

The Bukowskis, definitely a 4-H family



Dave Becker

Dave Becker relaxes on a red hot tractor

After a hard day's work on his Mount Joy area farm, Dave Becker likes to relax by driving his tractor.

The tractor Dave drives for fun is powered by two big Ford V-8 engines. It can drag a 25 ton load flat across the ground and its oversized tires are designed to spin at 50 miles per hour.

Last week, Dave hauled his modified tractor to Flemington, New Jersey to compete in the tractor-pull there. He placed second and third at Flemington.

Last week, he placed first in his class at the Buck tractor-pull.

The drive train on Dave's tractor comes from an old Cockshutt. He welded together a new frame for the machine, and added the two Ford engines and an automatic transmission.

"I like doing it myself," says Dave, who is Secretary of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Tractor Pulling Association. "It's not like buying a car where you have someone else build it for you."

Tractor pulling is an expensive sport. A new set of 30 inch wide tires costs

\$1,900.

"That's why I've got 24 inch tires," said Dave.

Winners make enough money to cover the cost of hauling their tractors to the track. Losers get nothing.

So why is tractor-pulling one of the fastest growing sports in the country?

"It's a sport," says Dave. "When you go water skiing or golfing you don't win much either."

"The main thing is building it yourself. Then when those wheels get flying, that's pretty nice too."

Winning a tractor-pull involves a lot of strategy, Dave pointed out.

"Weight distribution is very important," he said. "You've got to study the track and get your weights right."

"Some people really get hooked on this," Dave observed. He pointed to an old Cockshutt tractor that was sitting behind the tobacco barn.

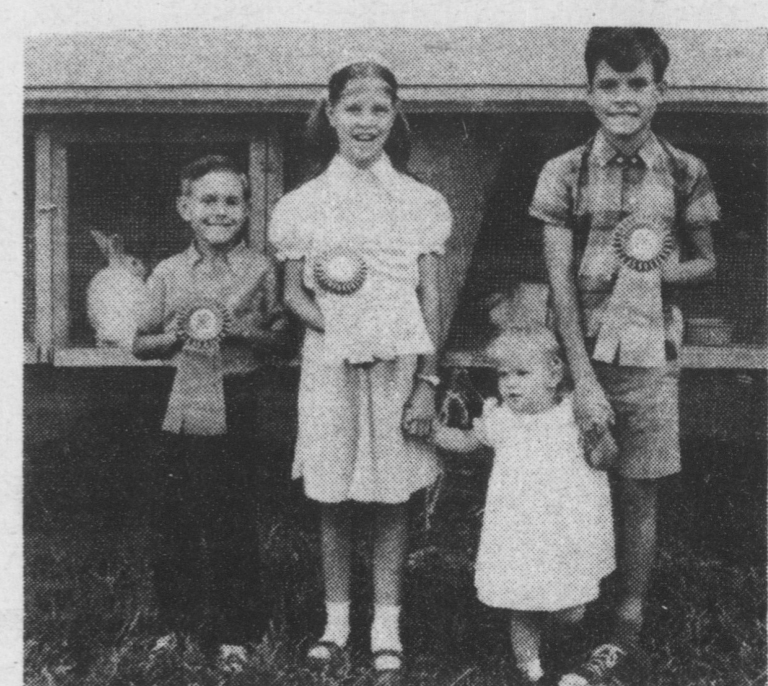
"I'm going to start working on that one this winter," he said.

Last week Gail Bukowski, 11, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bukowski, R.D. 1, Mount Joy, won the County 4-H cooking championship with her bar cookies. When the Bukowskis came to the exhibit after the judging, they found that the judges had taken little bites out of the cookies of the other contestants, but had eaten all of Gail's delicious cookies. No wonder, they awarded her the championship.

All the Bukowski's are 4-H winners. Michael, 12, won a tractor maintenance award earlier this year, and last year won a number of

prizes. Patrick, 8, just won an award for raising rabbits. And Margie, 2, will undoubtedly win her share of 4-H awards in the years to come.

The 4-H Club is responsible for the Bukowski's moving to the country outside Mount Joy. They were living in Brownstown when Michael, then 9, took a chance on a 4-H heifer calf—and won the calf. The Bukowskis decided that winning that calf was a sign that they should move to the country; they began to look for some land.



Patrick, Gail, Margie, & Michael Bukowski

Darvin and Glenna clean up Holstein awards



Darvin Rodgers and Glenna

Darvin J. Rodgers, Jr., 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darvin J. Rodgers, Sr., R. D. 1, Marietta, won the award of "Master Showman" last week at the 4-H South Central Championships in Harrisburg.

Darvin won the master award by showing his prize two-year-old Holstein heifer, "Valley Pond Arban Glenna," "Glenna" for short.

He was evaluated on how well he handled Glenna and kept her lined up according to the judge's directions.

This was the third award for Darvin and Glenna this year.

Next month they will be off to compete in the All-American Dairy Show.

New flea market opens in Mount Joy; teacher exhibits art (for more about new flea market turn to page 5)

Tom Hermansader, of Donegal Heights, Mount Joy, displayed some of his paintings at Mount Joy's new flea market last weekend.

All Tom's work is in watercolors or oils. His landscapes and portraits are carefully and realistically drawn.

The artist is also a teacher at Columbia High School. He has attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, Baum Art School in Allentown, and Kutztown State College.



Tom Hermansader at flea market

Multiple Sclerosis Soc. plans 'A Walk for Independence'

Sue Steinmetz, the Steering Committee Chairperson for the 'Ride for Independence' being sponsored by the Lancaster County Multiple Sclerosis Society, has named the following committee chairpersons: Route, Samuel Harnish, Safety, Gene Miller, Prizes and Key

People, Taylor Lowry, Refreshment, Bette Keen and Publicity, Wandla Buhay.

The 'Ride for Independence' will be held on Sunday, September 21, with each bicycle rider securing his or her own sponsors.

Independence from Multiple Sclerosis is hopefully anticipated through more funds for research.