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The 1989 Alfalfa Growers award winners are, from left, front row: David Hileman, top 10 percent; Al Dugan of Milton Hershey School Farm, grand champion; Carl Kreider, reserve grand champion; back row: Allen Baker, Ron Myers, Mark Wolfskill, and Ken Mowry.

Hershey School Farms Take Second Trophy

BY LINDA WILLIAMS
Bedford Co. Correspondent

ALTOONA (Blair Co.) — For the second straight year, the Milton Hershey School Farm won the Pennsylvania Alfalfa Growers grand champion award.

Al Dugan accepted the award at a banquet held at the Sheraton in Altoona on December 20. The school farm won the award with a 8.5 ton per acre average for 1989.

The reserve grand champion was Carl Kreider from Lancaster County with a 7.4 ton average.

Third place in Region 4, from which the two championships came, went to Mark Wolfskill of Berks County, with a 6.5 ton average.

In the top 10 percent in Region 4 were Ron Hodge of Lawrence County and John Yasnowski of Mercer County. First place went to John Courtney of Mercer County, second to Joe Hammerschmidt of Lawrence County, and Charles Miller, third, of Lackawanna County. The average yield per acre for Region 4 was five tons.

Placing in the top 10 percent in Region 3, the southwest portion of the state, were Elder Vogel of Beaver County and Vincent Flannery of Somerset County. First place went to Norman Jodinkinos of Beaver County, second to D.J. and Orin Claypool of Armstrong County, and third to Lee Caldwell of Beaver County.

In Region 2, Jacob Stoltzfus

took first place, Ken Mowry of Roaring Spring was second, and Ronald Myer of Clinton County was third. Also in the region's top 10 percent were David Hileman of Blair County and Allen Baker of Bedford County.

The awards were presented by Dr. Sid Bosworth, assistant professor of agronomy at Penn State University. Bosworth stated that the yield per acre was down in 1989.

"Prior to this year, average was 5.8 to 6.1 tons per acre. In 1989, the average was 4.4," Bosworth said, blaming the drop on the extremely wet weather experienced throughout most of the state during this past summer.

Bosworth also noted the late first cutting date. The average had been May 27. This year, it was June 10.

John Rodgers, an alfalfa producer, presented green jackets to the past top state producers as the meeting marked the end of the 15-year program.

Winners in the past included Al Dugan of the Milton Hershey School Farm, 1988; Allen Baker of Bedford County, 1982, '84, '86, and '87; Carl Kreider of Lancaster County, 1985; Dan Schrack, 1979; Harold Gayman, 1977; and Howard Mellott, 1976.

A jacket also was presented to John Baylor, director of market development with Beachley-Hardy Seed Co., for all of his work

(Turn to Page A42)

New Over-Order Agency Seeks Bargaining Stance In Western Pennsylvania

KARL BERGER
Special Correspondent

MEDINA, OH — There's a new player in milk marketing activities in western Pennsylvania that hopes to take over where RCMA left off.

The Producers' Equalization Agency (its organizers hope it won't become known by its acronym) is the latest over-order bargaining group to be put together by area dairymen. Like the Regional Cooperative Market-

ing Agency, the new agency will try to unite cooperative and independent dairymen in an effort to extract higher prices from handlers than the minimums specified by the federal order system. But its leaders hope to avoid some of the pitfalls that have wiped out RCMA efforts in much of New York and Pennsylvania.

John Siglow, who was hired Octobers as the agency's first general manager, said the new group is still getting organized. Under the guidance of Milk Marketing Inc.,

the region's dominant dairy cooperative, bylaws were approved last December and 20
(Turn to Page A38)

1989 A Year

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — For many, 1989 was a year of triumph, for others it was tinged with sadness. As the last minutes of 1989 tick away, many reflect on memories from the '80s decade and hope the upcoming decade will be their best ever.

We've asked several persons, whose faces have appeared in arti-

Of Triumph And Sadness

cles this past year, to tell us about their 1989 highlights, their hopes for 1990, and their plans to celebrate the beginning of a new decade.

For Anne Mitchell of Berks

(Turn to Page A44)



PA Dairy Princess Anne Mitchell (left) with Jan Harding, PAPPS director.

Achenbach Joins LF Staff



Vernon Achenbach Jr.

A new addition to the Lancaster Farming staff is writer Vernon Achenbach Jr. from Lebanon County.

An alumnus of Penn State University, where he studied biology, Achenbach began his professional writing career nine years ago as an Army journalist. Since then he has worked for several newspapers, writing on a variety of subjects from Army training exercises to outdoor recreation and organized sports.

He first delved heavily into agricultural reporting about two and a half years ago and has covered two state farm shows and various local agricultural events.

Most recently, he directed a statewide agricultural radio news

(Turn to Page A36)

Closed

Monday

The Lancaster Farming office will be closed Monday, in observance of New Years Day. Deadlines for the January 6 issue are as follows:

- General News — 5:00 p.m. Wednesday.
- Late Breaking News — Noon Thursday.
- Classified Section B Ads — 5:00 p.m., Wednesday.
- All other classified Ads — 9:00 a.m., Thursday.