

At Lake-Lehman Salary increases are questioned

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Lake-Lehman School Board members granted a total of \$13,700 to six district administrators at its July 10th meeting. The increases in the administrators' salaries passed by a narrow 5-4 margin with the exception of Anthony Marchakitus, assistant to the superintendent's increase which passed by a 6-3 vote. Voting no on all of the increases were directors Allan Keiper, Edward Mark and Martin Noon. Director Bing Wolfe voted no on all increases, but that of Marchakitus.

School superintendent Dr. David Preston was given a \$1900 increase raising his salary to \$47,100. Marchakitus was given a \$1400 increase, the least of all the administrators, raising his salary to \$36,100. Mark voted no on Marchakitus' salary because his amendment to increase the assistant's salary by \$1500 died on the floor.

John J. Zaleskas, high school principal, received the highest increase, \$3000, raising his salary to \$37,100. John Oliver, assistant high school principal, received an increase of \$2400, raising his salary to \$35,000. Charles James and Robert Kunkle, elementary principals, received increases of \$2500 raising their salaries to \$32,400.

Marchakitus addressed the Board and asked why he received a lesser increase than the other administrators. He explained that he found no fault with the other administrators' increases, but wanted to know how the board arrived at his increase. He stated he believed it to be discriminatory.

Board president Joseph "Red" Jones would grant no answer to Marchakitus' questions, but told him that he would have to discuss the matter with the board privately. When Marchakitus asked if this could be a work session, Jones answered in the affirmative.

A lengthy discussion ensued over recommended board action to appoint five teachers, Thomas Williams, Joan Roskos, as elementary teachers; Paul Hildebrand, secondary teacher in biology and science; Dwight Barbacci, as full time physical education teacher, increasing his current half-time position to full-time; and Susan Roese as full time art teacher, increasing her half-time position to full-time.

Bing Wolfe, chairman of the education committee, refused to read the names in the order they appeared on the agenda when he learned the teachers would receive seniority in the order in which they were read. He asked that one of the other directors read the resolution, but no one agreed to do so.

The first name on the list was that of Thomas Williams, son of one of the school directors. Williams was Step 1 Bachelor level with a salary listed at \$12,600. Director Allen Keiper asked why Williams' name was first on the list when the usual practice was to list names in alpha-

betical order. Dr. Preston said that Williams name was first "just because it's first." Keiper asked if this meant Williams was first in seniority and Preston indicated that it did. Keiper said he felt the listing was deliberate and was out of order since both Barbacci and Roese have been working in the district under contract for the past three years.

Director Ed Mark questioned whether or not Lake-Lehman was an "Equal Opportunity Employer." When Preston answered in the affirmative, Mark indicated there might have been a violation of the EOE Act. School Solicitor Peter Savage said he did not believe there was a violation, but that he would look into the matter.

At this point, board president Jones moved that the hiring be tabled until the board members could "get their heads together."

A resolution was approved unanimously to increase non-professional staff members Elva Elston and George Stolarick's salaries by \$832. The amount is equal to that given all secretarial-clerical persons at the June meeting. Elston's and Stolarick's names were omitted in error at that meeting.

Wolfe explained that, due to increased registration, a special kindergarten will be added to Ross Elementary School. A fifth grade section at Ross will be moved to Lehman-Jackson Elementary which will benefit the students because they will have access to the computer lab resource room and also will be able to participate in the district's computer program.

