

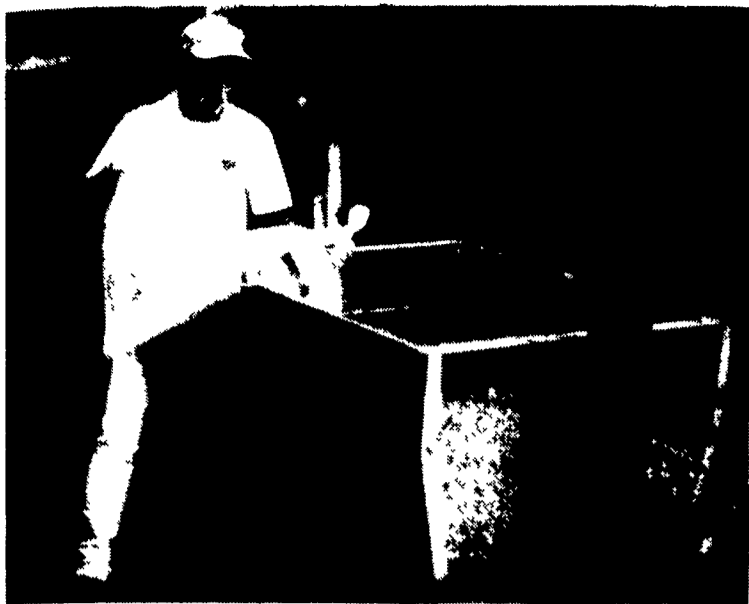
FFA

HAPPENINGS

The Pennsylvania FFA Association held their annual summer convention at Penn State University recently.

During the proceedings, 22 FFA members received a first place state proficiency award in one of 29 areas.

Proficiency awards are based primarily on the individual's Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAE) and their leadership. Each first place winner received a check for \$100 and the chance to compete in U.S. Eastern Regional Competition later this summer.



John Risser feeds this group of feeder pigs a high quality ration.



Ammon Peiffer checks a stack of his soybeans to determine moisture content and quality.

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Ammon Peiffer, Jr. and John Risser, both from the Cedar Crest FFA, received first place honors. Peiffer, son of Martha and Ammon Peiffer Sr., Lebanon, received the State Oil Crop Production Proficiency Award. Ammon's SAE program consisted of raising 21 acres of soybeans. In addition, he also raises dairy animals and corn.

He has been an active member of the FFA for the past 5 years. Some of his activities have included serving as chapter and county FFA president, chairman of the supervised farming and earnings and savings committees, and as chapter treasurer. Peiffer has attended the National FFA Convention and several leadership training conferences. He was on four first place state parliamentary procedure teams, won the Star Greenhand Award, and received a medal in the state FFA record book contest. Ammon plans to continue working on his father's dairy farm and to increase his dairy herd, as well as improve his cropping program.

John Risser is the son of Jill and Harold Risser of Lebanon. John received the State Swine Production Proficiency Award. The award was the result of his 21-sow swine herd. In addition, he raises and markets approximately 150 market hogs each year. His other SAE projects include raising steers and heifers and work experience.

John has been an active FFA member beginning with his freshman year in 1987. He has served as chapter president and reporter and been chairman of many committees, including conduct of meetings and safety committees. Risser has attended the Washington Leadership Conference Program, the National FFA Convention, and the State Legislative Leadership Conference. His many awards include medals in the state record book contest, county star farmer, several first places in the state parliamentary procedure contests, livestock judging medals, and first place in the salesmanship contest. John plans to increase the size of his herd and the quality of his animals so he can raise hogs full time.

