

Perspective

OPINION

Guest editorial

Olympics have become a political battleground

By EDWIN FEULNER

Virtually everything today becomes embroiled in politics. Take the Olympic Games. The international athletic events have become more a battleground for competing ideologies than for competing athletes.

The 1984 summer games in Los Angeles will be no exception. Already throwing a pall on the upcoming games is the May 8 Soviet announcement that Soviet athletes will not compete because of alleged U.S. violations of the Olympic Charter. The Soviets charge that "extremist" groups are planning to create "unbearable conditions" for the Soviet delegation and that the U.S. would "not insure the security...and create normal conditions for holding the games." The U.S. State Department dismissed the charges as "totally without merit." What the Soviets are really worried about is that American human rights activists will make it too easy for Soviet-bloc athletes to seek political asylum in the U.S. by setting up "safe-houses" in the Los Angeles area for potential political defectors.

But the politicking doesn't stop here. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which claims "credit" for the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes and three others at the 1972 Munich Olympic Games, is petitioning the International Olympic Committee for participation.

Although there is virtually no chance the PLO can clear the political obstacles neces-

sary for participation in this year's games, the fact that PLO participation is considered worthy of discussion is a sign that "world opinion" has forgotten the Munich slaughter.

Moreover, a 17-year old, who may be the fastest female 5,000 meter runner on earth, has her own Olympian problems. Zola Budd, a South African, has run the distance in 15 minutes, 1.83 seconds - more than six seconds faster than the official world record of U.S. Olympian Mary Decker. Zola recently was granted British citizenship after Home Secretary Leon Brittan personally waived the normal three-year waiting period. South Africa currently is banned from participating in the Olympics. But why shouldn't Budd, if she's the best in the world in her class, be allowed to participate, even if the policies of her country are objectionable? Is the Soviet Union's slaughter of Afghans less objectionable?

And then there's Taiwan. The Nationalist Chinese government in Taiwan is by no means among the bloodiest on the globe. Compared to most of the world - including the People's Republic of China (PRC) - the country is a model of enlightenment. Yet Taiwanese athletes aren't allowed to represent the Republic of China. Only the government of the PRC is officially recognized by the Olympic Committee. So, at the 1984 winter games, Taiwanese athletes appeared in the opening parade carrying the Olympic flag, rather than the flag of their homeland.

More than just the Republic of China's flag was

absent from the winter games in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. The International Olympic Committee also decided that correspondents for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty should not be allowed to cover the games. Because these networks, funded by the United States, broadcast news behind the Iron Curtain, the Olympic Committee ruled they are propaganda outlets, rather than news organizations. Of course, Radio Moscow, which broadcasts Soviet propaganda globally, and other state-run Communist propaganda operations was welcome and awarded the same credentials as CBS and NBC.

These are by no means isolated cases. The Olympic Games today are no longer just a showcase for athletic talent. Despite their Olympic garb, many of the world's premier athletes have become political punching bags.

The Olympic Games are supposed to transcend politics. So why should South African athletes be banned for crimes over which they have no control? Why should the Soviet Union even think of demanding concessions in return for participation? Why should a terrorist organization claiming "credit" for the slaughter of 14 innocent people at an Olympic event only 12 years ago be welcome like the prodigal son at subsequent Olympics?

The outcome of these tests will demonstrate the true spirit of the modern Olympic Games.

(Edwin Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research institute.)



Signs mean business

Maybe taking your attorney fishing with you to comply with all the rules and regulations set forth these days might be going a little overboard. However, it is a good idea to pay particular attention to any signs which may be posted so that you don't find yourself in a heap of trouble.

Only yesterday

Dallas Boro School Board reelects entire school staff

50 YEARS AGO - MAY 25, 1934
Dallas Borough School Board reelected the entire school staff and levied a tax of 30 mills for the school year. During the meeting an unknown person laid down a light barrage of rocks against the room in which the board was meeting. Police believed the incident was subsequent to a political interlude which began shortly before the recent February election.

L.B. Squier, supervising principal of Lehman Township Schools for the past four years accepted a similar position at Nicholson. Squier was an alumni of Nicholson High School, and Mansfield State Teacher's College and was taking graduate courses at Pennsylvania State College.