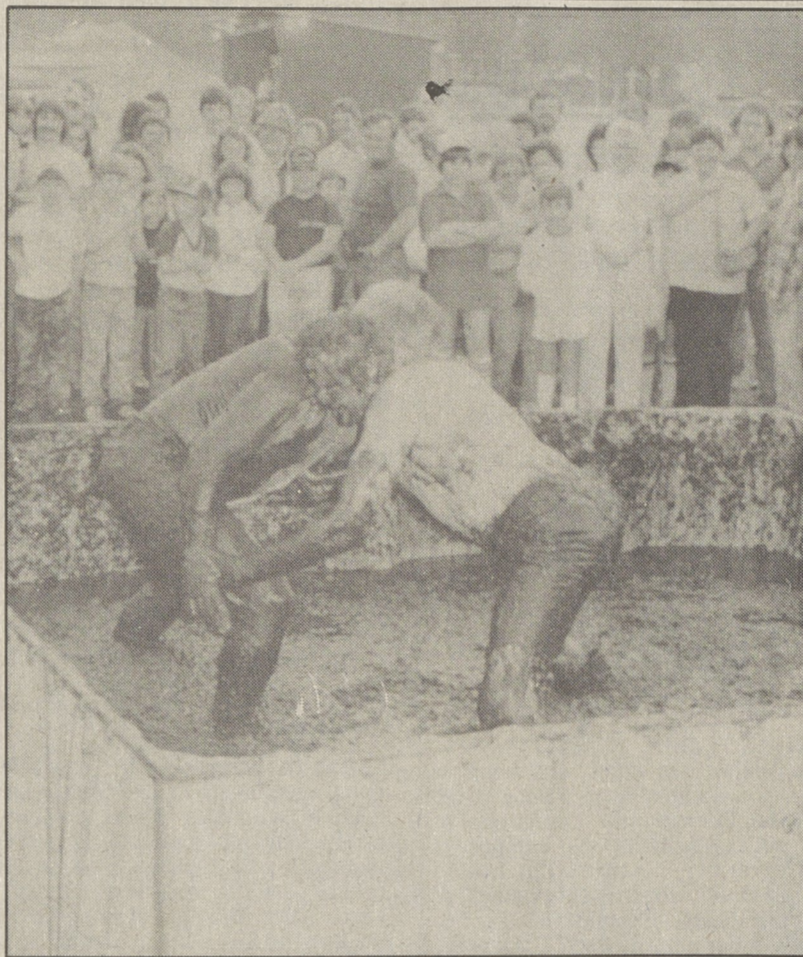
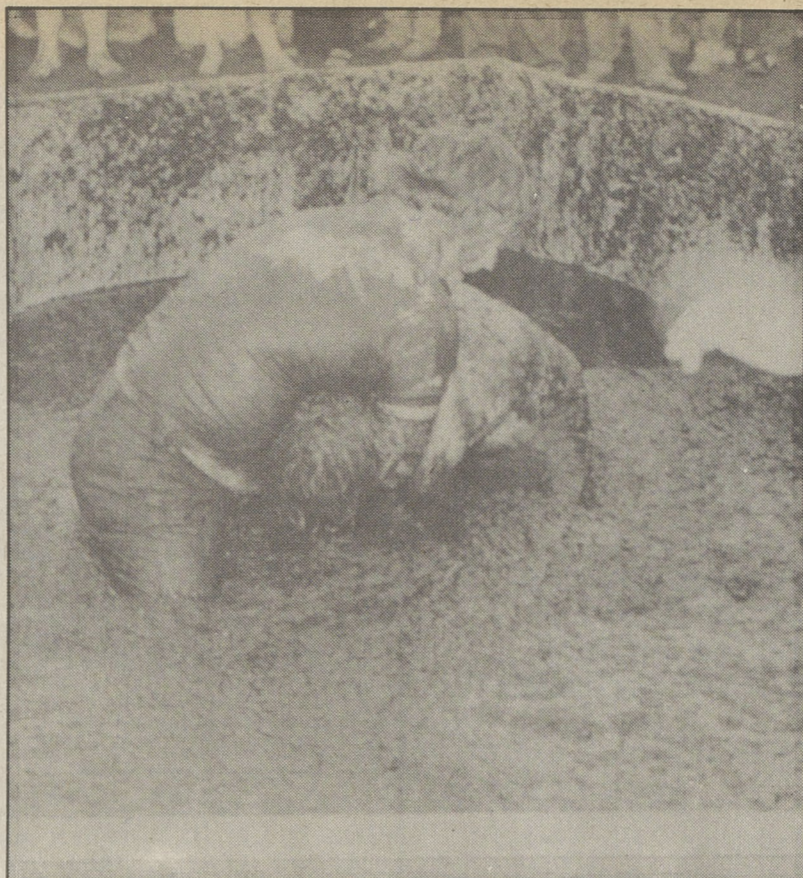
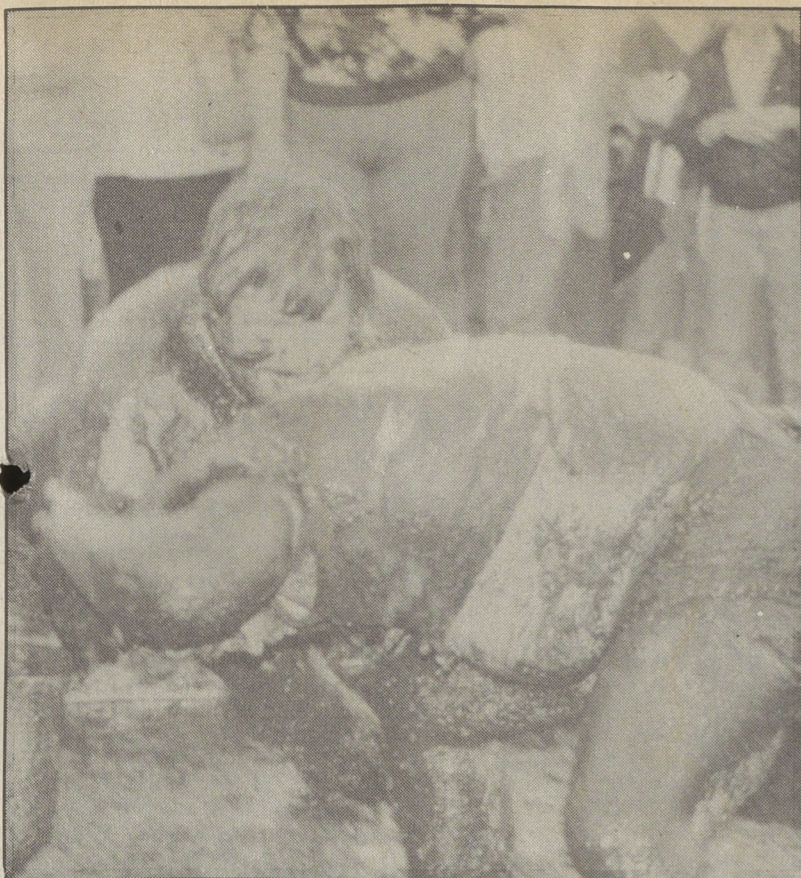
Robert Emory, who was in the audience, asked about the individual increases of the administrators and how they were determined. Director Tough said committee members evaluated each administrator and increased according to steps. Director Mark gave Emory his copy of the salary increases.

