

Gina

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p.m. Saturday evening to members of the press only, however, Mrs. Major admitted to learning during the pre-show for the benefit of the Atlantic City audience that her daughter was not among the finalists.

Although Gina's mother remembered the disappointment she felt when learning her daughter's dreams were about to come to an abrupt end, it was Judy who felt the most devastated with the news.

"I felt the blood drain from my head to my toes," she said, almost unbelievably. Dressed in a black and white outfit and looking more like a big-city actress than a former Lake-Lehman athlete and the recently named women's field hockey coach at College Misericordia, Judy admitted she did not want to believe Gina's name would not be among the top 10.

"I just couldn't believe it," she said, shaking her head.

Instead, the Top 10 finishers included Miss Hawaii, Miss Kentucky, Miss Massachusetts, Miss Minnesota, Miss Mississippi, Miss New York, Miss Ohio, Miss Tennessee, Miss Texas and Miss Utah with Miss Utah, Miss Ohio, Miss Mississippi, Miss Minnesota and Miss Texas finishing in the top five positions.

Miss Major, a 5'5", 107-pound blonde, had her talent competition on Wednesday evening and sang a medley of Judy Garland songs, including "I Feel A Song

Coming On." She did not, however, win a preliminary talent award — a fact her mother found most difficult to swallow.

"Gina was in the toughest talent group," Mrs. Major said, "but she's a good singer. I thought she did well in the competition."

The line at the door was growing shorter and the tension was mounting as Mrs. Major and Judy prepared to see Gina for the first time that evening. Just then, a nice-looking young gentleman dressed in a three-piece black suit walked across the hall. "Hello, Miss Tennessee's boyfriend," Mrs. Major hollered, calling him just that — Miss Tennessee's boyfriend.

"Well, she's my girlfriend," he said. "but, I'm not so sure I'm her boyfriend with all the fame she's been receiving," the young man added, his Southern accent sounding somewhat out of place in this New Jersey shore town. His was one of the happier faces outside the ballroom as Miss Tennessee had been among the Top 10 finalists.

"We've met some really great people," Mrs. Major said, reflecting on the week's activities. She and Judy then both commented on the honors taken by the Lake-Lehman Band during its performance in the Miss America Parade the Tuesday before, an honor even more meaningful since Gina was once

a member of that band.

In a final attempt to make herself and her mother feel better about the evening, Judy piped in with some proud remarks about her elder sister.

"Gina did her best," she said, fondly. "But, she didn't win, so now she'll return to her role as Miss Pennsylvania and she will dive right back into that 100 percent. Gina never does anything less than 100 percent."

By now, Mrs. Major had her shoes back on and the two women prepared to take their places among other contestants' family members at the Miss America Ball — an event where they would share Gina's disappointment with her, cry with her, laugh with her, and plan the future with her. Even without the Miss America crown on her head, Gina Major still had all the family support she needed.

The Back Mountain community is proud to have Gina Major as one of its own and wishes her continued success in the remaining nine months of her reign as Miss Pennsylvania.

Miss Major was scheduled to make a personal appearance in Philadelphia on Monday prior to returning to the Back Mountain for a few days of relaxation with her family. She will be an honored guest at College Misericordia's 60th anniversary parade Friday evening.



Health Fair planned

Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, will conduct its fifth annual Health Fair at the Wyoming Valley Mall on Oct. 26 and 27. Many of the Mercy's health care professionals will be available during the event to offer valuable "wellness information" via live demonstrations, individual testing and counseling, educational literature, and many audio-visual presentations. Members of the Health Fair Committee shown here are, from left, seated, Lu Ann Angeli, RD, Dietary; Kathleen Chickson, RN, Nursing Service; Mary Grigas, RN, Wellness Center; Anita Wendel, Infertility Clinic; and Joanne Sakowski, Social Services. Standing, left to right, Mark Stephens Communications-Public Relations; Frank Yoskoski, Plant Operations; Gerri Buczewski, RN, Diagnostic Services; Sr. Ruth Ann Fox, R.S.M., Social Services, and Joe Aquilina, Wellness Center.

Dance Club season opens

Circle Eights of Wilkes-Barre, the first Modern Western Square and Round Dance Club in this area, opened the Fall and Winter season with a covered dish supper at the Wilkes-Barre Area Vo-Tech School on Saturday, Sept. 8. A variety of events is planned for the 1984-85 season, including a Pizza Party dance, Sugar Plum dance, Christmas party, and special dances featuring caller Ron Schneider and Ron Libby.

