



Commentary



Editor's notes

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

MY MOST SINCERE APOLOGIES to members of the Express and the Rowdies soccer teams in the Back Mountain Youth Organization for the slip-up we created in last week's paper.

We published photos of six soccer teams, the first and second place teams in each division of a recent tournament, and got only four of them right - or, should I say, got only two of them wrong.

In either case, the Rowdies and the Express teams, which appeared on page 18 in last week's Dallas Post, are backwards. The names under the Rowdies photo are really members of the Express team and the names under the Express photo are really members of the Rowdies team.

And now that you're all totally and 100 percent confused, I again apologize for any hard feelings we may have created over this. However, we are only human and these things happen. We will try our darndest not to let it happen again, though.

BOB KELLEY, president of the Back Mountain Jaycees, asks that everyone who has already paid their \$10 to purchase the Back Mountain board game to hold on to the seat of your pants - the games are on their way.



DOTTY MARTIN

The games, which resemble the Monopoly board game but feature businesses from the Back Mountain, are being sold by the Jaycees for \$10 each as a fund-raising project.

But, the games aren't arriving as fast as some people would like them to - so Mr. Kelley urges everyone to sit tight. They'll be here soon!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES are extended to Fran Roginski of Dallas who noted her special day yesterday.

Fran is a patient at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and isn't doing much celebrating these days, but rumor has it there's going to be one heckuva party when she gets home.

ON THE PERSONAL SIDE, my sympathy is extended to my stepsister on the recent death of her best friend, a 14-year-old basset hound named Dusty.

It's amazing how some of us can become so attached to our pets but, even though we all miss Dusty terribly, we know he had a much better life than some other dogs we know.

Keep your chin up, Sue, it'll get easier!

THERE'S BEEN SO MUCH HOOPLA about Pelle Lindbergh, the Philadelphia Flyers hockey goalie who smashed himself up in a car crash a few weeks ago.

I admire the courage of Pelle's family members who elected to donate his organs so that others may live. What I don't admire, however, is the way the young man conducted himself - especially when he was in a position to have the whole world watching him.

Pelle Lindbergh was a 26-year-old man who had everything going for him - he was the number one hockey goalie in the nation, he was about to be married, and he was driving a car that was valued at \$117,000 the day he died. Can you believe that? Most of us can't even begin to dream of what a house worth \$117,000 would be like, let alone fancying ourselves in the driver's seat of a \$117,000 automobile.

And everyone in the United States, especially the youth of today, has geared themselves to look up to athletes of Pelle's status.

We admire them, we envy them and, most of all, we cheer them.

And then, what happens? They got out and have a good time, get themselves drunk up, sit at the wheel of their souped-up sports cars, push the gas pedal to the floor until the speedometer needle makes its way to the 85 miles-per-hour mark, and then wrap themselves around a cement wall and kill themselves.

Where did we go wrong? It just seems to me that these high-priced athletes don't know what to do with all their money - and they don't know how to control either themselves or the fame they have managed to create for themselves.

Whatever the reason for this crazy way of ending their lives, there must be something done about it. We need to either clamp down on the usage of drugs and alcohol by major league athletes or we need to bring their salaries back into reality figures - at least until they can learn how to handle money and the evil it can cause.

A GENTLEMAN by the name of Ed Ackerman, who is now the managing editor of the Sunday Dispatch in Pittston and who is probably the single-most influential person in the early days of my journalism career, wrote about Pelle Lindbergh and his family this past Sunday in his column entitled, "The Eternal Optimist."

Although Ed somehow managed to bypass over his own feelings about Pelle Lindbergh and the way he did, he did write about the admiration he also felt for the young man's parents.

He spoke of the respect he feels for these people following their decision to donate their son's organs so that others may live. He calls it "The Bed of Life" and I offer it here for your consideration:

"The day will come when my body will lie upon a white sheet neatly tucked under four corners of a mattress located in a hospital busily occupied with the living and the dying. At a certain moment, a doctor will determine that my brain has ceased to purposes, my lie has stopped.

"When that happens, do not attempt to instill life into my body by the use of a machine. Do not call this my deathbed. Let it be called the 'Bed of Life,' and let my body be taken from it to help others lead fuller lives.

"Give my sight to the man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or love in the eyes of a woman. Give my heart to a person whose own heart has caused nothing but endless days of pain. Give my blood to the teen-ager who was pulled from the wreckage of his car, so that he might live to see his grandchildren play. Give my kidneys to one who depends on a machine to exist from week to week. Take my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body and find a way to make a crippled child walk.

"Explore every corner of my brain. Take my cells, if necessary, and let them grow so that, someday, a speechless boy will shout at the crack of a bat and a deaf girl will hear the sound of rain against her window.

"Burn what is left of me and scatter the ashes to the wind to help the flowers grow.

"If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weaknesses and all prejudice against my fellow man.

"Give my sins to the devil. Give my soul to God.