Emory also asked how many students were in the fifth grade to be moved. He was told there were 33 students in the fifth grade and at Lehman-Jackson there will now be four fifth grades, four sixth grades, four first grades, but only three kindergartens and no change in the number of instructors.

Robert Allardyce again questioned Dr. Preston about Planned Parenthood. Allardyce said that although Preston had told him at the June meeting he did not believe that agency had been in the district, Allardyce received reports that the agency had been.

Dr. Preston told Allardyce his answer was still the same. If the agency had been in the district, its members were there by the invitation of an instructor to discuss certain topics the students might be studying in a subject.

President Jones recommended that if Allardyce wants further information, he should make an appointment with the high school principal and discuss the matter privately.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Messin' around!

After putting in so many hours last weekend with the devastating tornado that hit Harveys Lake and caused so much damage, members of the Harveys Lake Borough Council and members of the Daniel C. Roberts Volunteer Fire Co. were certainly entitled to have a little fun. The above photos show how the men chose to entertain themselves, as they became the featured show in a mud-wrestling competition last Wednesday evening. The mud wrestling was held in conjunc-

tion with the annual Daniel C. Roberts Volunteer Fire Co. Bazaar. Shown in the top left photo, Councilman Bob Maximowicz, uses his strength against an unidentified contender while two mud wrestlers go at each other in the top right photo. Mayor Frank Picchi is a sorry looking sight in the lower left photo as he calls for help while the crowd enjoys the show, but stands back out of the way in the lower right photo.

Fireworks display may be thing of the past

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

After four years, this year's fire-

UGI joins Crime Watch

Members of the Electric Utility Division are now serving their local customers in more ways than one. In addition to making their regular rounds as linemen, they are official participants in the Utility Watch Program, part of Pennsylvania Crime Watch.

