

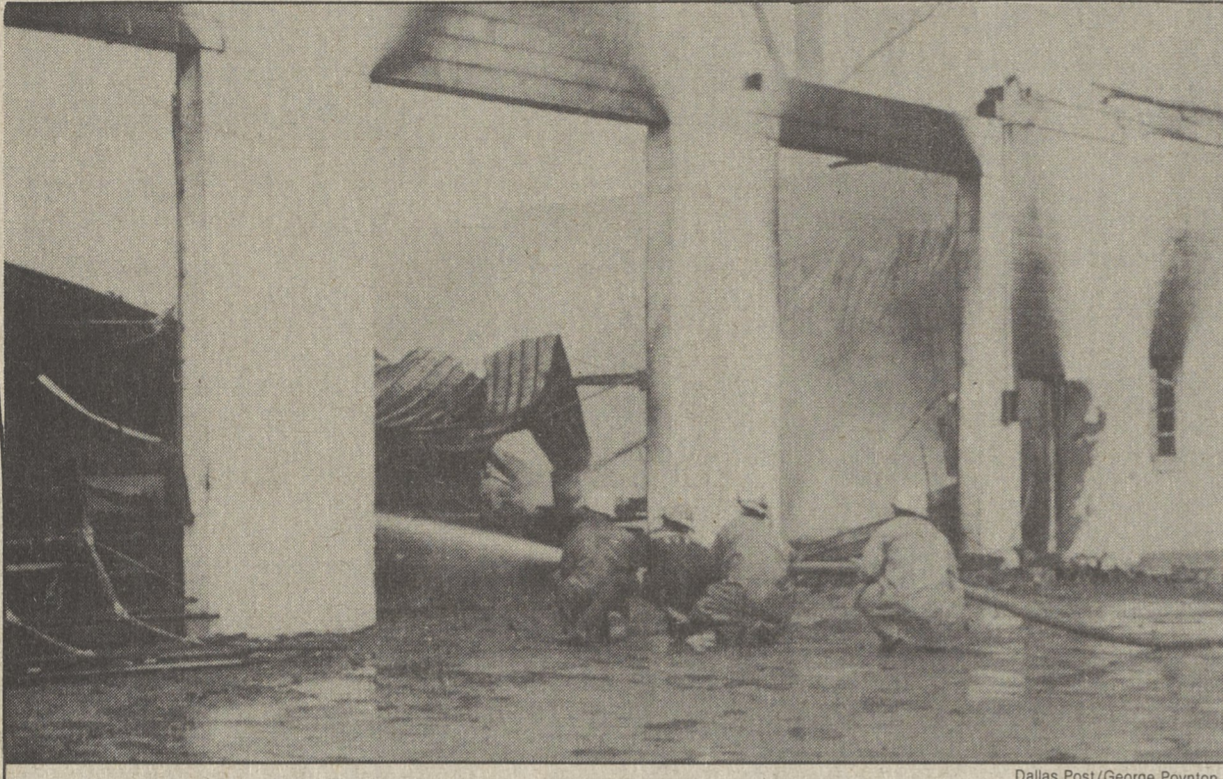
THE DALLAS POST

Covering The Back Mountain
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Dallas Post/George Poynton

Twp. building burns

Firefighters attend to a blaze that destroyed the Lehman Township Municipal Building last Thursday.

Lehman Township building burns

The Lehman Township Municipal Building was destroyed by fire last Thursday, however, no injuries were reported in the blaze.

Firefighters from Lehman, Jackson Township and Idetown responded to the blaze at the Huntsville Road building and were forced to battle the flames in a torrential downpour. Approximately 25 firemen were at the scene.

The building housed the Lehman Township police department, zoning office and road maintenance equipment and, although police records and one of three township trucks were salvaged, all zoning

office records were destroyed.

The two trucks that were destroyed in the fire were a 1981 GMC four-wheel drive and a 1972 International Loadster. Two cinder spreaders were also lost.

Township records such as payroll checks, ledgers and savings accounts from 1978 to the present are kept in the home of Alvin Cragle, township secretary, and were safe from the fire.

The fire is believed to have been caused by the explosion of a propane gas heater inside the office. Damage is estimated to be in the thousands of dollars.

'Contractual difference'

Dallas Borough without services of seven cops

By DOTTY MARTIN
Associate Editor

The Dallas Borough Police Department is currently operating without the services of seven veteran part-time police officers and is advertising for part-time patrolmen.

