



Dallas Post/Bill Savage

'Bubble' effect

Shown here is the "bubble" addition on the Mark II Restaurant in Fernbrook. The well-known eating establishment reopened last Wednesday after being closed for 2½ months for renovations.

Mark II reopens after remodeling

The Mark II Restaurant, Fernbrook, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Monday, March 19, has a new look with the recent addition of its "bubble." The bubble, a patio-type enclosure, houses the establishment's ice-cream section.

The restaurant was reopened last Wednesday after undergoing 2½ months of extensive renovations. After closing the eatery on Christmas Eve, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard

Sult, proprietors of the restaurant, watched the appearance of the edifice change drastically.

A back room, which was always closed to the public was used as a private dining room, has now been completely opened to become part of the main dining area.

The ice-cream room, which now has a seating area as well as counter space, also saw the addition of both another soft ice-cream

machine and hard ice cream.

According to Mrs. Sult, who celebrated a birthday the same day as the reopening, the ice-cream area will open within the next two weeks.

The Sults of Shavertown, also own the Mark II Restaurants in Wilkes-Barre and Moosic. A fourth establishment, at the Mark Plaza in Edwardsville, was closed prior to the renovations at the Fernbrook restaurant.

Lehman board names coaches at 40-minute directors meeting

By CHARLOT M. DENMON

In a meeting that lasted no more than 40 minutes last week, the Lake-Lehman School Board directors conducted items on the agenda with no apparent problems.

Director Donald Jones, who completed the unexpired term of Gilbert Tough as the Luzerne Intermediate board representative, was named the LIU representative for the next three-year term.

The recommendation of the Athletic and Activities Committee to contribute \$2,000 to the band for its trip to Montreal was approved.

The board also reappointed the following coaches: Mark Kirk, football; Jean Lipski, field hockey; Edward Narkiewicz, cross country; and Michael Sharok, golf. Reinstated as assistant coaches for

spring sports were Cheryl Travis, softball; Joseph Montileoni, boys volleyball; Dwight Barbacci, baseball; Joseph Solomon, boys' track; and Cathy Elliott, girl's volleyball. The above assistant coach positions were those excluded from the original 1983-84 budget and now approved by the board.

Anthony Marchakitus, assistant to superintendent Dr. David Preston, was given approval to apply to the Governor's Energy Council for an energy conservation grant designed for institutions. The grant would be used specifically for the high school boilers and temperature controls.

The board also adopted the 1984-85 school calendar and adjusted the 1983-84 calendar to include two teacher training sessions originally cancelled due to inclement weather. These sessions will be held on

March 26 and May 25.

Carol Ashton, director of food services, was given an annual increase of \$1,500 retroactive to the beginning of the school year and Don Mosey and Leonard Lane were named to the district's list of substitute teachers.

District Solicitor Peter Savage reported the committee's negotiations with the service personnel is progressing, but, in answer to a question from the audience, explained that no specifics could be reported until an agreement has been reached.

Members of the negotiations committee headed by Savage are Tom Williams, Gilbert Tough and Alan Kelper.

The board also approved Frank Kutz as a bus driver for the district.

Families satisfied

Death-boat driver pleads guilty; sentencing date set

By DOTY MARTIN
Associate Editor

A guilty plea was accepted last week by Luzerne County Judge Patrick Toole Jr., from Dennis J. Abromavage in connection with a Harveys Lake boating accident that killed four people on June 18, 1983.

Abromavage, 24, of 84 E. Columbus Ave., Pittston pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated assault, four counts of involuntary manslaughter, one count of recklessly endangering another person and one count of negligent operation of a motorcraft.

The guilty plea was the second one made by Abromavage, as the first one was rejected by Toole because it did not contain the aggravated assault charge. Without that charge, the plea did not contain provisions to impose probation in addition to a jail term.

Abromavage had been charged with eight counts of involuntary manslaughter, one count of aggravated assault, four counts of recklessly endangering another person, two counts of reckless and negligent operation of a watercraft and one count of operating a watercraft under the influence of alcohol.

