

Joseph Fink, CM's lay president, begins work



ENTHUSIASTIC-Dr. Joseph R. Fink, new president of College Misericordia, expresses his enthusiasm about facing the challenge of the 1980's in his new role at the local educational institution. (Photo by Charlot M. Denmon)

by Charlot M. Denmon
College Misericordia put its first lay president "to work" officially last Wednesday. But Dr. Joseph R. Fink of Bridgewater, N.J. was already working closely with college administrators, initiating new policies, making personnel changes and becoming involved in the college's annual funds campaign.

A graduate of Rider College with an A.B. degree, and holding a PhD in American History from Rutgers University, Dr. Fink was the former president of Somerset County (N.J.) College, with a student population of 4,100. Prior to that he served as dean of arts and sciences for City College of Chicago. He also has been an administrative assistant to the president at Immaculata College and began his career as an associate professor of history at Immaculata.

Fink was nominated by the American Council of Education for the position at College Misericordia and is a former fellow with the American Council on Academic Administration which each year accepts only 30 candidates from

across the United States. Following an extensive interview, he was selected from the three final candidates for the position.

Fink said that the changes in personnel which followed his appointment were made to coordinate various aspects of the college's financial development program—changes which were advised by the Middle States Association. He said the college was in need of a more continuous, effective method of fundraising development.

Responding to a question whether or not a change in the direction of College Misericordia's program was under consideration, Dr. Fink said that the academic program would remain the same but the administration would try to expand and maintain College Misericordia's tradition of quality education.

He continued to explain that the administration recognized the need for change and a plan to expand the business administration program—an area which is growing all over the United States. He said that he has noted that in bad financial times, more persons are interested in business programs than in more

prosperous times.

The new lay president touched on the alumni's objection to College Misericordia, formerly a women's college, becoming a coed college. According to him, it was not the entire alumni organization who voiced objections but the executive board, and not all of the members of the executive board.

Dr. Fink said that College Misericordia has admitted male students since 1970; that all the college board did was simply recognize their existence. He stated that he will meet with alumni groups, formally and informally, along the east coast and discuss the college and its objectives with them.

Realizing his goals might need to change in the future, the new president replied that at present he has goals in three areas—reorganization of the college structure to better serve the students and community; recruitment of local students; and expansion of the college as a cultural and social center.



PROGRAMS THE SAME—The academic program at College Misericordia will remain the same with the traditional quality education offered as in the past, explains Dr. Joseph R. Fink, first lay president of College Misericordia. (Photo by Charlot M. Denmon)

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Pro-beach faction okays first \$2,080 fee for Sunbury lawyer

Aside from matters such as bill-paying and issues wherein unanimity is the only practical course, Harveys Lake Council has established a firm 4-3 voting split,

primarily because of the beach land purchase dispute. The council's August meeting Thursday was no exception. Pro-beach council members continued their dominance of the

decision-making process with votes favoring the payment of a Sunbury attorney for representation of their council faction.

Approved on a 4-2 vote, with Council member

Andrew Morgus absent, council members agreed to transfer \$2,080 from planning commission funds to pay the law firm of Wiest and Wiest, Sunbury, for charges to date in a taxpayer

association lawsuit against the council majority.

The suit attacks and earlier decision by the majority of council members Bob DeRemer, Robert Wintersteen,

Becky Casterline and Jack McManus to acquire two parcels of land and a former restaurant structure in the Sandy Beach section of the lake.

The issue has been bitterly disputed since it was first proposed in 1976 and has been the pivotal issue in council leadership since then.

A Harveys Lake Taxpayers Association suit has delayed implementation of the vote approving the transaction and Weist and Weist, a Sunbury firm first gaining the attention of council in representation of a local cable television franchise dispute, was selected to represent the council majority.

Majority Council Member Guy J. Giordano, who was joined in his "no" vote on the legal bill by Margaret Purcell, challenged the selection

"Work for welfare" hearings planned in Kingston

Hearings on legislation to put able-bodied welfare recipients to work will begin in Luzerne County on Aug. 14, according to Rep. Frank Coslett.

"We spend \$1.8 billion in state taxes each year to operate Pennsylvania's General Assistance program," the 120th District legislator said.

"In an attempt to remedy the problem of maintaining welfare recipients, 60 other legislators and I have been working on an idea known as workfare."

Under the legislation (House Bill 633) single men and women on welfare and in good health would be paid, for working, the same amount as their public assistance check.

"The objective of workfare is to place able-bodied individuals into a

work-oriented environment to provide some type of training or learned work skill," the Luzerne County Republican said.

"We anticipate that the newly acquired skills will supply incentive and confidence to seek and maintain full-time employment in the private sector."

Exceptions to the law would include persons ill or incapacitated; persons over 55; persons who are obligated to remain in the home to care for another member of the family who is ill or for a child who is under the age of six; guardians of a child between the ages of six and 14, if adequate child care facilities are not available.

Coslett said that there

are some 800,000 persons on welfare at the present time—nearly 133,000 of whom will be affected by the workfare program.

"If HB 633 is enacted, Pennsylvania has the opportunity to save between \$100 million and \$300 million in welfare payments," he said.

If eligible for work, public assistance recipients would receive work assignments in the public sector such as clerical, custodial, road maintenance, public housing projects or work in parks among other non-profit projects.

Anyone interested in offering testimony at the hearings is urged to attend.

