

Miss Pennsylvania 1984

# Portrait of Gina Major unveiled

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

An original portrait of Gina Major, Miss Pennsylvania of 1984, was unveiled for the first time last Friday at a special assembly of Lake-Lehman High School students. Following the assembly, the portrait was placed on display in the high school foyer where it will remain forever in honor of Gina and her achievements.

Board chairman Joseph "Red" Jones introduced the idea of displaying Gina's portrait in the school and when Jones brought it to the board for approval, the directors

were unanimous in agreeing with the project. Administrators, faculty members and students are deeply pleased with the approval to place the portrait of Gina on display in the school for, although there have been other students portraits placed in the school, they have been for achievements during their high school career and not for something done individually later in their lives.

Following the board's approval, it was learned that the pageant photographer would not allow the administration to use his photo of Gina so James Kozemchak of Ace Hoffman and Paramount Studios was commissioned to do the portrait of Gina, a portrait lovelier than her others. When pageant officials were told of the honor bestowed on Gina, they said they did not believe any other school has ever honored a former student in this manner, which marks another first for Miss Pennsylvania and the local entry in the Miss America Pageant last September.

High School Principal J. Zaleskas said he is happy that Gina is being honored, that, in his opinion, her achievements have brought glory to the entire Back Mountain community.

"Everyone is very proud of Gina and her success," said Zaleskas. "She was an excellent student with a lot of personality and always commanded attention because of her outstanding qualities."

Gina was a former member of the Lake-Lehman Award-Winning Band and Band Director John Miliuskas is delighted that she is being honored. He said she is an excellent reflection on her school but he always knew Gina would be successful. Miliuskas said that Gina was a good student and a lady with

a lot of determination and self discipline.

"I hope others in the program arrive at the same plateau in obedience that Gina had," Miliuskas said. "I'm thrilled to no end that she has gone so far. I always knew she had the potential to excel. It's 'Hooray Lake-Lehman!'" said Miliuskas.

Joseph "Red" Jones said he initiated the move to present the portrait because Gina graduated in 1976 and also was a member of the band, but none of these had anything to do with it. In his opinion, she achieved the ultimate goal in her field in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by winning the title of Miss Pennsylvania. He also believes that, as an entrant in the Miss America Pageant, Gina not only represented Pennsylvania, but the Back Mountain and Lake-Lehman as well.

"That was the basis for my idea," said Jones.

"I can tell you that Gina believes it is a great honor and is pleased and flattered," said Mrs. Major. "The Director of the pageant could hardly believe that a school would do this."

Mrs. Major said she thinks the whole idea is wonderful and like the idea that years from now, someone can walk in the school and say "That's Gina Major, a former student, who was Miss Pennsylvania and, who knows, Mrs. Major said, Gina may even walk in with her children and show them their mother's portrait."

Mrs. Major said it means so much that the people from her own home town think enough to do something like this for a former student.

"It's almost impossible to believe everyone has been so wonderful," she said.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

### Portrait unveiled

Gina Major, Miss Pennsylvania, stands with Joseph "Red" Jones, left, president of the Lake-Lehman School Board; and John Zaleskas, right, principal of Lake-Lehman Senior High School, as the three display a portrait of Miss Major. The portrait, taken by photographer James Kozemchak, will remain on display in the main lobby of the Lake-Lehman Senior High School. Miss Major is a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School.



DAVID J. YANKOWSKI

## Yankowski is candidate

David J. Yankowski, 594 Cigarski Road, Shavertown, 29, announces his candidacy for the office of Tax Collector for Jackson Township.

David, graduate of Lake-Lehman High School, and a life long resident of Jackson Township, is employed by Acme Markets, Dallas. He resides on Cigarski Road with his wife, Mary and daughter, Laura.

Yankowski believes he can serve the people of the township best because he has lived here all his life and has the best interest of the township at heart.

## Postal officer seeks aid

With the arrival of warmer weather, Officer-in-Charge Robert Lukas of the Dallas Post Office requests dog owners to help protect letter carriers, utility workers and other citizens from the dangers of dog bites.

Last year, almost 6,000 of this nation's letter carriers were bitten by dogs. Many of the injuries were serious, and some of the victims suffered permanent disfigurement. The cost to the Postal Service and dog owners who subsequently paid both injury costs and punitive damages in many dog bite cases exceeded two million dollars. Many more dollars and injuries can be counted among non-postal workers and individuals who were also bitten by dogs.

The common assertion that "He doesn't bite" is not supported by these painful statistics. Dogs are territorial by nature and even the most gentle pet will bite if it feels its domain is threatened by the presence of a carrier or other person.

We suggest that pets be kept away from the mailbox and areas the letter carrier uses for access to the property. If the pet cannot be kept behind a secure fence, the owner should restrain it with a secure leash or tether or at least keep the pet inside the house during the usual hours carriers are making their rounds.

Dog owners who do not restrain their pets are risking lawsuits and interruption of home mail delivery. The Postal Service will seek to recover damages when a carrier is bitten. The delivery of mail may be interrupted where loose dogs are a problem--including, in extreme cases, to entire neighborhoods.

We try to do our part by stressing awareness of dog bite dangers to our carriers, but we rely heavily on the support and cooperation of the community to help us end these painful and costly injuries.

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