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Boyd Wolff and Mrs. Wolff (left) share the spotlight this week in the governor's office as Wolff was sworn in as Pennsylvania's new Agriculture Secretary. Administering the oath of office is James J. Haggerty, Secretary of State. Governor Robert Casey is on the right.

Wolff Sworn In As Ag Secretary

Boyd E. Wolff, a lifelong farmer from Westmoreland County, was sworn in as Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture in ceremonies in the capital.

"We want to assure legislatures representing rural Pennsylvania that their voices will be heard," Governor Robert P. Casey said in remarks at the conclusion of the ceremony.

"We want to make it clear to people who live in rural areas that we care about them as individuals," Casey said. "These are the concerns of this administration and of Secretary Wolff."

As secretary, Wolff, 55, oversees

the commonwealth leading industry—a source of more than \$35 billion in economic activity and jobs for one out of every five Pennsylvanians.

"I expect agriculture to play an important roll in this administration revitalization of the state's economy," Wolff said after taking the oath of office from Secretary of State James Haggerty.

"It is an honor to serve in the Casey administration for an industry I know well and love," said Wolff, a full-time farmer and leader in the local and state

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Snider, Sands Join Holstein Hall Of Fame Ranks

WILKES-BARRE — Two more Pennsylvania dairymen were named to the Holstein Hall of Fame here Thursday night as Ralph Sands of Wyoming and Obie Snider of Imler were honored for their contributions to the state's dairy industry.

Snider, owner-operator of Singing Brook Farms, is well-known in the dairy community as a successful Holstein breeder. He served as president of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association and as national HFA director for two terms.

Internationally known as a professional judge of registered Holsteins, Snider has served as president of the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show since its establishment in 1963. He is also a member of the Pennsylvania Milk Promotion Board.

In 1958, Snider was designated Outstanding Pennsylvania Young Farmer and the following year he

received Master Farmer recognition. He also was honored with the Progressive Breeders Registry Award for eight years.

A graduate of Penn State University, he continues his interest in his alma mater as president of the university's board of trustees. A firm supporter of the school's college of agriculture,

Snider served as chairman of the Ag Arena Fund Campaign which raised \$1.7 million for the new building.

Snider has served on the board of directors of the Chestnut Ridge School District for 28 years and is a founding member of the East Freedom Chapel where he serves as Sunday school teacher and

elder.

Snider and his wife, Mary Ann, have recorded several albums of Christian music. The couple has four children and seven grandchildren.

Wyoming dairyman Ralph Sands is owner/operator of Sandsdale Farms. Sands and his wife, Marion, farm 206 acres (90 are rented) with a helping hand from daughter Harriet.

In February 1985 Sands sold the majority of his dairy herd to Laverne Herr of Gettysburg, but retained a few younger animals which he is using along with new stock to build another, smaller champion herd.

An active member of the Columbia-Luzerne Holstein Club, Sands is past and current president of the organization, a past state director and, for the past 15 years, has served as sales representative.

An official cattle judge, Sands has presided over shows in six

states and has been helpful in selecting cattle for export both nationally and internationally.

A Holstein breeder for 38 years, Sands has raised numerous Excellent cows. In the local club, he bred high cow for type in 1983 and again in 1984. At the latest classification, his herd scored 106.5 BAA.

Sands has shown the grand champion Holstein at the Pennsylvania Farm Show several times, and took home the top honor from the State Black and White Show, and Bloomsburg and Hartford Fairs as well. He also earned several "All-PA" awards and several of his cows were nominated for "All-American."

Many of the bulls bred by Sands have been purchased by Western Cattle Breeders, Ontario, Hamilton Cattle Breeders, Ontario, Tri-State Breeders, Wisc., Eastern Cattle Breeders, Ithaca,

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Tobacco Growers Eye Processing

BY JACK HUBLEY

LANCASTER — With the 1986 tobacco buying season coming to a close, Lancaster County farmers are finding themselves with a shed full of Maryland Type 609 tobacco and depressed prices.

Last year marked the first time in 40 years that Pennsylvania growers marketed their tobacco through an auction system, and prices averaged \$1.15 a pound for 609, the tobacco commonly used in the manufacture of cigarettes.

This year the top grades have been averaging about half of last year's prices, with outgrades selling in the 12-to-15-cent range.

Plummeting tobacco prices are generally blamed on a supply of processed burley tobacco being offered by the federal government. According to Ken Brubaker of Keystone Tobacco Marketing Group, a marketing company that represents the county's auctions, about 75 million pounds of

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Also In Lancaster Farming Territory This Week

Md. Holstein Convention: B12 - 16



Del-Myr Gold Holly sold for \$11,100, the top price at the Maryland Holstein Convention Sale. She sold to Pintail Point Farm, represented by Dan Vosburg (second from right), Maureen Vosburg, Louis Schaefer and Jean Schaefer. Holly was consigned by the Myers family, represented by Roger (left) behind Krista and Kelli and Jason and Donna Myers. Also pictured are Denny Remsburg (left in box) and Norman Hill Billy Heath holds the halter.

Pa. Cattlemen's Conference: D2



Three prominent beef industry men were honored at the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association annual conference at Boiling Springs last weekend. Honorees were Leon Falk, Jr., Seedstock Producer award; Norman Painter, Commercial Cattleperson award; and Walt Keister, Industry Services award

And There
Is Much,
Much More
To See...