



GAMECOCK FANCIER — "gamecock comes out of the shell looking for a fight," says Tex Rice of Fort Rock who raises cocks as a hobby. Interested in the fighting birds since 1917, he displays one, of the round head and white-hackle cross breed.

Rancher Raises Cocks For Hobby, Fun, Profit

By HELEN PARKS
FORT ROCK — "There are two things I'd get up way early to go see — a horse race and a rooster fight," says Lawrence "Tex" Rice of Fort Rock, raising gamecocks as his hobby, for both fun and profit.

His interest in the fighting cocks dates back to 1917 when he was stationed with the 11th Cavalry at Camp Stewart near El Paso. He and a buddy, who conditioned the officers' birds, attended the fights at nearby Juarez, Mex. The cocks were scheduled on alternate Sundays with the bull fights, he recalls.

A long-time buckaroo for the former ZX Cattle Company, Tex got further cowpoke experience in New Mexico and Arizona. While on the job at the Alvord Ranch in Harney County he broke his leg. During the long recuperation he sent to Tule, Tex., for seven stags. These, Tex says, are young roosters that haven't yet molting. He got mostly Col. John Madigan claret and white hackle stags for \$12 each. The four Madigan claret hens were \$10 each. Then he was in business.

When he and Mrs. Rice moved to Fort Rock last fall, along came the chicken families. Between school bus trips he built individual roosting quarters for the cocks, an oil drum atop a wooden frame, and he farmed out the hens.

After selling 30, the brood is down to 10 of each sex. Twenty-five of the cocks went by air express to Honolulu.

Here's where the profit comes in. Each 2-year-old cock will bring from \$20 to \$40, Tex says. Hawaii and Arizona are two of the five states in which game fighting is legal.

The reason for separate housing is their instinct to do battle. Daytime finds them anchored to their tie-out stake, the cord attached to one leg. Their feed is half oats mixed with corn, maize and wheat.

A special pet is "Old Wagner," of the Arkansas traveler strain. This old seven-time winner, blind

in one eye, came from a friend in Wagner, Ill.

Cock fighting dates back to our country's beginning, says Tex. George Washington's cock houses are preserved in the Mt. Vernon museum. He then got out an article on "Grit and Steel," a monthly magazine published for gamecock breeders.

"Many of the fathers of our country were game fanciers, even to the extent that the gamecock was almost the national emblem of our country, losing out to the American eagle. The eagle won over the gamecock by an even smaller margin than JFK won over Nixon," says the writer.

Tex, who enjoys a good fight, says, "Gamecocks come out of their shells looking for a fight and demand no training. And they fight to the end, showing their inborn courage." They are matched according to weight, beginning at light, 4.8 pounds, to heavy at 6.4 pounds.

But Tex doesn't spend all his time caring for 10 game chickens. During the week he headquarters at Viewpoint Ranch, the end of the schoolbus line, 40 miles from Fort Rock School. Here he cooks supper and breakfast for the ranch hands at the big irrigated farming operation.

While he's in Fort Rock during the day, he gets in the wood for Mrs. Rice, who keeps busy teaching 20 youngsters in grades one through four, and many ranchers have called on Tex to help with the feeding when they needed a helping hand.

Just now he's leading the "Minute Men," Fort Rock gun safety 4-H club, and he finds that corraling 34 lively bus passengers can keep an old cowboy on his toes. Both children and parents are sorry that the Rices have answered the call to a warmer climate. Mrs. Rice will teach in the Las Vegas school system next year, and Tex . . . well, he'll keep busy.

Malin High School Lists Achievements

MALIN — Awards were presented on Achievement Day at Malin High School, held May 24. Mrs. Lindauer made the presentation to GAA awards. Freshmen with 50 points and receiving a class numeral were Cheryl Anderson, Joan Cacka, Kathy Brooks, Caroline Baumgart, Marilyn Duncan, Leith Johnson, Marilyn Martinez, Norma McCormick, Darla Micka, Annie Moore, Cathy Oliver, Kristi Ottomann, Christine Pappe, Judy Rollins, Phyllis Simmons, Jeanne Stastny, Linda Steyskal, Connie Unis and Linda Woods.

Sophomores receiving an orange M were Lorraine Cacka, Kathy Clark, Linda Kirkpatrick, Dee Wolfram, Marla Kirkpatrick, Priscilla Leidholdt, Diana Lyon, Loudean Lyon, Glenda McCormick, Betty Pope and Johana Van Meter. Juniors who received an orange O were Jill Johnson, Peggy Long, Connie Oliva, Andy Oliver, Edith Pitts, Lena Van Meter and Connie Whitman.