"If, by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs it. If you do all I have asked, I will live forever."

I ONLY HOPE you are as moved by this piece of work as I was when I first read it.

Detectors can save lives

Every week in the United States, an average of 100 people die in fires. According to fire safety experts, many of these deaths could be prevented with the proper use of early detection and quick suppression systems, that is, smoke detectors and automatic fire sprinklers.

"Fire prevention is, of course, very important," says Chief Roger McGary, president of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. "But to cut the loss of life, people can do three things: first, install smoke alarms to detect

fires when they first start; second, practice a plan of escape from their homes; and third, install residential sprinklers to keep the fire in check, and give them time to escape from the fire scene."

According to Tom Miller, manager of loss control for the Alliance of American Insurers (AAI), smoke detectors alone can reduce home fire deaths by about 50 percent. "One federal study shows that smoke detectors used in combination with automatic sprinklers can cut the death rate up to 90 percent," he said.



REMEMBERING

Gregory Building

Shown here is the old Gregory Building in Dallas. The building was located in the area that now stands between United Penn Bank and Fino's Drug Store.

Only yesterday

Reynolds is elected as Kiwanis Club president

50 YEARS AGO - NOV. 22, 1935

George J. Reynolds was elected president of the Mount Greenwood Kiwanis Club. E.V. Hartman was immediate past president.

A surprise blizzard kept farmers in the area busy digging themselves out of isolation. The season's first drifts caused clogging of main arteries stranding many folks for the weekend.

Deaths - Anna Mulhalla, Hunlock Creek; Jacob Conden, Alderson, Simon Sobolewski, Plains; John Kessler, Hunlock Creek; Almira Florence Kocher, Dallas.

You could get - Mince meat 19c lb.; fruit cake 39c lb.; bacon 21c 1/2 lb.; eggs 29c doz.; cranberry sauce 2 cans 29c; dates 12 pkg.; seedless raisins 2 pkg. 15c; grapes 3 lb. 20c; oranges 29c doz.; celery lg. bunch 5c.

40 YEARS AGO - NOV. 23, 1945
Lehman Township High School was the latest area school to fall victim to robbery. Although only \$15 was obtained, considerable damage was done to library doors and the file safe in the principal's office. Lehman was the 29th local school to be robbed within the year.

As a memorial to those members of Kunkle Methodist Church who served their country in World War II, Silver Leaf Club of Kunkle gave the new Bk. Mountain Memorial Library a new 30 volume Encyclopedia Americana.

Engaged - Natalie Louise Kresge to Lt. Lawrence Isaacs.

Deaths - Cora Nulton, Beaumont.
You could get - Campbell's tomato soup 9c can; evap. milk 10 tall cans 87c; molasses 16 oz. jar 20c; Fairlawn coffee 27c lb.; graham crackers 1 lb. pkg. 19c; 2 pkg. Kix cereal 23c; asparagus 37c can; egg noodles 16 oz. 21c.

30 YEARS AGO - NOV. 22, 1955
Sixty-nine taxpayers petitioned the Supervisors of Lake Township to close all dumping grounds not maintained as public dumps operated under the supervision of the municipality. Garbage haulers were causing a nuisance to township residents.

The possibility of an A&P or Giant Food Market locating along the Luzerne Dallas Highway in Luzerne was under consideration.

Engaged - Nancy Dymond to Richard V. Bartlebaugh.

OPINION

Airlines not sacrificing safety at all

By **EDWIN FEULNER**
Special to The Dallas Post

A Boeing 737 explodes in flames on an aborted takeoff in London. A Japan Airlines 747 plows into a mountainside. A DC-9 commuter jet crashes after engine failure in Milwaukee. In this worst year in aviation history these disasters have seemed shockingly frequent, and many people are naturally seeking an explanation of the sudden wave of carnage.

As the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) pursues appropriate investigation, it is coming under fire for allegedly lax safety enforcement and inadequate staffing of the air traffic control system. Many of those levying such charges are placing the blame solidly on airline deregulation, which results, the reasoning goes, in "economics of greed."

One result of President Carter's deregulation order was the birth of so-called discount airlines, which undercut standard air fares by providing no-frills service. The price of a ticket from New York to San Diego, for instance, runs as low as \$120 on a discount airline; at the other extreme, first-class fare on the same route can run upwards of \$700. And this begs the question, "Is flying cheap flying safe?"

Of course it is. Neither the FAA nor any private investigators have found any evidence of airlines "cutting corners" on safety as a cause for recent crashes. The reason such huge price differentials exist on

airfares has to do with something called free market.

There are a number of people who do not mind, and actually prefer to pay a high premium for the extra comfort and amenities one gets for first-class service. Midway Airlines built its Metrolink service by providing more spacious seating than standard without charging a high premium, and New York Air has provided East Coast commuters an alternative to Eastern Airlines' crowded shuttle. What it all boils down to is that consumers now have more choices in air travel than ever before.