Area residents anxiously awaited the arrival of Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus. One hundred fifty internationally famous clowns took part in the 1934 performance.

You could get - Stewing chickens 21c lb.; pork loins 14c lb.; standing rib roast 19c lb.; cheese 19c lb.; assorted canned fruit, 4 small cans 25c; canteloupes 2-19c; peanut butter pt. jar 15c; radishes 2 bunches 5c.

40 YEARS AGO - MAY 26, 1944
More than \$10,000 worth of damage was caused when six tons of hay and straw stored in one part of the stables at T.N. Wood's Harveys Lake estate caught fire by spontaneous combustion. The T-shaped stable contained a machine shop, store rooms and saddle rooms in addition to hay.

The spacious grounds and residence owned by the late Kate G. Baur were sold to the Scranton Diocese for the new Gate of Heaven Parish which would be established in Dallas. The property was sold for \$8,500.

Mr. and Mrs. William Nulton of Kunkle were notified by a War Department telegram of the death of their son Clifford, 33, on November 27, 1943 in the European theatre

of war. Nulton was on a ship sunk by enemy action.

Married - Ruth Rogers to Sgt. Richard E. Williams; Mildred Crispell to Maurice Matthews.

Deaths - Rose Dymond, Forty Fort; Mary Allen, Outlet; Mary E. Eipper, Dallas.

You could get - Pork loins 25c lb.; skinless franks 35c lb.; bologna 33c lb.; haddock fillets 36c lb.; oranges 45c doz.; spinach 2 lbs. 15c; paper napkins 7c pkg.; root beer extract 24c bottle; tea 4 oz. pkg. 19c.

30 YEARS AGO - MAY 28, 1954

Local schools chose graduation speakers. Honorable Gay H. Brown had chosen the theme "The Possible You" for the Westmoreland High School graduation. A former Justice of the New York Supreme Court, Brown was well known as an orator, jurist and civic leader. Lake-Noxen chose State Senator Paul Wagner for their commencement speaker. His topic was "An Outlook on Life".

Jack Vavrek, returned Korean Prisoner of War, son of Mrs. Anna Vavrek, Demunds entered Wilkes-Barre Business College to pursue a career in the secretarial-business field.

Engaged - Elsie Jean Ide to Alden Wagner; Mary Elizabeth Schooley to A.L. Williams.

Married - Carolyn Marie Morris to Jack H. Gofring; Blodwyn Lewis to Donald Shaffer.

You could get - Franks 45c lb.; hams 73c lb.; bacon 69c lb.; large jar Nescafe \$1.79; tomatoes 25c pkg.; radishes 2 bunches 9c; salad dressing 25c pt.; fresh clams 3 lb. basket 79c; Velvetta lg. pkg. 51c.

20 YEARS AGO - MAY 28, 1964
Susan Fielding, Lake-Lehman's May Queen, won a four-year scholarship to Lycoming College. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Fielding, Susan is a member of the band and journalism club. She was chosen Rotary Princess at the Rotary Fall Fair and chosen Girl of the Month by the Harveys Lake Women's Club.

Back Mt. Memorial Library board prepared for their annual auction.

Frank Huttman was general chairman. Ed Brominski, chairman of auction grounds while Mrs. Bruce Moen was in charge of general solicitation.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Harvey, Dallas, 25 years; Mr. and Mrs. William R. Wright, 25 years; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Cook, Harveys Lake, 9 years.

Married - Geraldine Goodman to Corey Wall.

Deaths - Thomas A. Wright, Jr., Shavertown; Hermina Lutz, Huntsville; Lena Carey, Dallas; George Montross, Centerville.

You could get - Turkey 39c lb.; shrimp 59c lb.; scallops 59c lb.; oranges 49c doz.; lettuce 2 lg. hds. 29c; tomatoes 39c lb.; strawberries, 39c pt.; ice cream, 1/2 gal. 59c; granulated sugar 5 lbs. 61c; franks 47c lb.

10 YEARS AGO - MAY 23, 1974

College Misericordia graduated 209 students in annual ceremonies. Thomas Lewis was the first male student in the history of the college to receive a baccalaureate hood. Lewis majored in music.

