

Poultry Ambassador Is Sister To Last Year's Poultry Queen

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Michelle is especially looking forward to helping with Ag in the Classroom. In this program, she will tell children about raising chickens, turkeys, and eggs and the importance of including these products in their diets.

Michelle is a peppy, enthusiastic teen-ager who recently has had to make major adjustments to her schedule. She tore a knee ligament during a school volleyball match on September 1. The tear will require total ligament reconstruction surgery, which means no sports for probably nine to 12 months. That means that Michelle can no longer play volleyball although she can continue her responsibilities as team captain.

The recuperation period will also hinder her participation on the school softball team on which she played for two years. She can no longer be a waitress at her part-time job at the Cloister Restaurant.

But the injury does have some advantages. Michelle said that she can't pick pumpkins for the family's produce stand.

During the growing season, she, her two sisters, and several other teens pick cucumbers, peppers, zucchini, green beans, corn, cantaloupes, and watermelons from the 20 acres of produce. Now, the pumpkin season is in full swing, but Michele can't bend to pick up the pumpkins and carry them.

"The disadvantages of my injury far outweigh the advantages," said Michele who is trying to keep a positive attitude despite the adjustments.



Raising 20 acres of produce in addition to broilers and other farming ventures demands a refreshing break occasionally. From left are Janelle, 14; Michelle, 17, Melissa, 20, Clark and Lucy.

With less time to spend on sports, Michelle will have more time to study and achieve her goal of graduating cum laude in the spring. At school, she carries a full load of business courses, such as accounting II, business law, office procedures, and sales and market-

ing. She tentatively plans to attend a two-year business school after graduation. At school, Michele is a member of the National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America. She is vice president of the youth group at Hinkletown Mennonite Church and a chairperson on the fellowship committee.

For three summers, Michele volunteered one week to help build homes for low-income families. The locations of these projects were in Chicago, Kentucky, and West Virginia.

The name of the Stauffer Farm is Indian Run Farm, a 67-acre farm that Clark's father had purchased during the Depression Era. With

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These goose gourds may not be considered bona-fide poultry, but Michelle promotes them at the family's produce stand. Her mother Lucy dresses some to sell and others are sold plain for customers to dress or display.



This mode of transportation is used when hauling produce from the field to the roadside stand. The three Stauffer sisters take a visitor for a ride. During the growing season, the sisters pick the produce daily and take turns working at the roadside stand.



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