Abromavage was accused of driving a 1978 Mastercraft motorboat at a high rate of speed when it struck a 19-foot outboard boat owned by Leonard Pallis of Valley View Drive, RD 3, Wyoming. The Mastercraft boat allegedly struck Pallis' boat from the rear, then traveled over and through it, killing four passengers in the Pallis boat.

Killed were Sharon Pallis, 39, of Valley View Drive, RD 3, Wyoming; her son, Joseph, 6; Karen Pitcavage, 34, of Crown Hill Village, RD 3, Wyoming; and her son, Thomas.

A fifth passenger, Michele Pallis, 10, was seriously injured in the accident and spent several weeks in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Other passengers in the Pallis boat who escaped uninjured were Pallis, 39; Thomas Pitcavage, and his daughter, Melissa, 11.

The plea agreement, submitted by defense attorneys Michael Cefalo and Joseph Cosgrove and District Attorney Robert Gillespie Jr., charges Abromavage with his most serious offense, one count of aggravated assault.

Under the agreement, Abromavage could receive a minimum sentence of 1 to 1½ years in jail and a maximum sentence of five years less one day as well as five years probation. The charges against Abromavage are viewed as a single act; therefore, punishment for a guilty plea on one charge would be the same as if the defendant were convicted on all charges.

Judge Toole set May 4 as the sentencing date and ordered the Pennsylvania Department of Probation and Parole to conduct a pre-sentence investigation into Abromavage's background.

Attorney Perry Shertz, legal counsel to the Pallis and Pitcavage families, said the families felt the plea of guilty was "appropriate."

"Given the limits that are imposed by the sentencing guidelines," said Shertz, "it was considered by the family to be an appropriate plea."

Shertz added that "given the circumstances (or the way the law is written), the guilty plea was an appropriate one."

Shertz said Pallis and Pitcavage were consulted by the District Attorney's office prior to acceptance of the guilty plea.

"The District Attorney has to be concerned with what he feels to be the appropriate plea," Shertz said. "But both families were consulted on the matter."

Shertz, who said he does not practice criminal law, was also consulted by the District Attorney's office on the guilty pleas. He said his (Shertz') primary responsibility in this matter is to present claims for the families, for members of the families and for the estates of the deceased in order to have the families receive any compensation due them.

Asked whether any civil suits will be filed, Shertz replied, "It depends on what transpires between them and now, but that is certainly a possibility."

Nominations open for United Way award

United Way Board President Benjamin R. Jones, III announces nominations are open for the fifth annual Rose Brader Community Service Award.

The award seeks to recognize individuals or organizations for outstanding volunteer effort in the community. Past recipients of the award have been Gary Van Scoy, Catholic Social Services, the late Harry Hickman, the American Red Cross, Anthony D'Elia, Mental Health's Project Friendship and Mrs. Cece McCarthy, Catholic Youth Center.

Nominations must be submitted with a 1984 United Way nominee form. These forms are available from the United Way, located at 9 East Market Street, Wilkes-Barre. Forms can be picked up during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Supportive documents must accompany the nomination form. These materials can include news clippings, letters from clients, certificates and other documentation.

Volunteer service must have been performed in the United Way of Wyoming Valley coverage area which is all of Luzerne County except for the Greater Hazleton area.

Nominations must be submitted by March 19. The award will be presented at the UW Annual Meeting set for Wednesday, April 11, at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre.



Rose Brader Award

Nominees for Rose Brader Community Service Award are being accepted by United Way of Wyoming Valley. The award was designed and manufactured by the Schott Optical and Glass Company in Duryea, Pa.



Cheryl Biernacki
Branch Manager



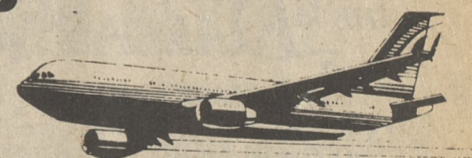
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