

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, February 4, 1989

Five Sections

50¢ Per Copy

\$10.00 Per Year

Iowa Congressman Featured At York Ag Dinner

BY JOYCE BUPP York Co. Correspondent YORK — Farmers can expect a little more and a little less in the future from the government, according to Iowa congressman Fred Grandy.

Rep. Grandy was the featured speaker at the second Agriculture Recognition Banquet, hosted at Wisehaven Hall by the York Area Chamber of Commerce. Best known to the American public as "Gopher" on the popular television show "Love Boat," he is serving his second term as a republican congressman representing 23 Iowa counties.

A member of the House Agriculture Committee, Rep. Grandy predicted that farmers will see less of government subsidies and supports, and more governmental and legislative involvement of farmers in environmental issues. He suggested that recent agriculture "pocketbook" programs have focused too heavily on commodity prices and not enough on common sense stewardship of the soils.

The Iowa ag leader cited several reasons why Congress may hedge on writing a new Farm Bill for 1990, when the five-year 1985 legislation runs out.

"Exports are up, the ag economy is turning up, and 'if it ain't broke why fix it," said Grandy of the Farm Bill issue. Budget austerity, improved trade outlook, and eight members of the Senate Ag

(Turn to Page A32)

Penn-Jersey Expo Puts Excitement Back Into Farming

BY PAT PURCELL

ALLENTOWN (Lehigh) — The Penn-Jersey Exposition delivered the enthusiasm of a hot July revival meeting at their annual event held in Allentown on Wednesday. All that was massing was the tent for the 150 dairy farmers and agbusiness people. And will all the fervor of a traveling revival preacher, each speaker made sure no one was dozing off in the back pew.

Managment was the day's sermon. And if the spirited delivery did not ignite a spark enthusiasm in each farmer, well, maybe they shouldn't be in farming.

The key word for the day was opportunity.

Opportunity.

The definition of an opportunity according to the dictionary is a favorable or advantageous combination of circumstances. And according to the speakers at Penn-Jersy Expo, farmers have plenty of opportunities.

For initiance, heifers weighing 1,002 pounds instead of 1,200 pounds at breeding time. That's an opportunity. Heifers freshening at 29 months. That's an opportunity. Milk production of 45-head of Holsteins levels off at 18,000 pounds. That's an opportunity. Leveling off at 16,000 pounds, now that's a real opportunity.

If you are like most farmers you shake your head to adjust your hearing because they sound like problems and not a favorable set of circumstances. And yes, you have a lot of them.

Gordon Conklin, editor of American Agriculturalist, made several valuble points during his speech but none as important as his closing one.

He showed farmers a sign which read

OPPORTUNITY IS NOWHERE

And most farmers chuckled and shook their heads in agreement.

"This is the way most of you feel about farming," said Conklin. "But

(Turn to Page A26)

Lancaster Farmland Trust Releases Trustee List

LANCASTER — Daniel C. Herr, President of the Lancaster Farmland Trust, a non-profit, private sector farmland preservation organization this week released the organization's 1989 Board of Trustees list. The 22 member Board includes as officers: Daniel



The Earl Brown family of Loganville was named Farm Family of the Year by the York Chamber of Commerce. Seated is Margaret Brown, and standing from left are her husband Earl, son Stan and his wife Nona and grandson Scott.

Fed Cattle Prices To Remain Strong

BY LISA RISSER LANCASTER — "The price for fed cattle will remain strong

C. Herr, President, an attorney

with the firm of Herr and Low;

Marilyn W. Lewis, Vice Presi-

dent, Chairman of the Board of

American Water Works Company

Inc. and a member of the Advisory

Board of the Shelter for Abused

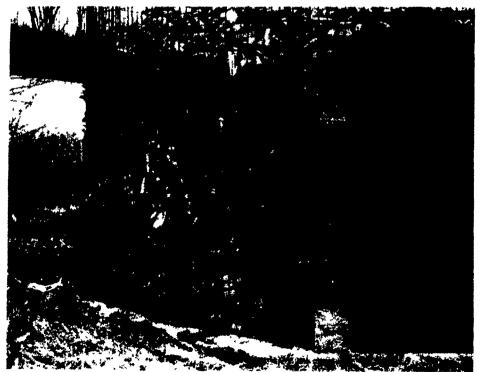
(Turn to Page A36)

throughout the year because the numbers aren't there," predicted H. Louis Moore, ag economist for Penn State. Addressing cattlemen at the Cattle Feeders Day here, Moore added "There will be \$.80 cattle later this spring for some week, but it may cost you \$.81 to feed. I think prices in the Pennsylvania market will be \$.73 to \$.79 for the year."

Moore projected that beef production will be down 5 percent in 1989, however, carcass weights will be up. "The weight per steer is

(Turn to Page A31)

Deer Cause Major Crop Damage In Western PA



BY LINDA WILLIAMS Bedford Co. Correspondent

BEDFORD — Each year, hundreds of acres of Bedford County farmland are being destroyed, not by insects or drought, but by the Pennsylvania Whitetailed deer.

"They run in pockets all through the county," says W. Clair Koontz, a Morrison's Cove farmer. "They follow the ridges along the mountain ranges. And, each year, the deer population seems to be increasing."

Deer eat crops in the fields in summer and ransack corn cribs in winter.

Koontz who farms more than 300 acres of ground in the Texas Corner area of Bedford County lost nearly \$10,000 in crops last year due to the deer. "We lost a lot more from deer damage than we did from the drought," Koontz continues.

"There are farmers in this direction who are just giving up," Koontz says. In order to help the situation, Koontz put up a sign this year welcoming doe hunters.

"We had a good many responses," he says. "And, we didn't have one problem with any of the hunters... we never have. We have never posted our land."

Directly across the Snake Spring Valley Mountain from Koontz is Dutch Corner. There, Landy Henry farms a total of 850 acres on 14 different farms.

"Certain farms are worse than others," Henry points out. "Some of our land is near the state game lands or posted land and deer aren't dumb, they know this a good place to stay."

Henry and his three sons have had permission from the Game Commission to shoot deer for a number of years. "But, it doesn't seem to do much good," he admits. "When you shoot one, a dozen more come to the funeral."

Henry says he sometimes counts as high as 40 deer in one field before dark.

"It's a well known fact," Henry says, "that a single rat can eat \$25 worth of grain per year. Considering the difference in size, I wonder how much one deer can eat?" Henry plants 150 acres of soybeans and the last four or five years, the deer have eaten most of them.

He's been mowing hay and watching deer eating corn out of the field while it is still in tassle. "The drought this year didn't help," Henry adds. "There was less in the woods for