

Commentary

Editor's notes

A little of this... ...a little of that

I WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW that, while you're reading this column, I am probably at the top of a snow-covered mountain in New York State, enjoying some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. Because, you see, I am on vacation and am spending five luxurious days of doing nothing but skiing and sipping hot toddies in front of a fireplace.

Sounds like the life, doesn't it? Actually, I have been looking forward to the vacation since my last vacation came to an end - and that was way back in September. What I can't figure out, though, is whether vacations are really worth taking. It seems to me you end up working twice as hard before and after.

However, I can assure you it does feel good to get away. Trust me, Jean (I know you're reading this), getting away for a while is the answer to everything. However, I'm quite sure it will feel just as good to get back when it's all over.

SPEAKING OF SKIING, I went to Montage the other night for the very first time - you know the highly-publicized, over-rated Montage. Seems to me everybody has been giving this ski resort more credit than it deserves.

I guess it's okay for this area, but it seems our own Montage is a great hangout for kids - there sure were an awful lot of young ones there.

AND SPEAKING OF KIDS, I had a rather hairy experience with four of these little devils while I was at Montage.

I am a great lover of the sport of skiing, but I am not very fond of the chair lift. I like to get on and off that bloody thing in a hurry and when the lift stops because someone fell getting on or off, I panic.

There you are, swinging in mid-air with absolutely nothing between you and the ground. And, believe me, that is a scary experience.

Well, during my experience at Montage, there were two youngsters on the chair lift directly in front of me and two more youngsters on the chair in front of them. Every time the lift stopped, these yo-yos would bounce up and down on the chairs so that after a few minutes, the whole string of chairs were bouncing up and down in mid-air, at a pretty good pace, mind you!

Well, let me tell you, I was petrified. And my ski partner was having a blast, not only feeling like we were on a carnival ride, but laughing at me, to boot. I asked her to yell at the kids while I hung on for dear life, but she just sat there hysterical!

Well, after a few minutes, I decided I had had enough. So, I yelled out, "Hey, you! Ski patrol, cut it out!"

So, I told a little white lie - but it worked. Those kids sat as still as they possibly could the rest of the way up the mountain.

My stepsister pulled a similar trick on someone who called our house the other day. When the phone rang, Susan picked it up and said, "Hello." A male voice on the other end said, "Hi." Not recognizing the voice, Susan thought she should at least be polite, so she retaliated with "Hi."

The gentleman said, "Welcome home" and really stumped Susan. She still didn't know who this guy was, but she thought maybe he had been trying to call for a few days and no one was home, so she responded this time with "Thank you."

But, when the guy asked, "Did you have a nice time?" Susan, who hasn't been out of Wyoming Valley in months, was thoroughly bewildered so she asked, "Where was I?" The two phone mates then realized that whoever the guy on the other end was, he was looking for "Laurie" and had done nothing other than dial a wrong number.

I THOUGHT that was a pretty funny story, but it wasn't nearly as funny as the time we were shopping in a department store and Susan somehow managed to bump into another shopper.

Susan turned around and very seriously said to the woman, "Watch where I'm going!" Oh, but to be able to think so quickly.

ON THE SERIOUS SIDE, Betty and Clayton Bean of Harveys Lake were confronted with a rather strange situation this weekend. While relaxing in front of the television Sunday evening, the couple heard a strange noise coming from the second floor of their house. When entering the master bedroom, Betty and Clay realized the noise was coming from under their bed.

Lo and behold! When they investigated, they found the family dog, Sweet Pea, giving birth to five beautiful puppies. And Mom and Dad didn't even know Sweet Pea was pregnant!

Congratulations to the Bean family on that latest addition.

A GREAT BIG HELLO to Marilyn Gregorski, the director of activities and public relations for the Meadows Nursing Center here in Dallas.

I got a real nice note from Marilyn this week, telling me how much she enjoys reading this column. Thanks, Marilyn - and keep up the good work at the Meadows. Your job there is an important one, I'm sure.

LET'S TALK SPORTS. Our own John Rodgers has been taking a stand on several very hot sports issues these days.

A few weeks ago, Rodgers commented on the resignation of Ron Rybak from the Dallas High School football program and, just last week, he defended the Wyoming Valley Conference wrestling program against those who seem to think the program falls when it goes against Scranton area wrestlers.

Local sports fans will come to realize soon that John Rodgers had an opinion on athletic-related events in Wyoming Valley - and you can read all about his opinions in the sports pages of The Dallas Post every week.

AND, WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT, area sports fans will find a story in today's sports section about the "rags-to-riches" basketball program at Dallas High School.

Freelance sportswriter David Konopki takes a look at the Dallas basketball program and how it has matured during the last four years.

