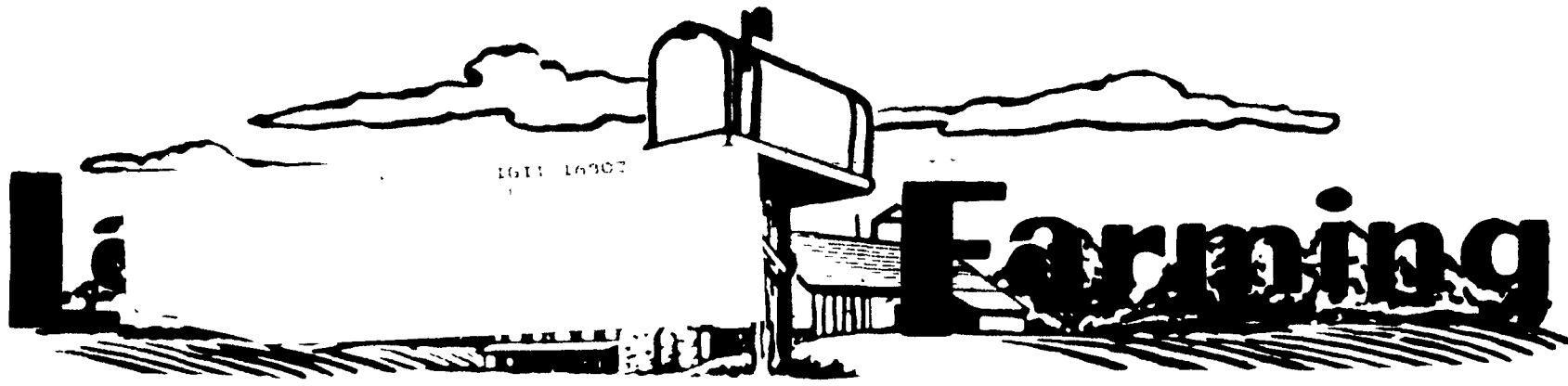
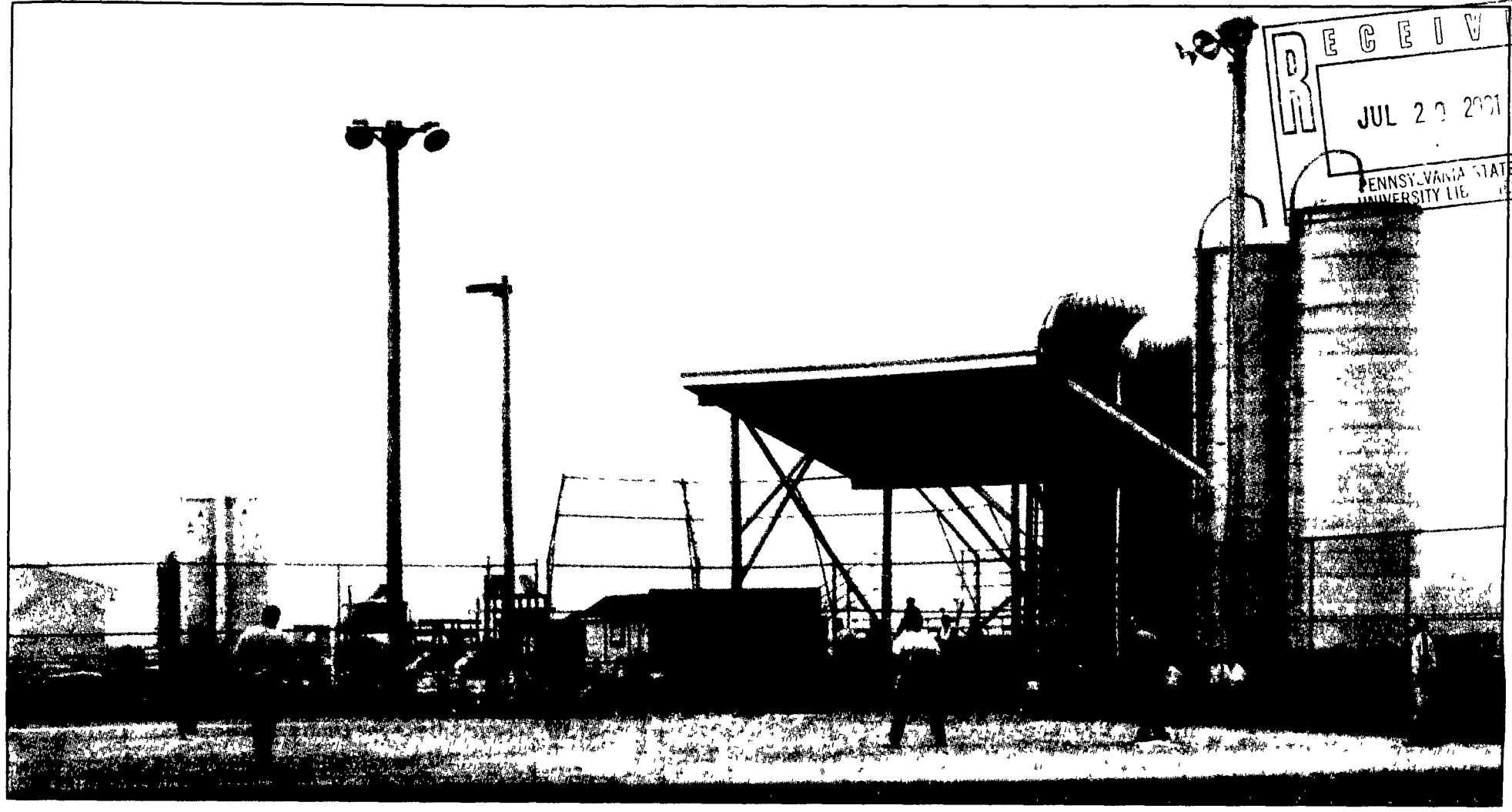


