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# Lancaster Farming

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**78TH PENNSYLVANIA STATE FARM SHOW**  
JANUARY 8-13, 1994  
FARM SHOW COMPLEX, HARRISBURG, PA

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**Editor's Note:** Our special Farm Show Issue this week brings you features, news articles, event schedules, the building layout, and messages from agribusinesses to make your visit to the show enjoyable and profitable. We hope you have the opportunity to attend. For your information, this index of Farm Show stories and our regular weekly features continues on Page A-3.

## National Holstein Winter Forums Scheduled

FREDERICK, MD—A national network of winter meetings coast-to-coast is set for all Holstein breeders. Known as the Holstein Winter Forum, the National Holstein Association each year holds grass roots meetings to obtain opinions from breeders on all areas of interest to the dairy industry. "Now more than ever, the National Holstein Association is seeking input from the breeders on the key issues facing the dairy

industry and the association," said Marlin Hoff, director from Maryland. "Come to the meeting nearest you and add your voice to those of your neighbors at the breed meetings. National directors from your region will carry your message to the association leadership," Hoff said.

Some of the topics for discussion include the new classification options, finances, genetic issues, (Turn to Page A40)



State Farm Show participation is in full swing for Amos and Patricia Good with sons, from left, Justin, 18; Christopher, 10; Patrick, 14; and Jonathan, 7. Justin has been showing hogs for four years, but it will be the first time at state competition for Patrick, who is autistic and a member of the 4-H swine club.

## Farm Show Provides Opportunity For Autistic Teen To Participate

**LOU ANN GOOD**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)  
—New faces enter the Pennsylvania Farm Show livestock competition every year. This year, Patrick Good will be one of those new faces when he shows his pigs in competition.

Patrick is autistic. No two cases of autism are precisely alike. For Patrick, who is at a higher functioning level than many youngsters with autism, it means he is limited in his ability to understand and speak.

Patrick was born 14 years ago, when little was known about autism. This rare condition affects approximately 1 out of every 2,000 children. It is four times more common in boys than in girls and is found throughout the world in diverse ethnic, racial, and social backgrounds.

Patrick's parents, Patricia and Amos, said that some form of mental disability was suspected by the time Patrick was two years old, but it wasn't until he was six that he was diagnosed as being autistic.

The diagnosis is often difficult to make because a whole spectrum of symptoms is possible. For Patrick, the diagnosis was made from an array of behaviors of which object fixation was one. For exam-

ple, when Patrick was two years old, he would spend hours watching the windmill at his grandparents' home go round and round and he continues to spend hours twiddling with rubber bands. Unlike many autistic children who avoid physical contact with others and rarely make eye contact, Patrick, from the beginning, was affectionate and often crawled into his dad's lap and curled up to sleep.

His large motor skills such as crawling and walking developed normally but language skills

seemed almost nonexistent for many years as Patrick depended on grunts and pointing to have his family understand him.

His mother, a nurse, searched for ways to help Patrick who needed in-depth language stimulation to help him speak.

Therapists stressed the importance of the parents expecting Patrick to verbalize his wants. When Patrick pointed to a glass and grunted, the parents repeated, "Water. Do you want a glass of water?"

(Turn to Page B2)

## 1994 Farm Products Show Bigger, Better, Busier

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)  
—The 1994 state Farm Show, Pennsylvania's 78th exposition and agricultural fair held at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, is set to open to the public 8 a.m. Saturday with the judging of draft horses, followed at 9:30 a.m. with the naming of the supreme champion swine.

By that time, hundreds of exhibitors will have had less sleep, and caught catnaps, sleeping on blank-

ets on hay bales near their show animals' stalls.

Others take up residence in motels and hotels. Some make a daily drive and get support from friends or hire extra help to do milkings and feedings.

There is the washing area, with its water mist almost ever-present. Wheelbarrels of manure and hay being taken to a storage area.

Crowds of people with candy cones, pretzels, baked potatoes. Young and old.

(Turn to Page A26)

Enjoy Our Tribute To The 78th Pennsylvania Farm Show This Week