Additional hearings have been scheduled for Aug. 15, 16 and 17.

that has long been ignored in Pennsylvania. Changes need to be made, and the mood is right," he said.

The first hearing will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 14, at 11 a.m. in the Kingston Municipal Building, 500 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston. The building can be reached by taking Interstate 81, northeast of Harrisburg, to the Blackman Street Exit (Wilkes-Barre); then take Route 309 north to Kingston and turn right at Wyoming Avenue; the building is two blocks from the turnoff.

Reid to speak to UM charge

The Rev. Margaret Reid will be the guest preacher at the Lehman United Methodist Charge on Sunday, Aug. 12. Mrs. Reid, a former pastor at Huntsville UMC, is the wife of The Rev. William W. Reid, Wilkes-Barre district superintendent.

Pastor Harris is attending camp meeting at Ocean Grove.

Camp meeting is also in progress at Patterson Grove.

Dallas Christian names principal, two teachers

The Rev. Wayne Brooks of Dallas Christian School announced that James Richner, Honesdale native, has been named the first full-time principal of the school, effective July 1. Previously Brooks handled the responsibility on a part-time basis for the rapidly growing school.

Enrollment in Dallas Christian has increased from less than 30 students for the 1977-78 school year to a total of nearly 130

accepted applications for 1979-80.

Richner, born and raised in Honesdale, graduated from Honesdale High School, then attended East Stroudsburg State College where he received a B.S. degree in education.

He taught school for 16 years in the New York School System following his graduation from East Stroudsburg. Richner left his teaching career to attend Grace Seminary at Winona Lake, Ind. where this summer he completed a master's degree in Christian School administration.

Two years ago, Richner

accepted the position as principal of a Christian School at Ellsworth, Me.

When officials of the Dallas Christian School learned that Richner was interested in returning to the Northeastern Pennsylvania area, they contacted him for an interview for the position at the local school and after extensive consideration offered Richner the position.

Richner is looking forward to working with the students and reported that this year's enrollment is approximately 130 students.

The new principal is married and he and his

wife are the parents of six children. Their oldest son, Stevan is in the US Air Force assigned to a base in Nebraska. His oldest daughter, Pam, will enter Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Mo. this fall. Timothy 14, Christine, eight years of age, and twins Doug and Susan are six. All four will attend Dallas Christian School.

The Richners will reside in the Huntsville area.

Richner announced that Brenda Sue Edwards of Sweet Valley and Trudy Cook of Tunkhannock have been employed as additional members of the school's faculty. The

school's professional staff consisted of three teachers in 1978-79. The new principal and faculty members will bring the professional staff to six.

Brenda is married to Dale Edwards of Sweet Valley. She has a B.S. degree in elementary education from Liberty College, Lynchburg, Va., and taught for a year at Goldsboro Christian School, Goldsboro, N.C.

Trudy is married to David Cook. She will direct the physical education program at the school.

A graduate of East Stroudsburg College, she has a degree in physical education and health. During the past years she has been coaching in the women's physical department at Baptist Bible College, Clarks Summit, and also was intra-mural coordinator at Baptist Bible College in Clarks Summit.

More Local News

Dallas Legion

The Dallas American Legion will meet Friday at 8 p.m. in the post home, Memorial Highway.



NEW BASEBALL FIELD—Franklin Township Recreation Commission officials and supervisors did an on-site inspection of the township's new baseball field last Saturday. Left to right are John Hobrock, recreation commission; Harold Hoover, township secretary-treasurer; Russell Race, Sr., supervisor; Robert Morgan, recreation commission chairman; Alex Matukitis, chairman of supervisors; and Mark Kunkle, recreation board member. (Photo by Mark Moran)



James Richner

Franklin Township gets recreational facility

Franklin Township supervisors and members of the Franklin Township Recreation Commission turned out Saturday morning for an on-site inspection of that township's new recreational facility - a baseball and softball diamond.

The new playing facility is situated on Williams Road in the Village of Orange and is part of a recreational complex that will eventually include two tennis courts, a basketball court and possibly a tot area, depending on what funding is made available to the township.

Township officials are awaiting additional federal and or state grants, trying to match sixth year funding with sums from the state Department of Community Affairs and the office of Community

Development. The township also will file for Community development funds with Luzerne County.

The baseball-softball diamond is the initial phase of a proposed community recreation facility for Franklin Township, and was made possible through a grant from the Office of Community Development. It is situated on an 11 acre plot recently purchased from the Williams Estate in Orange. Rough grading of the plot was done by American Landscape Company and the final grading by Coolbaugh Brothers of Orange.

The work on the facility was accomplished through the cooperation of the Franklin Township Recreation Commission and the Franklin Township Board of Supervisors. Members of the

Recreation Commission meet each month, on the first Tuesday, in the Orange United Methodist Church basement.

Mark Kunkle, now secretary of the Kingston Township board of supervisors, and a former resident of Franklin Township, is chairman of the Franklin Township Recreation Commission. Other members of the recreation commission are Richard 'Dick' Hislop, vice-chairman; Mrs. David (Debbie) Williams, Robert Morgan, Dale Rozelle, Ray Strazdus and John Hobrock.

Members of the board of supervisors of Franklin Township are Alex Matukitis, chairman; Russell Race, Sr., vice-chairman; and Harold Hoover, secretary-treasurer.