The part-time patrolmen, who, according to Police Chief Ed Lyons, are involved in a "contractual difference with Council" have not worked since January, 1984. The seven officers involved are Edward Montross, Donald Smith, Timothy Carroll, James Gruver, John Appel, Clark VanOrden and Wayman Miers.

The patrolmen, who have nearly 70 years combined experience, reportedly are not satisfied with a 20 cents per hour wage increase offered them by Council and have set down certain conditions contingent upon their serving the borough as part-time patrolmen.

The men, in a letter sent to Kenneth Young, president of Dallas Borough Council, stated that as of January 23, 1984: (1) they are not available for cruiser work, where the part-time man is the only one on duty, i.e. weekend shifts, vacations or sick days, etc.; (2) the part-time men will work as a second man in the cruiser for transportation of prisoners or any other type situation where a full-time officer is in charge; and (3) they will continue to work parades, bazaars, auctions, or any other type function which is in need of a part-time officer.

An eighth part-time patrolman, Thomas Lewis, who also signed that letter to Young, has since returned to work and will continue, according to Lyons, as a part-time patrolman with the borough police department. In addition to Lewis and Chief Lyons, the borough is also under the protection of three full-time police officers in Severn Newberry, James Tupper and Jack Fowler.

According to Tim Carroll, who has been a part-time police officer in the borough since 1971 and is also the

constable of Dallas Borough, the part-time men first approached Borough Council in the form of a letter dated Nov. 13, 1983.

In that letter, the part-time patrolmen outlined certain requests they asked Council to consider. Those requests were: (1) a 75 cents per hour raise; (2) their own lockers at the police station; (3) new up-to-date crime code and vehicle codes; (4) ammunition allotments for the purpose of practice; (5) a more sufficient clothing allotment; and (6) compensation for a full day's pay when they appear in court as police officers.

The part-time patrolmen, who all hold other full-time jobs, claim to having to leave those full-time jobs in order to appear in court on cases which they, as police officers, handled.

Chief Lyons reported that the men are paid at their hourly wage for any time they spend in court. He also said that a subpoena to appear in court takes precedence over the officer's full-time job and that the officer is required by law to appear in court.

Carroll said the men never received a formal answer from Council after submitting that letter, but that it was "rumored on the street" the men would receive a 20 cents per hour increase.

Carroll informed The Dallas Post the part-time patrolmen then sent a follow-up letter, dated Jan. 15, 1984, to Council.

In that letter, the men asked Council to reconsider their requests and to have members of Council meet with their representatives.

Carroll said the part-time patrolmen never received a formal answer to their second letter, either.

Young reported the men approached Council for a raise in January of this year, but he could not remember how much of a raise they requested.

The president also said that Willard Newberry, police chairman, and other members of Council met with Carroll at a special meeting and informed Carroll

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Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

Going to China

Seven Back Mountain athletes are among the 18 members of the Wyoming Seminary Soccer Team who will visit the People's Republic of China in August. Shown here, from left, are John Wilson, Chris Saul, Jerry Gunster, David Heydt, Guy Gutstein and John Evans. Absent at the time of the photo was Doug Maslow.

Wyoming Seminary soccer team plans history-making trip to China

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

In August of this year, 18 members of the Wyoming Seminary soccer team will depart for a two-week visit to the People's Republic of China.

The Seminary athletes, through the efforts of Thomas Furth, member of the International Games Committee of the United States Youth Soccer Association, received an invitation from the China Sports Service to visit their country as the

first schoolboy team ever to participate in China's soccer program.

Seven members of the team are from the Back Mountain area. They are John Wilson, Chris Saul, Jerry Gunster, David Heydt, Guy Gutstein, John Evans and Doug Maslow.

Dr. Wallace F. Stettler, president of the Kingston College Preparatory School, announced at a press conference last Thursday that the school had accepted the invitation which comes at the conclusion of Wyoming Seminary's 140th Anniversary year.

"We feel greatly honored to have

been chosen to represent high school soccer in this experience of athletic diplomacy," Stettler said.

The school president explained that 20 months filled with hundreds of phone calls, letters and personal visits by Tom Furth to the school campus led up to the April 5 announcement.

It was in August, 1982, that Stettler's attention was directed to a TV morning news show that featured a soccer coach and one of his players from a team that had just returned from a three-week trip to China and Japan. After several weeks of research, contact was made with Furth then a senior at Case Western University Law School and also involved in U.S. Soccer.

