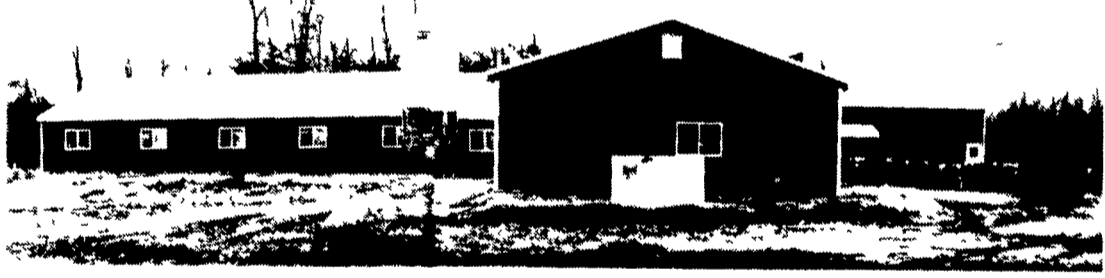
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