All 10 linemen recently underwent training with a member of the state police. They learned how to observe suspicious activities and report them to police. They serve as an extension to the police department—the "eyes and ears."

"There is a very practical, natural activity for our linemen to undertake," said Jack Thompson, transmission and distribution engineer in the Electric Division. "Utility field personnel are constantly in local neighborhoods and in contact with the public. They are in an excellent position to observe unusual activities and since their vehicles are already equipped with two-way radios, they can make reports immediately to the company base station which can then relay the message to the police."

Although they are trying to assist the police department, the linemen are instructed to avoid any physical involvement in situations, Thompson said. "They are not to act as vigilantes," he said.

The Utility Watch Program is a spin-off of the Neighborhood Crime Watch Programs. Crime rates have been known to be reduced by as much as 50 percent after only one year of operation by these groups, Thompson said. "We hope to produce the same kind of results."

works display sponsored by the Dallas Recreation Center may be the last.

"It's too bad because the kids and their parents enjoy it so much," said Rec Center Director Jay Pope, "but each year the display becomes more expensive. It attracts residents from the Borough, Dallas Township and Kingston Township, but without the townships supporting us, we feel it's time to give it up."

Pope said when they had the first display four years ago, they had it on the grounds of the Dallas Borough Rec Center. Then more homes were built in the area of the Center and because the professional who did the display for the Center insisted there be at least 500 feet of open area, the past three years the school district has been kind enough to let the borough Rec Center have the fireworks display on the junior high grounds.

The Dallas Borough Recreation Center has a budget of \$9,000, according to Pope, and each year \$1,000, one ninth of the budget goes toward the expense of the display. This year, because so many of the spectators are from the townships as well as the borough, members of the Rec Center administration approached the townships early in the year and asked for some support.

The Recreation Center staff was willing to do all the work including hiring the professional, taking care of contracts, insurance, publicity, giving both townships equal billing in the publicity and all the other details necessary including helping to finance as they have in the past. They didn't ask the township officials for any definite amount, merely to help finance the display.

At the time, township officials thought it was a great idea, but when members of the Rec Center approached the townships in June the word was different. They said they didn't have the money in the budget for the display.

On July 1, Kingston Township's answer was "No". One Dallas Township supervisor told Pope that he might be able to get him \$250 so he and his staff members waited around the phone at the Center all evening on July 3 waiting for the phone to ring. Finally, the call came and the answer was "no money", so the borough financed this year's display by itself just as they had in the past.

"The fireworks get more expensive each year," said Pope. "So, our display gets smaller and we can't afford to spend any more."

Pope said he and Borough Recreation Center Chairman Jerry Machell have had some lengthy discussions over the display. They are beginning to be of the opinion that it

will be better to spend this \$1,000 on the borough's recreation center for the borough's kids. It can be used for new fencing, more equipment, even some more equipment for the small playground at the top of Huntsville Road.

"It's too bad," said Pope. "The kids really enjoyed it (the fireworks display) but we can't keep going it alone. It's a big piece out of the budget. We thought it was a great event for July 4th and had hoped it could grow into a Back Mountain event in the years ahead, but it looks as though that won't happen. I won't say it's dead, but it's very close to that unless a miracle happens."

Pope did express his appreciation to the Dallas Township officials for granting them a permit for the display. He said they were always good about that.

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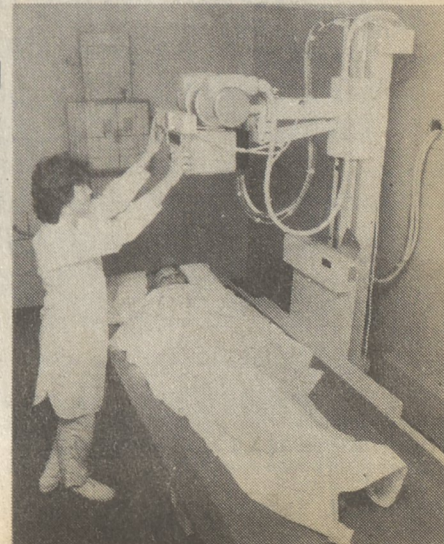
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