Furth had taken a team of All Star players from Virginia and the Cleveland area to China. Early in 1983, Furth visited Wyoming Seminary and, while there, indicated that the Chinese were interested in having a schoolboy team from the USA, visit their country sometime in the future. Members of the Chinese Sports Federation had indicated to Furth they would rely on

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Backstage is a whole new world

By WALLY KOCHER
Staff Correspondent

As with every theater production, there are always some unexpected surprises, unplanned happenings, and amusing anecdotes.

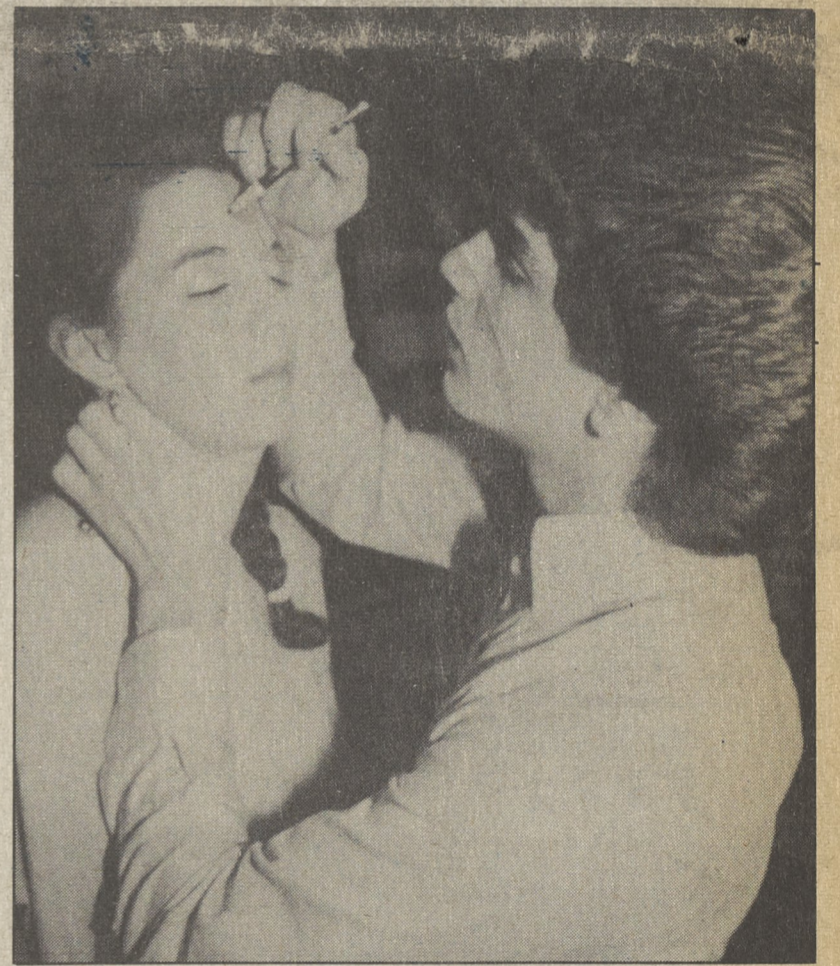
Last weekend's presentation of the "Return of the Pink Panther" at the Lake-Lehman High School was no different.

It all began on the morning of opening day. As Mrs. Jean Lipski, director of the play, forced her eyes open from a deep sleep, she realized the home she shares with her husband was surrounded by a new fallen snow. Now, this wasn't just your normal snow fall, but the worst snow fall of the past decade.

Soon, the phone at the Lipski home began to ring. According to Mrs. Lipski, the first call came around 8 a.m. and, after that, it seemed as though every time she would hang up, someone else would call. Everyone wanted to know the status of the play.

When this reporter phoned her at approximately 10 a.m. for the same reason, Mrs. Lipski exclaimed, "You're my millionth caller!"

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Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Backstage scene

Wayne Benza, above right, applies makeup to the face of Maggie Purcell. The two were participating in the presentation of "The Return of the Pink Panther" last weekend at Lake-Lehman High School.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Food program serves 2,304

The Commission on Economic Opportunity sponsored a free food distribution program last Friday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Shavertown.

According to Gene Brady, executive director of the CEO office in Wilkes-Barre, the program assisted 2,304 people from the Back Mountain area.

Those people received 4,608 1-pound blocks of butter; 1,705 5-pound blocks of cheddar cheese and 2,896 5-pound blocks of American processed cheese.

This was the first time the free food distribution was conducted this year; however, Brady anticipates the program will be held quarterly.

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April 8 — 14

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