

SCID inmate dies from AIDS

An inmate at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas, diagnosed last week as suffering from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), died from the almost-always fatal disease Monday. He died at 11:40 a.m. at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital where he had been a patient for approximately three weeks.

Although prison and hospital officials refused to release the inmate's name, a guard said the inmate's name was Santos

Padilla. Padilla, 35, of Lancaster, was serving a 2 1/2 to 5 year sentence for drug law violations and had been incarcerated at the Dallas institution since January 1984.

The inmate had been hospitalized on November 10 due to an asthmatic attack. He was then treated for approximately one week for pneumocystis pneumonia, one of the most common infectious diseases among sufferers of AIDS. Death was attributed to pneumocystis pneumonia and

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS.)

The deceased prisoner and two other inmates at SCID had been diagnosed earlier this year as having ARC, an AIDS-related complex. The two other ARC victims are reported to be isolated in the prison's infirmary.

The inmate was the second confirmed case of AIDS in Luzerne County this year,

the first being a man who was passing through the county when he was diagnosed as suffering from AIDS.

One other inmate in the Pennsylvania state prison system suffers from AIDS and is currently incarcerated at the State Correctional Institution at Camp Hill near Harrisburg. In addition to the two SCID inmates suffering from ARC, two other ARC victims are isolated in state prisons, one at Camp Hill and one at Graterford.

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Former Post editor

'Hix' best remembered in newly-published book

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

She was 58 years of age when she joined the staff of The Dallas Post. That was in 1950. She was a homemaker, mother and a grandmother, at a time when most women her age were staying at home, keeping house, baking, waiting on others. But not "Hix", as most Back Mountain residents remember her.

Her formal name was Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks, Jr., but somehow when she joined the staff of The Dallas Post, she became known as "Hix." The mother of four, two sons and two daughters, Hix was always a writer.

She wrote volumes of poetry during the years her sons were in World War II and, for 20 years, wrote the column "From Pillar to Post" for The Dallas Post.

For those 20 years, she kept the attention of the public with her weekly stories on her children, grandchildren, people in the community, little noticed, but important happenings and by 1962, 12 years after she joined the staff, The Dallas Post was an outstanding Northeastern Pennsylvania weekly with a reputation for excellence and an enormous circulation. "Hix" respected and, in return, was respected by the late Howard Risley, then owner, publisher and editor of the paper.

Now five years after her death in 1980, Hix's daughter, Barbara Hicks Harding, has been successful in getting her mother's first book off the presses — just in time for Christmas. For not only did Hix write for The Dallas Post, but in between times she found time to write the story of her early childhood.

The book "When The World Was Flat" is the story of her life in the straight-laced 1890's. In it there is



MRS. T.M.B. HICKS JR.

standing journalism. She was honored by the Pennsylvania Newspaper Women and in 1964, her editorial on President John Kennedy's assassination brought her international recognition for excellence when she was awarded The Golden Quill.

During her last year as editor, 1970, Hix received the coveted Key-Marsy, an entire year older than his live-wire, spright little sister, already destined for a medical career. Papa is the vigorous young doctor, setting up practice in a Baltimore row-house and Mamma is courageous in the bringing up of her family far from her beloved country home in Chatauqua County in New York State.

Hix came to this area with her husband in the 1940's and, in 1950, they moved from Kingston to the "Pump House" on Goodleigh Farms on Upper Demunds Road. Later they purchased and moved into their big, old home on North Pioneer Avenue.

Longtime residents of the Back Mountain remember Hix for many things — perhaps best of all for her snow white hair and flashing brown eyes, eyes so piercing they saw into the depth of the minds around her.

Many knew her for her compassion, others for her keen sense of humor, still others for her sharp wit.

Neither snow, ice, nor fog stopped her from driving to her destination in her little (or was it dark blue) BMW.

As a columnist, a reporter and then editor of The Dallas Post, she kept the paper before the public, earning prizes annually for her outstone Editor's Award. She was 77 years of age and the oldest working newspaper woman in the country. Her writing, "Newswoman's Prayer," is still used by the Pennsylvania Newspaper Woman's Association.

