

Student's Ag Project Takes Second At International Fair

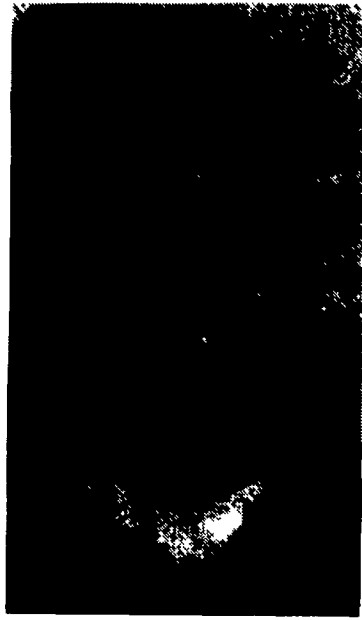
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — "Topping the thrill of having my students chosen as two of the top three winners at the Lancaster Science Fair," Ephrata Senior High School teacher Patricia Wee said, "seemed impossible."

But when Travis Frey, 18, an Ephrata High School senior and Lancaster's grand champion, was chosen second in his field at the International Science Fair in Tucson, Ariz., both students and teachers were charged with even more excitement.

This was the 47th annual international science fair competition. At the event, 1,067 students from 40 different countries competed for awards from industries, universities, and other sponsors and for first, second, third, and fourth places in each scientific field.

Travis is the son of Barry and Janice Frey, Ephrata and a member of the Cloister FFA. Travis's project, "Solving a Major Problem for Local Agriculture: Elimination of Black Nightshade By Manipulation of Nutrients In the Soil," took the highest award in Lancaster County. He was flown to Arizona to compete against 75 other students in the botany division.

After unpacking and assembling his very large project display which had been shipped to Tucson earlier, Travis successfully presented his research to the judges,



Travis Frey

whose number nearly exceeded the number of student competitors.

One judge said to Travis, "We need more people like you working in agriculture."

After nearly two days of judging, students enjoyed trips to Tombstone, the Sonora Desert Museum, and Nogales, Mexico. The week-long event was highlighted with two awards ceremonies, one for auxiliary prizes and one for the scientific division honors. At the latter, Travis emerged in second place.

Travis will begin his college ex-

perience at Penn State one week after graduation from Ephrata

High School. He will be doing fieldwork there with black night-

shade and the method he has developed to eliminate it.

FSA Offers Farm Loans For Socially Disadvantaged

NORTH LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — The Farm Service Agency (FSA) has a loan program designed to help members of socially disadvantaged groups, including minorities to acquire land for farming in Pennsylvania and/or provide operating funds, Jenifer K. Hershey, county executive director said recently.

Under the program, FSA can provide loans to persons in those categories who are interested in farming and can qualify for either

a direct or guaranteed farm ownership or farm operating loan.

Applicants who meet the definition of socially disadvantaged must have recent farming experience or training, and be able to demonstrate managerial ability necessary to have a reasonable chance to succeed in the farming venture.

In addition to the other basic eligibility criteria, the applicant must be able to demonstrate that adequate income will be generated

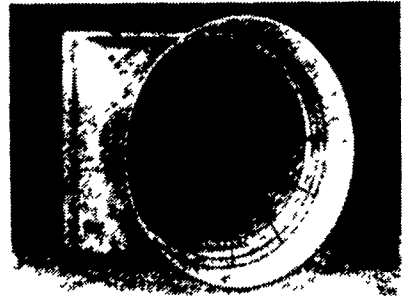
to meet essential farm operation and family living expenses and pay the debt.

Socially disadvantaged population groups are Hispanics, American Indians, Blacks, Asians, Alaskan Natives, Pacific Islanders and women.

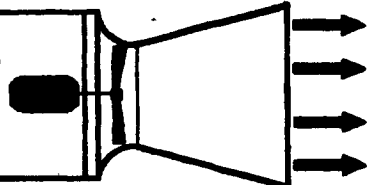
Persons who think they might be eligible are urged to contact the Farm Service Agency County Office located at 2120 Cornwall Road, Suite 3, Lebanon, PA, Jenifer Hershey said.

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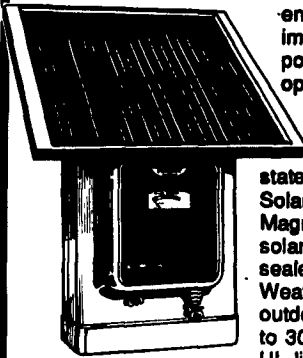
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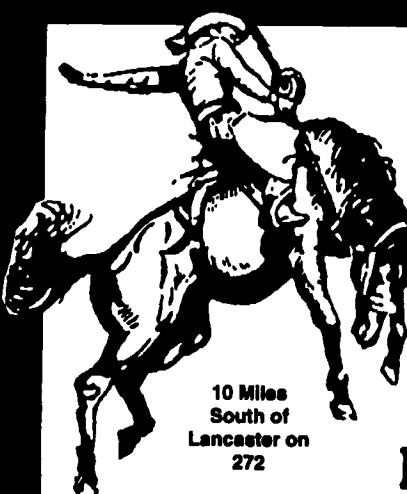
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