Back Mountain political primaries held literally no surprises. T. Newell Wood retained the nomination for state senator on the Republican ticket. Dan Flood won the nomination for U.S. Congress; Michael Lewis for state senate and Ken Lee, Lieutenant governor; Frank O'Connell, general assembly.

Engaged - Peggy Disque to Gregory Moyer.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Richard Prynne, 40 years.

Deaths - Anna Borovic, Detroit, Mich.; Joseph Zosh, Sr., Meeker; Rev. Walter H. Beuttler, Shavertown; Mary P. Stolarick, Dallas; Willard Rogers, Greene, N.Y.; Marie Blaine, Courtland; Addie H. Peters, Ashley; Frederick Reichert, Dallas; Anna M. Mickus, Swoyersville; Martha Grant, Trucksville; George Borish, E. Patterson, N.J.; Myrtle Bitsakos, Dallas.

STATE CAPITOL ROUNDUP

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from: Rep. Frank Coslett, 120th Legislative District.

A STATE BUDGET amounting to more than \$8.8 billion was adopted by the House this week. The 1984-85 spending plan was approved in a 139-60 vote, but few if any lawmakers expect that it will be the final budget. The proposal is \$350 million higher than a plan presented by the governor. Opponents say it might produce a deficit of \$400 million. Supporters say passage was essential in starting the budget process. A reconsideration motion was filed after passage of the bill and that will prevent the measure from moving on to the Senate for a week or more.

THE HOUSE APPROVED budget would still allow the personal income tax to drop from 2.45 percent to 2.35 percent. The state's corporate net income tax would drop from 10.5 percent to 9.5 percent.

THE FEDERAL Department of Education has commended Pennsylvania for its comprehensive educational reform program. Education Secretary Terrel Bell noted that the reforms included: legislative funding to encourage student enrollment in math and science teaching programs; new course requirements and curriculum objectives in elementary and high schools; new high school graduation requirements

including increased math and science courses; and tests of third, fifth and eighth graders starting next fall to identify students needing remediation.

Library news

Saying goodbye to a great group

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK
Library Correspondent

A special tribute to the Dallas Junior Woman's Club and the 40 years it served the Back Mountain community. The decision to disband the organization came as a disappointment to many residents. This club's contribution to the community, the state and the General Federation was overwhelming. The dedication of its members is what made it so outstanding and I, personally, am proud to have served as its president from 1966 to 1968. A special presentation was made to the Back Mountain Memorial Library of a shadow box containing an engraved plaque of past club presidents, the club gavel and the federation pin worn by the presidents. This shadow box is now displayed in the reference room of the library where it will be a reminder of the great service this

CAPITAL PROJECTS amounting to \$670 million would be authorized under legislation sent to Gov. Dick Thornburgh this week. The funds would be for the construction,

repair and furnishing of state-owned facilities and other public institutions. The governor had recommended a capital budget of less than \$168 million.

organization gave to the Back Mountain.

The 'Friends of the Library' campaign for 1984 is in progress and we would welcome more members. Financial donations in any amount will be accepted and help us to meet our goal for the year. The 'Friends' contributions are a part of our budget and now, more than ever, we need the financial help. Be a library supporter! Be a friend!

Summer hours at the library will begin on June 8. The changes are that the library will be closed Saturdays and will close at 5:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays. Other hours will remain the same. The children's annex will close on May 30 and the new children's department will open in temporary quarters on the second floor of the new library building on Huntsville Road on June 15.

Planning a summer vacation? Whether you're thinking about travel in our own state, a visit to a national park, or a trip to a foreign

country - you will enjoy your vacation more by planning it with the help of books from your library. Use your library often - it's an information center for every need.

New books at the library "Random Hearts" by Warren Adler is a novel of betrayal and love. It is a love story as unique as it is timeless, a tantalizing tale of love and deception with a fateful - and fatal - twist. Vivien and Edward, total strangers to each other, were brought together under tragic and bizarre circumstances.

"Kill and Tell" by William Z. Kienzle features Father Koesler and Inspector Walter Koznicki along with a new cast of characters revolving around auto executive Frank Hoffman. Frank is on his way up at the company and someone would like him out of the way - permanently. There are four people who would benefit personally and professionally from his death. Father Koesler acquires a startling understanding of the personalities involved.

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