

'How wet can you take wheat?'

(Continued from Page 1)
 couldn't be found.
 "I'm not sure the prices will hold - Chicago is dropping," one miller began to explain. "Farmers are holding on to their wheat in hopes of rising prices," he said, adding that most millers feel the farmer should receive between \$3.50 and \$4.00 per bushel. "Bakers would still be ahead of the game," he remarked, "and with the fertilizer and fuel increases, farmers need that kind of price."
 The wheat market is described as being at a "standstill" by some observers and dealers. With farmers waiting to get into the field, and many of those who have combined holding on to their crops, the market is in an unsure state at this point. On top of that, bakers are not buying - preferring to wait instead to see what the market has in store. If the weather clears up now and the combines begin to roll again, heavy trading is a possibility next week.
 As far as corn is concerned, the wet weather has not been detrimental at all. In fact, most, if not all observers agree it is by far the best looking crop in years.
 In spite of the heavy rains in southeastern Pennsylvania last week, most crops came through with little damage, except wheat,

and some isolated areas where tobacco or corn were drowned.

Vegetable farmers in New Jersey reportedly did not fare as well with the rain-soaked ground and humid weather causing spoilage. Haines Walker of Consumer Packaging Company, Lancaster, noted that beans coming into his company from the Garden State were laden with moisture. "It's nothing unusual," he commented, "it happens every year." But he did add it is worse this year than in most others. "New Jersey had twice as much rain as we did," Walker remarked. "One place reported over six inches of rainfall in less than two hours."

Overall, as far as Walker's Company was able to determine, vegetable production was not severely cut because most crops were nearly completely harvested. "What's left is rotting," Walker concluded.

Twisters apparently accompanied some of the rain storms sweeping through southern Lancaster County. A chicken house owned by Martin Nolt, Wakefield, was blown apart by high winds with materials scattered as far as seven miles away. The structure was still being

worked on inside, although exterior construction was complete. Still empty at the time of the tragedy, the storm nevertheless caused an estimated \$70,000 damage to it. It measured 37 feet wide by 304 feet long and is to house 30,000 hens when repaired and completed.

Approximately a mile to the north, at a farm operated by Carl Troop, veterinarian, the twister touched down again and uprooted a half-acre of fully-grown trees.

Except for damage to the area's wheat crop, and "spot" tragedies to property or other crops, the southeastern and south-central portions of the state appear to have weathered the storm pretty well. The wheat situation, however, is something else.

On the national scene, the wheat harvest shows lots of promise for high yields. USDA has estimated total wheat yields to exceed two billion bushels.

Russia, on the other hand, has come up with a smaller-than-expected grain crop and Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz confirmed the Soviets had purchased two million bushels of wheat. He added that a total of 10 million bushels of wheat and corn may be purchased by them.

Schuylkill County native to teach ag at Solanco



Charles Heim, a native of Schuylkill County, and recent graduate of Penn State, has been accepted to teach shop mechanics under the vo-ag program in Solanco High School.

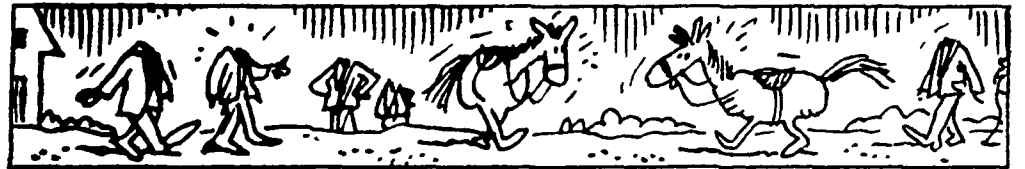
Heim received his bachelor of science degree in Ag Education and Mechanics from the University Park Campus although he was a student at the Schuylkill Campus for two years.

While attending the Schuylkill Campus, Heim was a member of the Campus Choral and is presently a member of the alumni association. He was also a member of the Collegiate FFA Club at the University Park Campus.

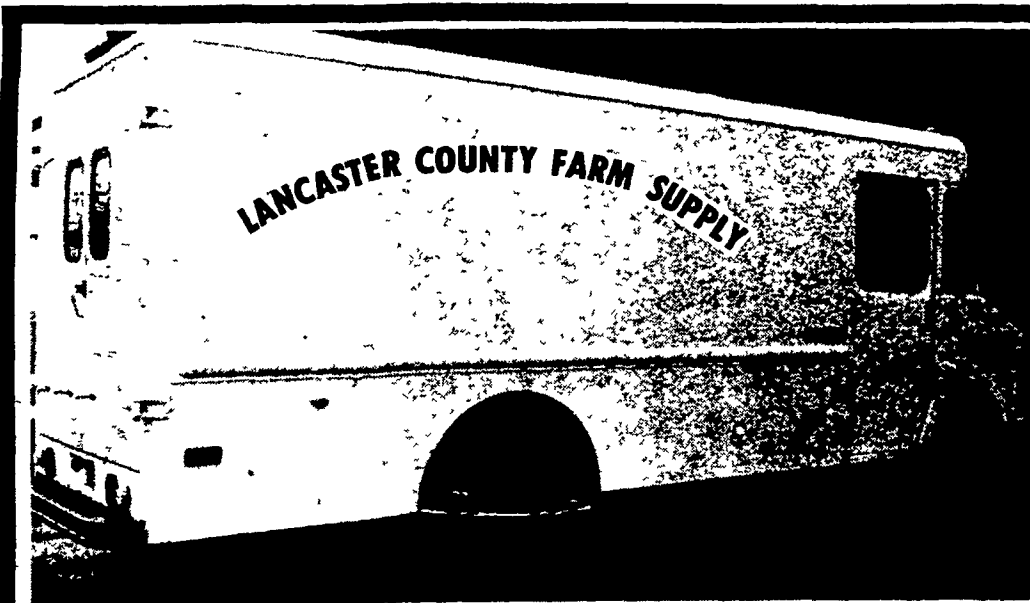
The young man will be teaching ag shop principles to the 9-11 grade students at Solanco along with several mini-courses for students not in the ag program.

Charles Heim, a former native of Schuylkill County, has joined the teaching staff in the ag department at Solanco High School in Quarryville.

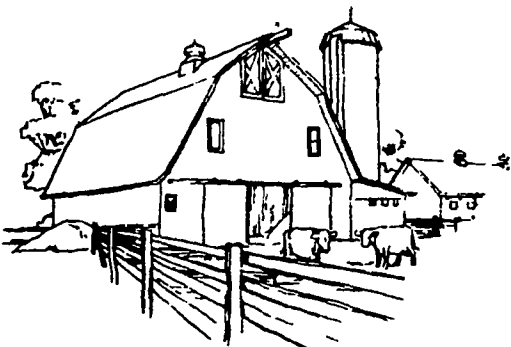
A graduate of the Blue Mountain High School in Orwigsburg, Heim will be residing in Quarryville.



German myth has it that headless bodies and two-legged horses roam the streets on the night of Maundy Thursday.



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