



Electricity from an overhead electric line went through Friedman's body, burning holes in his gloves, socks, and boots.

## WHEN GRAIN AUGER HIT POWER LINE, HIS HEART STOPPED

# Electrocuted Farmer Came Back To Life

While traveling throughout the Midwest in search of first-of-its-kind farmer-built invention stories, farm writer C.F. Marley frequently comes across related stories that he sometimes can hardly believe. Following is an account of a farm accident that occurred in the fall of 1985. Although this incident happened nearly 10 years ago, we thought it was a story worth telling since this farmer was one of the lucky few who've ever survived an encounter with a high-voltage power line.

John Friedman, Chatsworth, Ill., knows exactly what it feels like to be electrocuted. He also knows what it feels like to come back to life.

Friedman was accidentally electrocuted when a grain auger he was handling came too close to an overhead electric line. Even though the auger didn't touch the line, it got close enough so the electricity in the line jumped to the auger. The resulting jolt threw Friedman through the air about 12 ft. Surprisingly, that was the best thing that could have happened because Friedman's doctor told him later it was the hard landing after his flight through the air that restarted his heart.

"He said I was actually dead while flying through the air. My heart had stopped. It was the hard blow that got it started again," he says.

The electricity went through his body, burning holes in his hands and feet where it entered and exited out through the nails in his boots. It also burned holes in his gloves, socks and boots.

"When it hit me, it sounded like a jet plane," John says. "The next thing I remember was waking up and seeing three other



Electricity burned holes in Friedman's feet where it exited his boots.

guys who had been working with me. I thought I was a goner and I was saying goodbye to them. Then things started getting a little better, and I noticed the wind blowing through the trees."

Friedman spent 35 days in a hospital burn unit while his neighbors finished harvest for him. He spent the rest of the fall and winter recuperating and was ready to go again in the spring.

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Friedman also suffered burns on his hands.



Webber's latest pumpkin creation is this 12-ft. tall, 20-ft. long dinosaur.

## EVERY YEAR ONTARIO FARMER COMES UP WITH NEW HALLOWEEN CREATION

# Pumpkin Dinosaur

Every year about the 28th or 29th of October Bob Webber's Bailey Creek Limousin Farm near Loretto, Ontario, becomes one of the hot spots of Simcoe County.

By that time, Webber has completed his latest pumpkin creation for Halloween.

Last year, the sixth year of constructing "something" out of pumpkins, Webber came up with his most ambitious project to date: a 12-ft. tall, 20-ft. long dinosaur called the Bailey Creek Daspletosaurus.

"You can't be serious all your life, can you?" Webber asks.

Webber comes up with the ideas for the pumpkin creations and Glen Hastings,

Tottenham, takes the raw idea and welds together steel frames for it.

It took about 100 pumpkins to fill out the dinosaur frame. It was finished about the 28th of October, just in time for hordes of visitors who make the trek to the Webbers' to see the annual creation.

For 1994, Webber built a bigger, better dinosaur with two babies. We'll have photos in the next issue of FARM SHOW.

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Photo courtesy The Neighbor

Pulled behind a riding mower, cart exercises lambs' rear legs, while front legs remain stationary.

## "Exerciser" Cart For Show Lambs

"Our kids did the best they've ever done with lambs at the county fair this year," says Greg Uithoven, Luverne, Minn., who credits the "Lamb-Ercise" cart he built with getting his 3 kids' Dorsetts in shape.

"Judges want back legs big and front legs and shoulders trim," he points out.

The cart, built last June from odds and ends, delivers the combination. Pulled behind the Uithovens' Snapper lawn mower, it exercises lambs' rear legs, while front legs remain stationary.

"It's a good piece of equipment," Uithoven says. "There's nothing like it on the market that I know of."

The frame of the cart is made out of angle iron and 1-in. square tubing. Wheels are Deere cultivator depth gauge wheels. Lambs' front legs rest on a 1-ft. wide plat-

form covered with outdoor carpeting. They're haltered to a neck rail in front.

At 6-ft. wide and about 1 ft. off the ground, the cart is suitable for five 100-lb. lambs at a time. A wider cart could be used for more lambs, and lower cart could be used for younger lambs.

The Uithovens' exercise their lambs in the morning and evening - one mile each time - for 60 days beginning around the first of June.

Lambs get used to the regimen in about a week. After that, the cart can be pulled as fast as the lawn mower will go - 3 1/2 to 4 mph - Uithoven says.

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