## family comes home to burning house

coming home from a basketball taken in the Dallas Community game and finding their home ambulance to Nesbitt Memorial ablaze was experienced by the Charles Hoffecker family on the night of Feb. 16.

Ave., Shavertown, was partially burned by a fire which was believed to have started in a

Three volunteer fire com-9:45 p.m. alarm. Shavertown unit, under the direction of Fire Chief Andrew Roan, responded with 20 men and a pumper and pieces of equipment, as did the Dr. Henry M. Laing Company, Dallas. Robert Chamberlain and Donald Shafer, chiefs, directed their respective units.

By the time firefighters frame dwelling hosed down. arrived, flames were shooting from bedroom windows, which had exploded with the heat.

An older daughter was in the house but escaped without injury. However, a parrot, a gift to the daughter two years ago, was a victim of the blaze.

A neighbor, Howard Sproul, was cut on the hand when he attempted to help put the flames out prior to the fire-

The unhappy surprise of men's arrival. Mr. Sproul was Hospital, where he was treated and released.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoffecker and Their residence at 55 Pioneer their family are staying temporarily with a neighbor, Florence Hock, while they look for a furnished apartment. Mrs. Hoffecker said the family home was not gutted, but that they panies quickly answered the could not live there during the time repair work is being done.

"We are happy no one was hurt and that the family is intact. Also, we are very appretanker. The Trucksville ciative of the kindness of our Company also had 20 men and 2 neighbor, Mrs. Hock," Mrs. Hoffecker declared.

Firemen said the fire was tapped out by about 10 p.m., but some volunteers remained at the site to keep the one-story

The basketball game the Hoffeckers attended was between Dallas Senior High School and Plains High School. "Chip" Hoffecker is a member of the local group, which won against

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Mr. and Mrs. Fred Merrill, at rear, and their children, left to right, Fred, Brenda, Jane, and Larry, enjoy punch offered by Judy Holko of the personnel department at the United Penn Bank's newly remodeled Main Office in Wilkes-Barre.

#### King's student government to sponsor Pizza Benefit

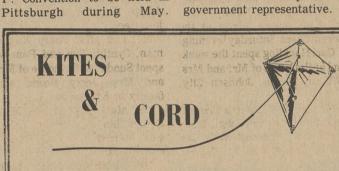
The Student Government of

The monies raised by the sale of tickets will be used to supplement the cost of sending members of the United Cerebral Palsy Group of Wyoming Valley to the Fourth Annual C. P. Convention to be held in

The tickets may be redeemed King's College is sponsoring a at Pizza House by Pappas. Pizza Benefit to aid victims of North Main Street, Wilkes-Cerebral Palsey in Wyoming Barre, on any one of four evenings beginning Feb. 24.

> Members of the local group will participate in a bowling tournament while at the convention.

Tickets for the benefit are available at the King's Student Center or from any student



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RESERVATIONS

has open house

United Penn Bank's newly remodeled Main Office in ployes of the financial institution's dozen offices for a tour of the facilities marking a series of open houses for personnel, directors, stockholders and those who performed construction work over the past two

Among the employes on hand was Mrs. Fred Merrill, a member of the Proof and Transit Department in the Main Office, who resides with her family at Sandy Beach section of Harveys Lake.

Frank W. Anderson, chairman of the board, and William J. Pack, president, United Penn Bank, and both Back Mountain residents, were on hand to welcome visitors and bank personnel.

United Penn Bank Dallas gambler nabbed earlier

Wilkes-Barre welcomed em- as the alleged leader of a and costs of \$39 on each. gambling operation appeared in Luzerne County court earlier was noted that any contraband

this year on two charges. George Peter Delvecchio, whose address is listed as Police. Valley View Drive, Shrine Acres, Dallas, had charges filed by Atty. Mitchell Jenkins. against him over two years ago.

Charges filed on Dec. 23, 1969, were: (1) being concerned with a lottery and (2) bookmaking. State Trooper Eugene McGuire was the prosecutor.

A Luzerne County grand jury heard the charges against the Back Mountain man Feb. 4,

On Jan. 29, 1971, Delvecchio, Peter Paul Olszewski, and heard without a jury.

The Dallas resident who was Judge Olszewski fined arrested Feb. 6 by F.B.I. agents Delvecchio \$125 on each charge

On the bookmaking charge, it confiscated should be destroyed by the Pennsylvania State

Delvecchio was represented

On Feb. 22, Delvecchio was indicted by a Federal grand jury on two counts in connection with bookmaking.

The gambling operation, which Delvecchio allegedly heads, was reported to do a \$15,000 a day business—for a total weekly take of \$115,000.

Eleven others, who were also allegedly known as George arrested along with Delvecchio Julio, appeared before Judge by FBI agents Feb. 6, were indicted on charges of involvepleaded guilty. The case was ment in an interstate gambling operation.



Three Back Mountain fire companies responded to a call for assistance at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoffecker Feb. 16. Fire and smoke damage was extensive throughout the

### register to vote

The date for registration of voters in the Back Mountain Area is March 1. The registrars will sit at the Trucksville Fire Hall from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. for the convenience of anyone who wishes to register for voting

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