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While Husband At War, Wife Takes Charge Of Farm

GAY N. BROWNLEE
Somerset Co. Correspondent
MEYERSDALE (Somerset Co.)—Sue Vought has been solely responsible for herself and three children since her husband, Robert Vought, an E01 United States Naval reservist, was called to active duty last November. He is currently stationed in Guam where he loaded ammunition for the war in the Persian Gulf.

"It means a lot to have the children," said Sue, of daughter Sonya, 16; and sons Joshua, 14; and Caleb, 10.

Two years ago the Voughts began dairy farming while Bob continued his job as an equipment operator at the Somerset State Hospital. Prior to that, Sue had never milked a cow. Once she mastered the technique, the milk-

ing primarily became her responsibility while Bob fed the animals. The dairy is located at Bob's homeplace, which is located a few miles from the Vought's current home. Most of the Vought's 22-head dairy herd consists of Ayrshire cattle.

Sue said that while she was somewhat stunned when Bob was called into active duty, she is grateful for all he had taught her about home and farm management.

"He always made sure I understood both the feeding end and the milking end," she said, "and all there is to know about the business and managing finances."

Despite her competent ability to manage the farm, Sue said, "It's lonely. But I'm so thankful I have the children and the church."



Sitting at the kitchen table, the Vought family wait for dad and husband Robert to come home from war to take over the farm. They are, left to right, Caleb, Sonya, Sue and Joshua.

(Turn to Page A35)

Mid-Atlantic Alfalfa Yield Meetings Set For March In Maryland

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Mid-Atlantic growers could more than double their alfalfa yields with improved management practices, declares Lester R. Vough, forage crops specialist for the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland System.

To back up his statement, Dr. Vough notes that alfalfa variety yield plots at the Clarksville facility of the Central Maryland Research and Education Center have ranged from 7 to 11 tons per acre over the past five years. This compares with a statewide average yield of three to four tons per acre.

To share some of the methods used at the research center, the Extension Service and the Maryland-Delaware Forage Council are sponsoring a series of three alfalfa management workshops across Maryland's northern

(Turn to Page A35)

Pseudorabies Status Meeting Set

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)—An educational and informative meeting aimed at updating swine producers on the current pseudorabies status in Pennsylvania is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 1991 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bergstrasse Elementary School (at the

Ethanol Will Triple In Production

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — Ethanol will nearly triple in production in the next four years, said Bob Dinneen, legislative director of the Renewable Fuels Association, on Thursday at the Pennsylvania Corn

Route 322 exit of Route 222 across from the church).

Robert Fahnestock, Lancaster County swine producer and pseudorabies virus (PRV) coordinator, will address the current pseudorabies situation in northern

(Turn to Page A29)

Conference.

Farmers who wish to turn their corn production to ethanol, a gas additive derived from corn, may benefit. One bushel of corn equals about 2.5 gallons of ethanol (40 percent of a bushel converts to one gallon of ethanol).

"Auto manufacturers and consumers are becoming much more acceptive of ethanol blends," said Dinneen. About 120 million gallons of ethanol were sold in 1990 — up 40 million from 1989.

And because corn manufacturers have yet to profit from an existing market surrounding Philadelphia (which does not yet meet the federal standards and must begin

to decrease carbon monoxide and other emissions through the use of an ethanol or other fuel additives), the Pennsylvania market has a "brighter future," said Dinneen.

Alternative fuels

The ethanol spokesperson said that 50 percent of all of the oil consumed in the U.S. last year was imported, and Congress has elected to pursue alternative fuels.

Congress has passed legislation which will allow small producers of ethanol (5-10 million gallons) a 10 cent per gallon income tax credit.

Dinneen expects an "explo-

(Turn to Page A33)

Farm Youth Soccer Star Drinks Milk



Farm youth, Keith Schlegel, was named All-American in soccer and his jersey was retired at Fleetwood Area High School. The photo includes parents Ken and Sharon Schlegel.

CONNIE LEINBACH
Berks Co. Correspondent
FLEETWOOD (Berks Co.) — Keith Schlegel would agree that lifting bales of hay on his family's dairy farm helped shape him into a high school soccer star.

The Fleetwood Area High School senior was named first team All-American player in

December by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. And on Monday, his jersey — No. 5 — was retired at the high school.

Keith, 18, is the seventh player in Fleetwood soccer history to be so honored. What's special about Keith's accomplishment is that he became a top scorer on the team

(Turn to Page A26)

Farmer USDA Participation Aided For Desert Storm

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Farmers and others engaged in agriculture operations across Pennsylvania have been called to duty as part of Operation Desert Storm.

With several US Department of Agriculture program participation deadlines approaching, regulations to assist such producers have been issued. The new provisions will waive the normal agent or designee authorization documents which are unique to USDA programs executed by the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

"This will allow a spouse to take necessary actions to keep the farm operation involved with

ASCS programs in conservation and wheat and feed grain programs without interruption," said Don Unangst, ASCS State Executive Director.

"Many farms depend on participation in these programs to preserve the environment and maintain the stability of farming operations," continued Unangst. "At this critical time, we are doing what we can to ease the worry of these families and to allow as much continuity of planning as possible for farm operations," Unangst concluded.

Details on current conservation and wheat and feed grain signups requirements can be obtained at any one of the sixty (60) county ASCS offices.