Seniors with 50 points who received a white O were Adelia Cacka, Cathy Kenyon, Carol Micka, Diana O'Riley, Lois Owens, Linda Reber, Mary McAlliff, Elaine White and Barbara Pitts.

Awards presented by Mrs. Blohm were the cheerleader awards. Varsity awards went to Linda Kirkpatrick, Loudean Lyon and Marla Kirkpatrick. "B" string recipients were Marilyn Duncan, Connie Unis, Darla Micka and Cathy Brooks. Majorette awards were presented to Cathy Kenyon, Linda Reber, Lois Owens and Barbara Pitts.

Certificates of special recognition for Pep Club activities were given to Barbara Pitts, Pep Club; seniors, pin and guard, Barbara Pitts, Cathy Kenyon and Lois Owens; pin only, Adelia Cacka, Carol Micka, Linda Reber, Elaine White and Diana O'Riley.

Junior recipients were Edith Pitts and Linda Holt; sophomores, Priscilla Leidholdt, Loudean Lyon, Linda Kirkpatrick and Marla Kirkpatrick; freshmen, Kathy Brooks, Marilyn Duncan, Marilyn Martinez, Darla Micka, Kristi Ottomann, Jeanne Stastny, Connie Unis and Linda Woods.

Letterman awards for 1962-63 were presented by Mr. Travis. Football awards went to Jerry Morris, Bob Holt, Tom Brown, Chuck Henderson, Sherman Kalina, Stan Harrison, Reggie LeQuio, Jack Worthington, Dale Parrish, Bob Bauer, Terry Parker, Randy LaQuinn, Dan Duncan, Warren Cacka, Ruben Adlinger, Jay Parrish, Mike Kenyon and Philip Petrask, manager. Track awards were given to Sherman Kalina, Dale Parrish, Bob Bauer, Chuck Henderson, Jack Worthington and Philip Petrask, manager.

Best athlete for four years was Jerry Morris, and the best athlete of the year was Tom Brown. The sportsmanship award went to Bob Holt.

Other award presentations made by Mrs. Blohm were the Malin Garden Club's conservation essay awards. The junior division first place award went to Joan Cacka; second place, Jeanne Stastny; third place, Marilyn Duncan.

Americanism essay winners, American Legion Auxiliary, senior division, were first, Mary Mc-

Alliff; second, Linda Reber; third, Jeanne Stastny. Honorable mention was given to Andrea Oliver. Junior division winners were first, Kelly Wilson; second, Dan Tofell; third, Jeanne Stastny; honorable mention, Norma McCormick.

In the poppy poster contest, sponsored by the Malin American Legion Auxiliary, local winners were first, Joan Cacka; second, Linda Elzner; third, Jeanne Stastny. State second place winner was Joan Cacka.

Mr. Conroy presented the Kiwanian awards. Recipients were best all-around girl, Lois Owens; best all-around boy, Bob Holt. The conservation awards in grade seven for second place went to Sharon Micka; grade nine, second place, Danny Tofell; honorable mention, Glenda McCormick and Riley Wilson; grade 11, editorial or speech, second place, Tom Brown; honorable mention, Tom Tofell; grade 11, research paper, third place, Linda Reber.

The good citizen award went to Mary McAlliff and the Beaver Boys' State award to Tom Brown, Sherman Kalina and Tom Tofell.

Mrs. Tofell presented speech awards to junior high, serious, first place, Marilyn Duncan; humorous, first place, Annie Moore; poetry, first place, Connie Unis; story, first place, Kathy Brooks; special, second place, Ann Johnson; radio, first place, Jeanne Stastny, Darla Micka, Richard Takacs, Dan Tofell, Jim Fallihoe, Bob Street and Riley Wilson.

Senior speech awards went to serious interpretation, Edith Pitts, first in county and fourth in district; radio speaking, Tom Brown, first county; poetry reading, Lois Owens, first county; impromptu, Mary McAlliff, second county and district; after dinner, Barbara Pitts, second county, first district; humorous reading, Cathy Kenyon, second county; persuasive, Edith Pitts, third county, fourth district.

Other awards presented by Mr. Conroy were perfect attendance awards to Ruben Adlinger, Jerry Brady, Kathy Brooks, Lorraine Cacka, Linda Elzner, Neil Kiskern, Phil Petrask, Lena Van Meter, James Ottomann, Kristi Ottomann, Jay Parrish and Bruce Bauer.

