

## Saluting Youth Baseball...Sec. II

# THE DALLAS POST

©1980, Pennaprint Inc., All Rights Reserved USPS 147-720

Vol. 90 No. 27

Thursday, July 24, 1980

Serving the Back Mt. Area



OUT AT HOME?--The Wyoming Little League All-Star appears blocked from home plate in this action photo while Back Mountain National All-Star catcher Tim Lyons has the ball wedged between his right knee and

glove. Youth baseball league playoffs were winding up around the area during the past week and a selection of available team photos of Back Mountain area youth teams is included in a special section in this week's Dallas Post. [Mark Moran Photo]

## New DHS grad requirements to 'make kids push harder'

by Tom Mooney  
"It's going to make the kids push a little harder," said Dallas Senior High School principal Edgar Hughes recently of the district's new beefed-up graduation requirements.

The tougher regulations, chiefly an increase in credits required and a great emphasis upon English, will be applied starting with the class of 1983--the students who will be sophomores this September.

While Dallas students previously needed just 13 credits from their sophomore through their senior years in order to qualify for graduation they will now need 15. Under the Dallas system, a credit equals a full, year-long course.

Additionally, every senior will now be required to take English.

Hughes, along with curriculum director Gerald Wycallis, explained that the district wanted to avoid putting students in the position of having substantially completed their credit requirements by the end of the junior year, a situation that sometimes led to reduced interest in school during the final year.

"We've always liked to challenge the students," said Wycallis. "If

you give them good choices that will help them, they'll take them," he added.

The demand for English in the senior year, the two administrators said, stems from the district's growing awareness that both employers and colleges expect solid basic skills from the just-graduated and that Dallas students have sometimes tended to "shy-away" from the English courses that would develop their reading, writing, and verbal skills. "The math and science electives have always been popular," said Wycallis.

The actual two-credit increase is listed under "electives" in the new curriculum design prepared by the Senior High Administrators-Counselors Committee. Those electives have been increased from 3.40 over the three years to 5.40. Social studies and physical education are also required in the senior year.

Additional reforms include assigning each class a single guidance counselor to remain with that class through graduation, phasing out study halls, setting more definite course withdrawal procedures, and making attendance rules stricter.

"What we're saying to the students is, 'We want you to set your sights higher,'" said Hughes, adding that, as far as he has been able to determine, "Most of the students feel it's a good idea." He also foresees a trend away from mini-courses and courses with fractional credit values in favor of longer, more solid courses.

The guidance counselor, both men agreed, will be key figure in the student's progress, joining with the student to outline and recommend choices and designing a "model" that provides a basic framework that can allow for changes the student might wish to make later.

Sophomores will be expected to take the basic grammar and literature course, while juniors will find electives available but will be encouraged to begin to satisfy the requirements for American and English literature. The "model" will then include some English in the senior year.

Improvements in student skills will be monitored by administering of standardized tests and by studying feedback from colleges. Some 72 percent of Dallas graduates go on for some kind of post-secondary education.

## '60-year-old pipe' had big break, causing Shavertown water woes

Leonard W. Venable, general manager of the Shavertown Water Company, said this week that it appeared the company's service problems in the vicinity of Mt. Airy and Pioneer Avenues in Shavertown have been resolved.

Venable said the leak which interrupted water service on the system was so large, that listening devices used to locate such leaks provided indications that the problem might be on Perrin Ave., misleading water company crews into digging in that area.

Thursday, water company employees went over the entire system, finally discovering the leak at about midnight.

The general manager said he was in Harrisburg at a Public Utility Commission hearing into the complaints of the Shavertown Taxpayers Association on prior service problems and was called back to

deal with the emergency.

Venable said the company is awaiting a PUC decision on repiping requirement for the Shavertown area and that lawyers representing the company, taxpayers association, and PUC are still working on the solution to the problem. Venable said the pipes which failed last week were "at least 60 years old."

Shavertown Water Company purchased water hauling services in a sterilized tanker owned by the Lake

Carey Volunteer Fire Company during the emergency, Venable said.