LIFE Sci ✓



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If The Weather's Fine, Then Let's Play Some Ball



DENVER (Lancaster Co.) — It's June, so it's baseball time among the silos.

Every once in a while, it's important to take time off and enjoy life. That's what Gene Martin, Blue Lake Builders and Swamp Valley Beef, Denver, believed when he built this regulation-sized baseball diamond about six years ago near Denver.

"I did it for the boys, because they really want to play ball," said Martin. Gene farms with wife Linda and children, including Steve, who operates a dairy near Schaefferstown; Dan, the steer "veterinarian," and Matthew, who is involved in real estate sales. Other Martin children include Joshua, 16, who helps with the farm, as do Benjamin, 13; Bethany,

10; and Charity, 8. The diamond was built to play hardball and fast- and slow-pitch softball. Left field measures to 262 feet, center to 282 feet, and right field to 265 feet.

Young marrieds batted against the youth from Faith Mennonite Fellowship, Stevens.

The young marrieds won this championship. How? Experience, Martin said. Throughout the summer, the baseball field, with a backdrop of Martin's farm, serves church leagues, including the Mid-Atlantic Mennonites, Muddy Creek Fellowship, and other leagues.

Photo taken last Saturday evening by Stan Hall

Jersey Is Queen At Schnecksville Fair



Katie Harwick showed the supreme champion dairy cow, Salty, at the Schnecksville Community Fair this week. Charlie Seidel judged the show. Photo by Dave Lefever

DAVE LEFEVER
Lancaster Farming Staff
SCHNECKSVILLE (Lehigh Co.) — The fair season kicked off here this week with a dairy show that featured calves, heifers, and milking cows, including Ayrshires, Brown Swiss, Holsteins, and Jerseys.

At the end of the night, it was a 3-year-old Jersey, Salty, that emerged as supreme champion dairy cow.

"She was the most well-balanced cow in the show,"

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State FFA Elects Officers

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — On June 12-14, the Pennsylvania FFA Association conducted its 72nd annual Summer Convention at Penn State University.

There, the 2001-2002 Pennsylvania State Officer Team was elected.

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Growers And Winemakers Gather For Summer Meeting

MICHELLE RANCK
Lancaster Farming Staff
LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Almost 125 representatives of the grape and wine industry — from experienced growers to those considering beginning a vineyard to winemakers — gathered Wednesday to network and learn about the in-

dustry through a panel of experts in the field.

Conducted at the Berks County Agriculture Center, the day included seven presentations from a producer panel and experts from Cornell, Rutgers, and USDA. Growers came from Pennsylvania, Vir-

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**Office Closed
Independence Day**

On Wednesday, July 4, Lancaster Farming office is closed. The office will reopen Thursday, July 5.

For the July 7 issue, there are some deadline changes:

- Public Sale and Mailbox ads, 5 p.m., Friday, June 29.
- Classified, Section D ads—5 p.m., Tuesday, July 3.
- Classified, Section C, Farm Equipment ads, 9 a.m., Thursday, July 5.
- General News—noon, Thursday, July 5.