Club dances are held at the school on Saturday evenings with Round dancing from 7:30 to 8:30 and Square dancing from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Registration for classes will be held on October 1 and 8. Classes are held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Academy and South River Sts., Wilkes-Barre from 8 to 10:30 Monday evenings. Couples wishing to learn the basic steps in Modern Western Square and Round Dancing can register at the church or contact Carl and Betty Hanks, club callers.

A nominal fee is asked at each class attendance. Come and join in the fun, exercise and social time.



Planning social

The Victims Resource Center will celebrate their 10th anniversary with a social at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Crossgates on Sept. 28. Shown are publicity chairperson, Mary Pillarella, left, and committee chairperson, Estella Parker-Killian. Guest speaker will be Judge Lisa Auersa Richette, author of The Throwaway Children and a definitive article on Children's Rights in the Encyclopedia Britannica 1974 Supplement. She has been featured for her work in People Magazine, The Family Circle, Volgue and Attentione. Judge Richette has appeared on Good Morning America and was also featured on Nightline. She presently serves on the Homicide Program of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. For information and reservations, call the Victims Resource Center at 823-0765. The public is invited.

Volunteers completing area study on cancer

During the first two weeks of September, a group of Luzerne County residents called on friends and neighbors to complete the first phase of follow-up work to Cancer Prevention Study II, a large scale, long-term research project of the American Cancer Society.

The study, the largest of its kind ever undertaken, is examining the lifestyles of more than 1.2 million Americans to learn about possible relationships between cancer and such personal and environmental factors as nutrition, drugs, occupational exposures, pollution, low-level radiation, low tar and nicotine cigarettes and passive smoking.

"Though scientists are not able to report on definitive findings about cancer development and prevention this early in the study," said Frances Nork and Dottie Henry, Chairmen of the Wyoming Valley Unit's study. "Data from this first follow-up will allow them to make preliminary analyses about potential cancer risk factors in our lifestyles and environment." Information obtained in this follow-up and subsequent ones will be added to baseline data that has already been collected and computerized, and will enable researchers to begin the process of data analysis.

Cancer Prevention Study II (CPS II) began in September, 1982, when 75,000 "volunteer researchers" of the Society enrolled over 1.2 million Americans as participants. In Luzerne County, 193 volunteers enrolled 2,176 residents, primarily families and individuals whose whereabouts would be known over a long period of time.

During September's follow-up, these same volunteers will check with individuals they enrolled to

verify addresses and any name changes. They will also report on the deaths of any study participants since the start-up. This information will update the CPS II data bank which stores all the information contained in the questionnaires.

"We intend to keep track of all participants during the course of the study," Mrs. Nork indicated. "Because of the energy and dedication of volunteers involved in the study, and the overall interest in cancer prevention expressed by the participants themselves, our follow-up goal of 100 percent should be easily reached."

By the completion of the third follow-up, sufficient mortality records will have been accumulated. At that time, an analysis of suspected cancer risk factors will be made by comparing the number of deaths attributed to various cancers to the answers in the questionnaires.

In the meantime, preliminary analysis of various topics covered by the CPS II questionnaires will be made. Researchers, for instance, will examine current American eating habits, paying special attention to the consumption of those foods thought to lower cancer risk. They will also evaluate the public's use of products such as artificial sweeteners and vitamins, and learn how smoking habits compare among various occupational groups. The first analysis to be obtained from Cancer Prevention Study II was a report on changing smoking patterns among Americans. Presented at the Fifth World Congress on Smoking and Health in July, 1983, the report revealed a sizeable decrease in the number of current cigarette smokers. The report, based on preliminary data from CPS II, also showed a filter cigarettes and low-tar brands among smokers.

Cancer Prevention Study II is equal in size but wider in scope than the first Cancer Prevention Study, which was conducted by the American Cancer Society from 1959 to 1972. That study identified many factors related to the development of cancer and other diseases. It may be best remembered as the study which supplied evidence conclusively linking cigarette smoking to lung cancer, heart disease, and other circulatory diseases.

Wycallis

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board members took exception. Others felt the service worthwhile and the best possible means by which to secure the most qualified individual.

The voting on Wycallis' nomination, 5-4, reflected the split on the board as to whether or not such a service was feasible and/or necessary. The dissatisfaction was not one with Wycallis, but rather with the sudden steps taken that effectively eliminated any further search and the change in plans that caught many off-guard. Many felt a greater population of candidates from which to choose would have made them

more comfortable.

Donald R. Jones of the Personnel Committee admitted the nomination came as a complete surprise and that he had been under the impression that the candidacy was to be opened to more applicants.

Dr. William Camp of the Education Committee stated that, although he felt Wycallis to be a thorough and capable man, he would have liked to have interviewed other applicants as well and believed that was the board's original plan.

