

## DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

### Mrnak's Chosen 1983 Conservation Farmers Joan Volker

Gary and Bev Mrnak, Miliona, were chosen as the Outstanding Douglas County Conservation Farmers for 1983 by the Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

The Mrnaks' Grade A dairy operation and 320 acres of land are located in Miliona Township. They were chosen because they have a history of implementing the latest in conservation practices on their farm. During the last few years Gary and Bev have been tilling their land as little as possible and taking advantage of a farming practice called conservation tillage. This allows them to plant the seeds into stubble whereby disturbing the soil less and allowing them to abandon spring and fall plowing. Other conservation practices the Mrnak's have applied on their farm include: a waste management system (one of the first in Douglas County), planting windbreaks and preserving wildlife.

Douglas SWCD presented Gary and Bev with a personalized District Cooperator sign. They also attended the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts 47th Annual Convention in Bemidji in December of 1983. They were honored at a convention luncheon with a Certificate of Merit from THE FARMER magazine.

### Poster and Mural Contest Joan Volker

The theme for the 1984 Poster and Mural Contest was "Save Our Farmland". A slide presentation was presented to fifth and sixth grade students in the county.

Winners of the Poster contest were:

Matthew Bruening, Zion Lutheran School, Alexandria

Dana Wussow, Zion Lutheran School, Alexandria

Winners of the Mural Contest were:

Steve Suchy, David Abel, Erik Roell, Chad Thilges, and Ryan Cordes - a group effort from these Miliona fifth grade students