

FFA Students Compete For Speaking Honors

BY LOU ANN GOOD
KINZERS (Lancaster) — Penn Manor's Heidi Quanbeck proved her prediction that she can speak on any subject. The tenth grader walked away with top honors in the county FFA extemporaneous speaking contest, held at Pequea Valley High School on Wednesday.

Heidi was one of 25 students from six county schools who competed. She and Mike Fisher, second-place winner, and John Hess, third place winner, will go on to area FFA competition sche-

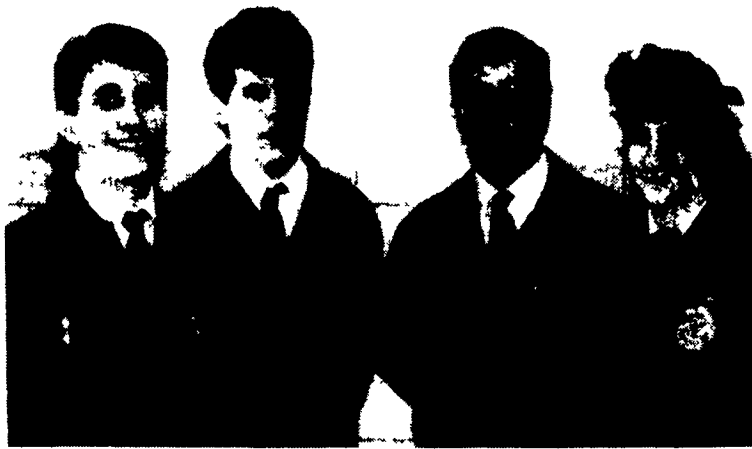
duled at Solanco High School on April 13. Fisher represented Solanco and Hess, Manheim Central.

Contestants in the extemporaneous category drew a topic then had 30 minutes to prepare a four to six minute speech. Heidi's speech focused on computers and ag. Although this was the first time, she entered the extemporaneous category, Heidi admitted that speaking ability runs in her family. Her brother, Eric who is now 23, won at county, area and regional levels and placed second in the

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Extemporaneous speech winners at Lancaster County FFA competition included from left: John Hess (third), Heidi Quanbeck (first), Matt Wanner (fourth) and Mike Fisher (second).



Senior prepared speech winners in county FFA competition included from left: Matt Wanner (third), Greg Harnish (first), Don Fair (fourth) and Krislie Miller (second).

Management Practices Can Help You Beat Johne's

Editor's note: This is the first article of a two-part series on Johne's Disease. The disease was the topic at an informational meeting held at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center this week.

BY LISA RISSER

LANCASTER — When a farmer sees his best dairy cows, one after another, shed hundreds of pounds in a short time, he wants answers. Johne's Disease could be the first answer; there's no cure is the second answer.

Hundreds of farmers and veterinarians came to the Farm & Home Center on Tuesday to find out more answers at a Johne's update meeting sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Industry, Penn State, and the University of Pennsylvania.

The day's discussion centered on explaining the disease and what measures researchers have found to prevent the further spread of Johne's within a herd or to another herd. Dr. Ron Yoxheimer, chief of cattle diseases with PDA's Bureau of Animal Industry, announced that the department has expanded its testing facilities to alleviate some of the bottleneck caused by the fecal cultures, which often need to sit for three months before results can be determined.

In addition, Yoxheimer discussed the Certified Johne's Disease Test Negative Herd Plan. "The thrust has been to identify infected animals," he said. "We need a program that would identify herds that aren't infected."

Such a program would provide

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Five Farmers Interviewed Pennsylvania Farmers Report Surface Moisture, But Dry Subsoil

BY PAT PURCELL

EPHRATA (Lancaster) — Is another drought on the horizon for 1989? While forecasters look to the skies and their crystal balls to make their predictions, farmers, being the practical-minded people that they are, are looking at their soil and are not making any predictions. All their sure of is what they see in their fields today.

The soil moisture level is better in many areas of the state than it was last year, but as Jim Harteis, a dairy farmer in Cambria county said, all that could change in thirty days.

Just 20 miles from Altoona, sur-

face and subsoil moisture look good on the 400 acres where Harteis grows alfalfa and corn. But water tables continue to be at least two to three inches below normal.

"If it continues as it's been for the past 30 days the moisture level should be adequate," said Harteis. "All that can change. It did last year in 30 days."

Just north of Ephrata near Schenksville, dairyman Galen Crouse reports subsoil does not

have the moisture it should this time of year. And at the southern end of Lancaster County, Jim Hess, confirms the same conditions.

"The subsoil has some moisture, but it's worse than average. We've had a dry winter and a real dry January," said Hess.

Due to soil types and manure application, Lancaster County is less prone to drought than some

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Daylight Savings Time
Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour at 2:00 a.m. Sunday.

Proposed Cuts Called Unfair National Ag Programs 1.1 Percent Of Budget

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor
BLAIR STATION (York)—According to the staff

assistant of the U.S. House committee on agriculture, expenditures on national farm programs are down substantially from the 26 billion dollars spent in 1986. James Lyons, speaking for the national ag committee, said that the 1989 projected expenditures would be down to only 11 billion dollars. "We have made a significant savings already," Lyons said.

The report was part of Congressman Bill Goodling's (R-19) Agriculture Seminar held here Wednesday at the 4-H Center. Lyons said that agriculture expenditures represented only 1.1 percent of the total U.S. budget, and some supporters think agriculture is singled out unfairly for budget cuts. In addition, to add to agriculture's importance, Lyons said that the U.S. is a net exporter of ag products.

William Bailey, deputy under secretary, international affairs and commodity programs, agreed. "Even though we export more soybeans than aircraft, some people in government think ag is not important enough to make committ-

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The Pennsylvania Holstein Association State Spring Show grand champion was Emar Loretta Lynn (right) owned by Howard Hammond, III and Mark Campbell. The reserve grand champion was Ebe-Tide Libido Poppy owned by Morrell Farms and exhibited by Bob Morrell (center right). Junior champions of the open show were exhibited by Ron Hefner (left) and Jim Burdette (center left). Dairy Princess Tami Balthaser made the presentations. See all the pictures from the show starting on D-10.