

MARCH 28 to MARCH 30 AT THE PENN STATE AG ARENA



Cassandra and Herman Hake will take "Red" and "Charlie" to State College to compete in the upcoming Expo.

(Continued from Page A1)
Beef Expo.

And again the Hake family, Hake Valley Farm, will travel to State College, taking friends and family from York County with

them in a long caravan of trailers, trucks, cattle, and equipment.

"We have a meeting place and follow everybody to watch for problems," she said.

Delbert and Barbara Hake have taken their children, Cassandra and Herman, to compete at the Beef Expo for five years. They are now joined by a large group of competitors who travel together on a show circuit. Often their trailer may be cleared of equipment to make room for others' cattle, said Barbara. "We drive at the end to make sure there are no problems," she said.

Barbara is also a co-leader of the county's beef club and is working to coordinate the students' participation in the beef Skillathon and beef quiz bowl. York County is sending 14 Beef Bowl and Skillathon participants this year. "It's good to have participation from people in the county," she said.

The Hakes have also taken their animals to York County's 4-H Center in the springtime for showmanship clinics for beginning 4-Hers.

The York County group goes to approximately 13 different shows and fairs from northern Pennsylvania to Virginia.

Cassandra, 20, has now grad-

uated to "junior breeder" status but plans to keep her heifers to breed and sell club calves.

Herman, a senior at Red Land High School, plans to continue competing with 4-H.

The Hakes, who house their cattle on eight acres in the Etters area, have three steers and two heifers which they are readying for the show ring.

The right time and the right place combined to get the family into the beef business. Delbert, who grew up on a dairy farm, happened to be at his former FFA teachers' home when a steer calf was born — the calf that helped Cassandra, then nine years old, decide to give 4-H and the livestock club a try. "Buddy" became a family favorite and, although she cried when he left, served to ready her for competition the following year.

Her brother, two years her junior, received a calf for a Christmas present when he was old enough to participate in 4-H.

"When we first started with

Cassandra, we thought this was a one-or-two-year deal," said Delbert. "but they've stuck with it. It's a good experience and they enjoy doing it," he said.

The excitement of the show ring, of "seeing how I place" is one of Cassandra's favorite aspects of the Beef Expo. She also enjoys fitting cattle, an interest that has led her to a working as a professional dog groomer at a nearby business.

A lot of people and good competition combine to make the Beef Expo a draw, said Barbara.

The expo is an idea place to get your animal used to being shown before previous shows which start in late spring, say the Hakes.

Herman has participated in the livestock judging club for five years. This has allowed him to meet 4-Hers from across the state and has proven to be useful as he chooses his own show animals.

One of Herman's most memorable beef Expo moments was

(Turn to Page A40)

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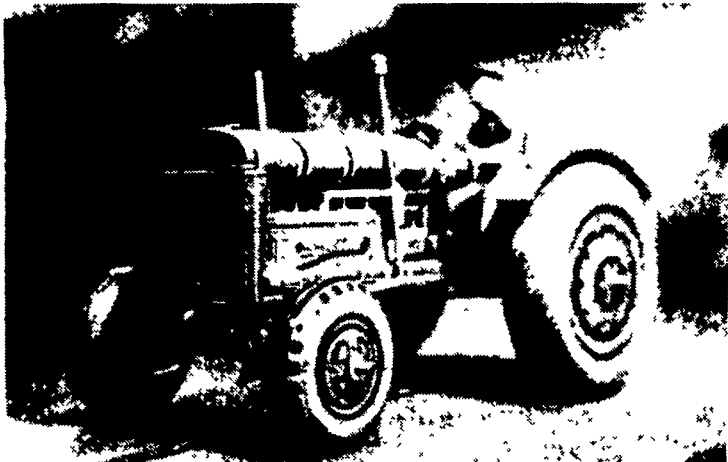
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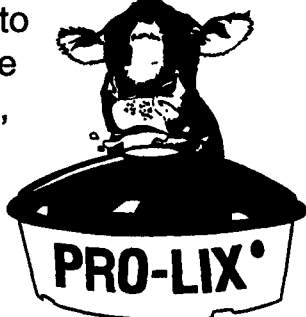
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