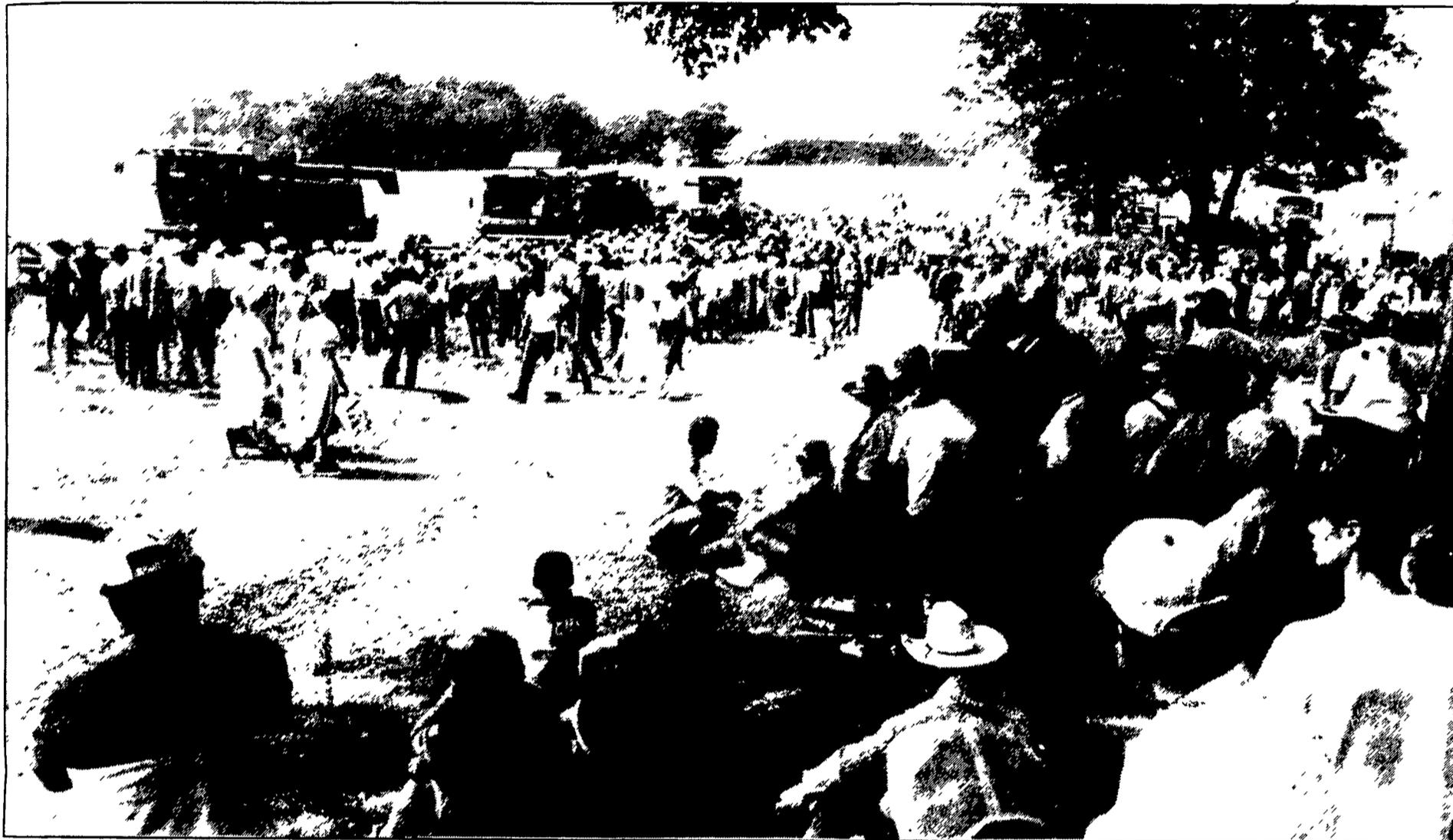


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One of the largest crowds in years attended Wednesday's activities at Ag Progress Days at Rockspring. In the photo above many spectators gather around the combining field demonstration. This was the first year for this event. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.

PSU President Spanier Unveils New Direction For Extension

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) — While emphasizing a strong and continuing commitment to production agriculture, Penn State University President Graham Spanier Wednesday detailed his new directives to strengthen Penn State's extension service through cooperation with other University outreach initiatives.

Speaking to a capacity crowd in the special events building at the Ag Progress Days government luncheon, Spanier said the citizens of the commonwealth have much to gain from faculty expertise and learning resources in such colleges as health and human development, medicine, engineering, science, business administration, and education.

Cooperative extension can also make use of the resources of Penn State's Division of Distance and Continuing Education.

"Production agriculture has been the heart of Penn State's extension service and will continue to be," Spanier said. "At the same time there are important opportunities for extension to take advantage of the expertise in other areas of the University to reach out broadly to the citizens of the state."

In his year-long review of extension, Spanier consulted many internal and external constituent groups. And from this review, he has concluded that the current regional structure of cooperative extension needs to become a more

streamlined organization. And programs need to be re-established in production agriculture; children, youth and family programs, including 4-H; community and rural development, and environmental and natural resources. In addition, he said work loads and assignments of faculty extension specialists also need to be reviewed.

To bring other disciplines into the extension service system, the role of the University's senior officer for outreach will be redefined with the creation of a new title of Vice President for Outreach and Cooperative Extension. The new position will create a partnership of academic deans and other university administrators, faculty and staff to facilitate a shared vision for all outreach programs and activities university-wide. The Vice President of Outreach and Cooperative Extension and the Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences will together oversee the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, report directly to President Spanier, and will appoint the director of extension.

Unlike at present in which the dean of the ag college also heads cooperative extension, Spanier's plan calls for a separate director of cooperative extension. Spanier believes a separate director will give a stronger focal point of leadership and a greater visibility for extension. This new director will be an associate dean and will work closely with the Dean of the Col-

lege of Agricultural Sciences and the Vice President of Outreach and Cooperative Extension.

Extension will remain closely tied to the agricultural college, but

the director will create programs and relations among faculty and extension staff in all departments of the College of Agricultural Sciences and with the other Colleges

in the University.

The titles of assistant and associate deans responsible for continuing and distance education in each (Turn to Page A36)



Supreme champion of the Kutztown Swine breed show was the Hampshire shown by John Strawbridge, 12, left. Daryl Grumbine, show judge from Myerstown, right, said that the Hampshire hog shown by John for grand champion of the breed was "far superior" to what he'd seen that day. See story page A34.