A music award was presented by Mrs. Lowry to Carol Micka. Homemaking awards, presented by Mrs. Payge, were the Crisco award to the outstanding student in homemaking, Edith Pitts and the DAR award to a homemaking student, Edith Pitts.

FPA awards presented by Mr. Lacy were scholarship, Tom Tofell; star greenhand, Dan Duncan; public speaking, Larry Turner; livestock farming, Dan Duncan, and parliamentary team, Tom Tofell, Chuck Henderson, John Greene, Dale Parrish, Larry Turner and Jim Fallihoe.

U.S. Urges Communists To Confer Realistically

GENEVA (UPI)—The United States appealed to Communist disarmament negotiators Friday to talk sense instead of demanding one-sided concessions from the West.

U.S. negotiator Charles C. Stelle told the 17-nation disarmament conference Soviet demands that the United States remove nuclear arms from the foreign bases are unrealistic and illogical.

He said the Russians "seek in unilateral fashion to harass and obstruct Western defensive moves taken to keep NATO modern and up to date in the face of the mammoth Soviet military effort."

"We can just imagine the reaction of the Soviet Union if we were to propose . . . a nuclear free zone comprising the full territory of all states bordering on the

Caspian Sea," Stelle said. "Each side can think up such unbalanced schemes, but we in the West are sensible and responsible enough not to burden our conference and the world public with such nonsense."

"Let us get on with realistic measures that have some chance of general acceptance." Speaking before Stelle, Soviet negotiator Semyon K. Tsarapkin renewed Soviet proposals for a non-aggression pact between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The West repeatedly has rejected this idea as being divorced from disarmament goals.

Negotiators here welcomed the new Western attempt to break the nuclear test ban deadlock but were not optimistic about its chances of success with the Soviets.

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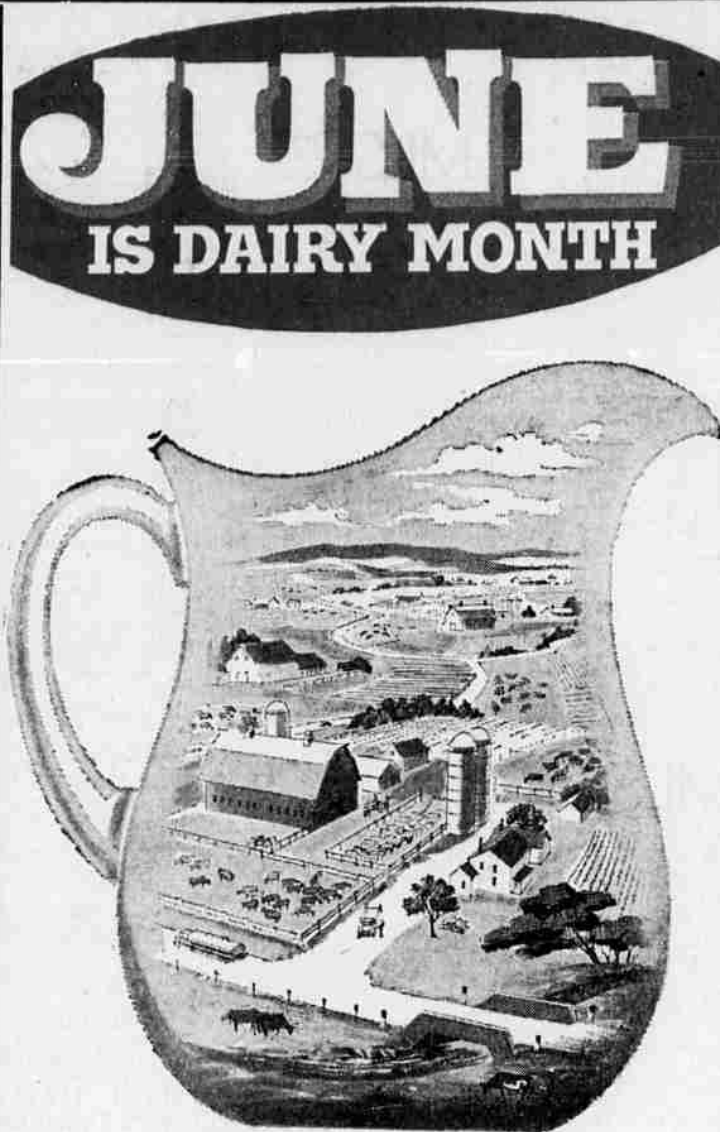
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