Camp explained that since the Superintendent's position is the

most highly influential and crucial one to the district, the taking of time and careful review would have been appropriate. He felt a thorough search should have been made for such a position to satisfy everyone that they have chosen the best person for the job.

Wycallis is known to be an avid researcher of issues, not leaving one stone unturned in procuring information relevant to the understanding of issues. Many believe his experience in the district is an advantage over other "outside-district" candidates, who would not be as familiar with policies and practices of the school district.

Dallas

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Sponsored by the Dallas Band Boosters, the tournament will feature local high school bands from Nanticoke Area, Wyoming Area, Lake-Lehman, Coughlin, Pittston Area, as well as the band from Plainsville Junior High School. Bands from areas other than ours which will compete include the David Brearley High School Band from Kenilworth, New Jersey, and the Montoursville High School Band.

The Dallas marching band, which will perform and will receive points, will not be included in the competition because it is the host band.

At the tournament, the judges

while viewing the performance of each band, will make cassette tapes of what they like and don't like about each band's performance. This will allow the bands to improve their weak points prior to their next competition.

Each band is allotted 12 minutes of playing time which includes approximately four songs. The band members are scored on music, marching, and a host of other areas. Each band begins with 100 points with points being subtracted according to the judges' decisions.

Gates will open at noon and ticket prices for admission are \$2.00 for

adults and \$1.00 for students. There will be a drawing for a handmade quilt as well as such refreshments as ice cream, pizza, potato pancakes, funnel cakes and much more. All proceeds from the tournament will be used toward the band trip the students make at the end of each school year.

The Dallas Marching Band is currently in its fourth year of competition and has already received over 50 first place awards. The Marching Mountaineers have never finished lower than second place in a competition. Mr. David A. Benn is the Dallas Band Director.

Sister

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During Sr. Marianna's junior year, when she decided to major in Latin, College Misericordia held its first graduation. This class was made up of the five transfer students; Irene Harkins, Estelle O'Donnell, Evelyn Brayman, Gertrude O'Connell and Nellie Ward. The graduation ceremony was held at Irem Temple. Father Tom Carmody, College Chaplain, officiated.

In 1927, Sister Marianna and her classmates entered their senior year. Their studies then included Latin authors, Greek prose, French Classical literature. Sr. Marianna's favorite piece of literature was Dante's Divine Comedy. The students also took Principles of Secondary Education and Techniques of Teaching, preparing them for their

professions. Home economics and Music were added that year to the list of freshmen majors.

Student teaching is always an exciting experience. Sr. Marianna did her student teaching at Plains Memorial High School, St. Mary's High School and Luzerne High School. The college published its first yearbook in 1927, with Sr. Marianna serving as editor.

Fifteen seniors graduated from College Misericordia in 1928. This number did not include Sisters in the class, since nuns were not allowed a "public" life in those days. Commencement was held at Irem Temple with Baccalaureate Mass held in St. Mary's Church, Wilkes-Barre. Bishop O'Reilly, newly ordained Bishop of Scranton, presided. Sr. Marianna graduated

Summa Cum Laude.

Following her graduation, Sr. Marianna taught two years at Luzerne High School, her alma mater, before entering the novitiate at College Misericordia. Her entire career, with the exception of the two public school teaching years, one year teaching at Sacred Heart High School in Plains, one year of study in Rome and four years at Catholic University, has been spent at College Misericordia.

In 1957, Sr. Marianna was named Dean of College Misericordia. She was named director of the graduate program in 1967, as well as Provincial Director of Higher Education.

Semi-retired, Sr. Marianna now works as an assistant in education and is the receptionist at the Provincial House.

PaAAP coordinates child safety activities

In recognition of PaAAP's extensive involvement in stimulating community child passenger safety activities, PennDOT has selected PaAAP to coordinate state-wide child passenger safety activities under Act 53 - The Pennsylvania Child Passenger Protection Act.

Act 53 requires that:

— Children under one year of age must be secured in a federally approved car safety seat.

— Children age one to four should be in a car safety seat, but can be secured in a seat belt in the back seat, only.

— Hospitals must provide parents of newborns with information about community child safety seat loaner- rental programs.

— The Commonwealth set up loaner programs for low-income families utilizing funds from fines collected beginning on January 1, 1985.

Pediatricians in their own communities will be speaking to early childhood programs, hospital medical staffs, and other community groups about child passenger safety, demonstrating the correct use of seat restraints and encouraging the development of car seat loaner- rental programs.

The Child Passenger Safety Project, located in Ardmore PA, has established a toll free telephone number: 1-800-CAR-BELT to provide technical assistance and educational materials to concerned parents and interested community leaders.

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