Clarence Ozgo, head cage coach for the Mountaineers, is to be commended for the job he has done. Clarence and I go back to our days on the hardwoods at Wilkes College. Of course, Clarence is several years older than I am, though.



REMEMBERING:

Raub's Hotel

Oh, but who can forget the Old Dallas Hotel, owned by the Raub family. The landmark stood in the center of Dallas for years, allowing Back Mountain residents a place around which to build many memories.

Only yesterday

How about clams for 10¢ doz.?

50 Years Ago - Feb. 8, 1935

C. Harold Wagner was selected by Dallas Borough Council members to complete the term of office of Burgess left vacant by the death of J. Harry Anderson.

Ralph Brickel, well-known Dallas Borough undertaker and business man was name deputy coroner by Dr. I.C. Morgan, Luzerne County coroner.

Engaged-Marion Harrington to Charles Huribut.

Deaths-Charles W. Howell, Beaumont.

You could get-Fillet of fish 10c lb.; Little Neck clams 10c doz.; 8 O'Clock coffee 19c lb.; Del Monte pineapple 2 big cans 33c; Hershey's chocolate kisses 21c lb.; 2 tall cans pink salmon 21c; 1-lb. baking powder 19c.

40 Years Ago - Feb. 9, 1945

Definite steps toward the establishment of a Teen-Age House in Shavertown were taken when nine representative citizens presented a petition to Kingston Township School Board asking permission to use the small abandoned grade building on Shavertown school grounds for this purpose. The school board was considering the matter.

Mrs. Joseph Schmeer, chairman and Mrs. Lloyd Kear, co-chairman of Dallas Woman's Club drive for funds for the Back Mountain Memorial Library, announced a goal of \$10,000.

Engaged-Mary Louise Kitchen to Staff Sgt. Carl H. Buckalew.

Deaths-T-Sgt. Theodore Scouten, Noxen, in action.

You could get-Iceberg lettuce 9c lg. head; yellow onions 4 lb. 21c; apples 3 lb. 29c; lamb 39c lb.; steak 34c lb.; chocolate layer cake 49c; apple butter lg. jar 16c; Octagon soap 3 bars 14c.

30 Years Ago - Feb. 11, 1955

Thirty-six hours of training in home nursing under the guidance of Eleanor Austin and sponsorship of the Red Cross was offered senior girls at Westmoreland High School.

A.J. Sordoni Jr., was elected president of Sordoni Construction Company. A veteran fighter pilot in WWII, Sordoni was active in community and civic endeavors.

Letters to the editor:

Was this story really necessary?

DEAR EDITOR:

In regards to your headline and front page article in your paper Wednesday, January 23, 1985, I was really disappointed in your paper. That article didn't do a lot for integrity of your paper.

Why would we have a lot of publicity about a sad situation that made so many people hurt?

You talk of reports, various rumor. Your article made me sick. However, I really do thank you for the lovely picture.

Did you hear any rumors that a young man so often seen in the heart of Dallas, always had that smile that you see in the picture you printed of him. He always had that smile and a friendly hello. I had

never seen him disrespectful, especially for older people.

Did you hear rumors that Bobby Stair visited his grandmother in Meadows Apt. and I know that I've been there at least three different times when Bobby helped the older people carry their cheese, butter and etc. to their apartments.

I was also there and saw him push a lady 90 some years young in her wheelchair.

Did you hear a rumor that a lady in Meadows couldn't put her Christmas things up on shelves. Bobby helped her. Is it rumored that Bobby never told any of the older people in those apartments No.

Is it rumored that he was very nice to everyone over there.

He had his problems and he didn't know how to deal with them but the youth you wrote of wasn't all to blame. It is our great American society, peer pressure and the almighty dollar. Behind every kid that drinks that beer whether its in his car or firemen's bazaar or where it is, some adult made a buck selling it to him. Some adult and maybe even some of our respected businessmen are behind the sale of alcohol and drugs to our youngsters. Some adult made a fast buck along the line.

That almighty dollar was made - no matter who or how many were hurt.

This youth wasn't perfect, but are any of us. His family really hurts.

Also, let me tell you, the funeral was greatly attended - that's a fact - not a rumor. People filed in and out. So many people attended the service - more and more chairs had to be put up. It is a fact that Bobby was loved.

Dear, Dallas Post, I close hoped I never read another hurt article. Why print something of speculation and rumor. I remember Dallas Post from way back and I also met you, Charlot Denmon, at Girl Scout meetings and I liked you very much, but I sure was disappointed in you and Dallas Post.

SHIRLEY ZAJKOWSKI
DALLAS

Quakers oppose U.S. policy in Nicaragua

DEAR EDITOR:

The current United States foreign policy toward the government of Nicaragua is of great concern to us at North Branch Friends Meeting (Quakers) representing Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties.

At this time five major steps seem essential to head our policy in a new more constructive direction.