A frequent target of the frenzy over allegedly declining air safety is the air traffic control system, which is still in a rebuilding process after the 1981 controllers' strike. An incessant complaint involves having "management" personnel working as controllers; but these management people did not begin in management - they worked their way up through the system and are probably the most experienced controllers available anywhere in the world.

The heart of the issue is this: has deregulation produced cut-rate safety? As someone who flies over 100-thousand miles per year, I find the answer comforting. When the five years of air travel before and after deregulation are compared, the safety record of the airline industry is impressive. Total flight hours increased 15 percent during the first five years of deregulation (1979-83), yet the accident rate declined 18 percent and the fatality rate 34 percent.

That airline crashes should be so infrequent as to arouse the attention they do is a good thing - it's a strong indicator of safety.

The FAA and U.S.-based airlines have been largely responsible for making air travel safe almost anywhere in the world through their leadership. It is unreasonable to expect accidents not to occur. The airlines could triple their prices, the FAA could supervise every individual maintenance operation and test every pilot before every flight (at tremendous cost), and we would

Government issues warning

The possibility of carbon monoxide poisoning has prompted a warning from government safety experts that home heating systems converted from oil or coal to natural gas should be inspected by a professional chimney cleaner or furnace technician before the start of the winter heating season to correct any health hazards to consumers.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the accumulation of soot deposits on the inner chimney wall from years of oil or coal heating contributes to the possible problem.

After the heating system is converted from oil or coal to gas, soot deposits tend to loosen from the chimney wall and drop to the base of the chimney. If enough debris falls, it may block the exhaust from the gas furnace and could cause a buildup of carbon monoxide fumes in the house.

LIBRARY NEWS

By **NANCY KOZEMCHAK**
Library Correspondent

The \$450,000 major capital campaign being conducted by the Back Mountain Memorial Library for the renovation of the new library building on Huntsville Road is at present \$134,000 short of its goal.

Much of the \$315,000 has been pledged over a three year period and we are hoping to receive, either in cash or pledges, the balance of the \$134,000 by December 31, 1985. Our campaign barometer on the grounds in front of the library shows the current amount committed, which is 70 percent of our goal.

The library building is being used extensively, the facilities are super, but the additional monies are needed to pay off the debt. We would like to issue a special plea to anyone in the community, who may not have been approached for a donation by the steering committee, to send a contribution to the library and mark it "capital campaign." Your library needs your help!

Marilyn Rudolph, our children's librarian, and I made a visit to the Marian Sutherland Kirby Library in Mountaintop the other day and I must say that is an absolutely gorgeous library. It is a brand new building, about one year old, with the most modern furniture, shelves and facilities. We were given a tour of the building and allowed to dream a little bit about how nice it would be if our library was brand new; however, we are thrilled with our present facilities and appreciate the much improved work areas.

An interesting play on words: A friend referred to our library the other day, strictly in a joking way, as the "Oyster House of Dallas." He was trying to tie us to the Osterhout.

Went to the Craft Show at the Prince of Peace last week with Marie; had lunch with Mrs. Crump and Bennie and enjoyed the delicious home-made food as well as the lovely craft displays. Stopped to chat with Alice and Diana, a couple of long-time friends, who give their spare time to The Bay Window Complex on Overbrook Road in Shavertown which is a lovely different kind of shopping experience, featuring herbs, basketry, linens and folk art.

On the spot news - when it happens: Noticed this group of young boys browsing around the library, went over to talk to them and found out they are Cub Scout Webelos from Pack 241 of Lehman Methodist Church with their Webelos Den Leader, Ernie Price, who was giving them a tour and an introduction into the fundamentals of the library and how to use it. The Cub Scouts were Chris, Jason, John and Holt with their den chief, Mike, from Boy Scout Troop 281 of Dallas Methodist Church. Scouting is still one of the most important things a boy can do!

We have on display and are now taking orders for a white staff shirt printed with a blue "The Next Chapter" logo on it. These are available for \$12.00 each in various sizes. Call the library for more details, order your shirt, and visibly support and promote your library!

still have these tragic crashes. The U.S. public is fortunately able to take air safety for granted. It remains among the safest modes of travel. Even this year, the worst year in aviation history, about thirty times more people will lose their lives on the highways than in the air.

So let's keep on flying! (Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research institute.)

The safety agency said people exposed to carbon monoxide often experience symptoms associated with "having the flu," including fatigue, dizziness, nausea, headaches, irregular breathing and loss of consciousness.

CPSC said homes which continue to be heated with oil or coal do not experience this problem.

The safety agency urged homeowners who have converted to gas heating, or who are considering the change, should have the chimney inspected now by professional or certified cleaners who are familiar with soot buildup in chimneys. If there is any accumulation of soot at the base of the chimney, it should be cleaned before activating the heating system.

Annual checks should be made until no soot deposits are found in the chimney.

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