"The system's holding up pretty well now," he said. The water tables are in pretty good shape and demand is being met to the point that his pumps supplying the Shavertown area reservoir are actually resting three hours per night. He said his move to advise residents to restrict watering lawns and gardens until after 9 p.m. was precautionary.

## Fall Fair parking faces Lehman zoning woes

Attorneys for the Fall Fair Association and Lehman Twp. were reported scheduled to meet last Friday in an attempt to resolve the zoning problem that has threatened this year's fall fair, set for September.

Association officials, however, said last week that they did not wish to discuss any negotiations that were still in progress.

At issue is the Fall Fair Association's desire to use for its fair a parcel of land it owns in Lehman Twp. near the Back Mountain Medical Center, which it sponsors. That land adjoins the rest of the association's land just across the border in Dallas Borough. The fair itself is intended for the borough part of the property, while the Lehman area is slated for use for parking.

Fall Fair Association members meeting last Thursday said that they were not pleased by being scheduled for a special zoning

appeal to the Lehman Twp. Planning Commission, Aug. 11. They expressed belief that elements in Lehman are hostile to the idea of the fair being held there to begin with and added that if the planning commission takes a great deal of time to decide on the case the month of September will pass without the fair being held.

Their preference, according to fair officials, is for dealing with the township board of supervisors. One official said that it is his understanding that semi-public uses of a parcel of land can be permitted with approval of the supervisors and that it should not be necessary to go through planning and zoning regulations.

The meeting of the lawyers was scheduled in an attempt to develop this idea and get around the Aug. 11 meeting. Assigned to represent the Association were Attys. Frank Townend, James Anzalone, and Merton Jones. While Attys. James

Van Jura and Paul Mahler were to represent Lehman.

This is the first year for the fair to be scheduled for the Association's new property in Dallas Borough, Lehman Twp. Previous fairs were held at the Lehman Horse Show Grounds. Dallas Borough has given permission for the fair on its share of the property, previously announced, with a stipulation in a letter from zoning officer Drew Fitch to the effect that no permanent structures will be allowed.

A fair official also unveiled what he called the Association's "long-term plan" for its property. Essentially, the association wants to develop the property as a public recreation site which can still be used for the fair each year. Proceeds from the fair presently go to support the Back Mountain Medical Center, and in the future they would also support the recreation site.

The map of the proposed recreation site provides space for shuffle-board courts, tennis courts, food stands, storage buildings, a softball field, a little league field, a family picnic area, an ice hockey rink, a swimming pool, a bath house, and a new access road to Rte. 118.

Association members emphasized repeatedly that they have no desire to compete with the horse show grounds or with the Lehman Twp. firemen for fund raising but are entirely concerned with raising money to support the medical center and with making the land useful to the community throughout the year.

The Association's immediate objective, however, is convincing the township supervisors to allow the fair by making a decision by or before their own Aug. 11 meeting. The long-term plan, members conceded, will require planning and zoning approval.

## Dallas Twp. discharges police officer July 15th

According to Solicitor Frank Townend, Dallas Township, an employee was discharged on July 15, and he is being represented by Atty. John Fine. Solicitor Townend noted that he had talked to Atty. Fine and the dismissed employee intended to appeal the dismissal and requested a private hearing.

Township officials acknowledged that the employee was a township police officer but no name or reason for dismissal would be given. The only information available was that the officer had not resigned.

Solicitor Townend noted also that little would be said in order for the matter to "gain little attention and blow over".

Chief of Police Carl Miers was on duty with the Army Reserves on the date of dismissal and is unavailable for comment. Nor further information can be obtained.

In other business, the board discussed the amount of money needed to equip the Dallas Towne Park. According to Chairman Phillip Walter, it would cost \$55,000 to buy all of the items for the playground. Because the play area will not be staffed nor supervised the board agreed that it is not necessary to buy equipment which could be

dangerous to unsupervised youngsters.

It was partially decided to prepare a parking area, build a walk bridge and buy some picnic tables for the park.



"OLD CHINESE SAYING"--A statue of an ancient Mandarin adorns "The Sacred Way," a park area about 35 miles from Peking near the great wall. Access is limited. See Story P. 3.