First, we must recognize that Nicaragua has sovereign right of

self-determination.

Second, our government must stop its harassment of the Nicaraguan civilian population and destruction of its livelihood through its support of the rebel "contras".

Third, the U.S. government should continue to hold direct talks with the government of Nicaragua aimed at allaying mutual fears, normalizing trade, and including Nicaragua in the Caribbean Basin Plan.

Fourth, the U.S. should endorse the

peace plan of the Confadora Group (Mexico, Columbia, Panama, and Venezuela) calling for the withdrawal of all foreign military forces from Central America. Fifth, blocking loans for development should be stopped.

It is our observation that Nicaragua has problems common to most economically poor countries. We believe that the present Nicaraguan government is attempting to deal with these problems. Although the

ruling Sandinistas have made some serious mistakes, it is, nevertheless, the most democratic society Nicaraguans have known.

Since we have found it advantageous to expand our contacts with governments such as China, it is only fair that we apply the same respect closer to home.

Mary A. Thom, Clerk
North Branch Friends Meeting

College education going in wrong direction

DEAR EDITOR:

I am concerned and perturbed that education today seems to be obsessed with a single public role, that of a job, which is increasingly defined in terms of one's income. College graduates in the 1980's and 1990's will change jobs five or six times during their lifetime. The National Academy of Science stated, "the worker of the future must be a person who is able and willing to learn throughout a lifetime." The challenge to higher education is to prepare students for lifetime learning.

an intellect properly prepared, is an intellect able to operate well in all fields.

It is my opinion that "academic excellence" at institutions of higher education should demand a certain criteria for their graduates. In addition to helping a student learn occupational skills, I believe that a college graduate should be able to:

1. speak clearly and articulate his or her thoughts;
2. write correctly since grammar disciplines the mind and develops the logical faculty;
3. think logically;

4. be objective - to be willing to listen to other peoples points of view without necessarily agreeing with them;

5. be altruistic - to have compassion for his fellow human beings.

Dr. William Camp
Dallas

Letters to the editor policy

The Dallas Post welcomes and encourages its readers to voice their opinions in its "Letters to the Editor" column. Readers are encouraged to voice criticisms, complaints, opinions on most any subject.

All letters should be addressed to Editor, The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, Pa., 18612.

All letters, however, must be signed and must include a telephone number for verification. Names will be withheld upon request. Unsigned letters to the editor will be disregarded.

LIBRARY NEWS

I just could not resist it! The last time I was shopping in Weis Market I noticed these interesting containers with dutch bulbs planted in them. I had to buy one of them for the front desk at the library.

It contains 6 bulbs and a neat colored windmill and within a week they are blooming. So many people coming into the library have commented about how nice they look. They are lovely purple crocuses and even with the snow outside, it looks like spring in here.

We have decided that these bulbs will be the first items to be planted in our flower area outside of our new building. a nice touch of spring!

One of our valued and dedicated library patrons, Mrs. Edgar Brace, of Lake Street is recuperating at Meadows Nursing Center recovering from a broken hip and we send to her our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

A wonderful young man and a former employee of the library, Bill Hartman, has been laid up again with a recurring illness and we wish him a speedy and complete recovery and send him our love.

Many of us at the library are feeling very sad to know that we will not be able to enjoy the warm and human caring personality that was Jan Scovell in the future. Jan was a person who always wore a smile and made the best of any situation. She was a dedicated volunteer at the library and those of us who knew her will surely miss her. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to her husband, Bob, and her daughters, Christine and Susan. Her living on this earth was for much too short a time but the sunshine she left behind will last for a long time.

Memorial Books donated to the Back Mountain Memorial Library include: The Fannie Farmer Baking Book by Cunningham in memory of John Exarhopoulos gift of Dwight and Judy, Theresa and Jack, Lonie and Johnny, Ollie, Betty and Maggie; The Victory Garden Landscape Guide by Wirth in memory of Harry W. Ruggles, Jr. gift of Mrs. Edward G. Hixson; Anastasia, Ask Your Analyst by Lowry in memory of Harry W. Ruggles, Jr. gift of Frank and Lenchen Townend; The Computer Nut by Byars in memory of Harry W. Ruggles, Jr. gift of Frank and Lenchen Townend; The Home Book of Quotations by Stevenson in memory of Mrs. Mary Emmanuel gift of Paula and Kay Scott; The Rand McNally encyclopedia of Military Aircraft by Rand in memory of Bernice Borkowski gift of Dr. and Mrs. David F. Rimple; The Arco Encyclopedia of Crafts by Andrew in memory of Mrs. Rachel Thom gift of Dr. and Mrs. Carl Nitsche; and George Washington; Anguish and Farewell by Flexner in memory of Harry W. Ruggles, Jr. gift of Aty. and Mrs. Charles Lemmond.