She was a stickler for spelling and taught her four children to be the same. Her two sons worked at The Post for a while. Warren S. Hicks, now living in Bayonet Point, Fla., was an editor for The Dallas Post in 1938 and Thomas M.B. Hicks, III, now living in Rockville, Md., worked on the staff of The Dallas Post in 1937 and 1938 while he was attending college. Barbara Hicks Harding of Herndon, Va., teaches English and formerly wrote for the Herndon Tribune. Persis Hicks Mitchell of Hampstead, N.H., is director of nursing in Salem Haven, N.H.

In 1970, "Mrs. Hicks Day" was held at College Misericordia when she was honored by leading citizens and organizations throughout the entire area.

When she was finally convinced to leave the Back Mountain area prior to the 1972 Hurricane Agnes, Hix went to live in Herndon, Va., where she had her own apartment in her daughter Barbara's large home.

Hix left the area, but she didn't give up her love for life whether it be for one of her 22 grandchildren or a small bird, fallen from its nest.

That was Hix! To know her was to love her!



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Happy leader

Kiersten Fries, drum majorette for the 1985 Dallas High School Marching Band, is all smiles as she reflects upon the successful season the Marching Mountaineers have had. For a story and additional photos on the awards the Dallas Band has won, please turn to pages 3 and 4.

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Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Concerts scheduled

This week begins the Holiday season in the Dallas School District with two special concerts. On Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Junior High auditorium, the Junior High School Band and Chorus will present their concert and on Sunday after at 2 p.m. in the Senior High School auditorium the Senior High Band and Chorus will also present music for the holidays.

In junior high, the band begins the concert with several holiday songs including a collection of familiar carols in which the audience will join. This also includes the Chorus. "The Noteables" introduce "Winter Wonderland" followed by "Christmas! Christmas!" and "Hanukkah is Here." A special feature will be a guest, Llewelyn Kopko, who will participate in "Welcome St. Nicholas" and "Up on the Housetop." The Boys' Chorus selected the spiritual, "Amen" and all join in on "Just a Little Baby."

Accompanists are Karen O'Connell, Julie Persing, Megan Hardisky, and Danielle Baker.

The Senior High School Band will also present a group of holiday selections.

The Senior High School Mixed Chorus begin their portion of Sunday's concert with Handel's "Hallelujah, Amen" from Judas Maccabaeus, thus celebrating on the 1st day of Hanekkah as well as the Christmas season. J.S. Bach's "Alleluia" from Cantata No. 142. For Us A Child is Born is included in German and English. Both pieces are in honor of Bach and Handel's 300th birthday. "Christmas Alleluia" is followed by a Finnish carol sung by Rotary Exchange student Minna Tolvanen.

A brief introduction of candle-lighting traditions in both the Jewish and Christian faiths give a setting for "Candles of Hanukkah, Candles of Christmas", in which a "live" Menorrah and Advent candles are used. "The King's Carols" followed by solo "O Holy Night" sung by Lisa Bealla continues into contemporary songs. The 2nd grade students will sing "Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer". The Chorus will then sing "Where Will It Lead?", "Christmas Love", "A Little Christmas" (Medley) and the Dal-Hi Choristers will present "Hurry Home for Christmas".

The concert will conclude with the first published composition of Dallas graduate, Bill Cutter, "And the Glory of The Lord." Accompanist are Michelle Lamoreaux, Katie McKeown, Lisa Bealla, Beth Adams and Becki Nicely.

The public is invited to attend both concerts which are free of charge.

Grants available

The Luzerne County Office of Human Services has announced that applications for the 1986-87 Luzerne County Human Service Development Fund grants are now available to eligible non-profit and government agencies.

Agencies interested in obtaining the applications should contact the Luzerne County Office of Human Services at 111 North Pennsylvania Blvd., Wilkes-Barre, 826-8800.

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Reunion held

The Dallas Borough High School Class of 1950 will hold a reunion during the summer in honor of its 35th graduation anniversary. The reunion dinner was held at "The Barn" restaurant at Newberry Estates. The following day a picnic was held at Lake Te-Ja in Kunkle. Those class members and guests who attended the dinner are shown here. From left, first row, Betty Berrettin Moore, Pat Patsey Katzbach, Joan

Brokenshire Miller, Carol Monast Shaffer, Maureen Keloy Veihmeyer, Polly Michael, Jean Monk, Shirlee Allen Jones. Second row, John Katzbach Bruce Roberts, Dolly Roberts, Frank Michael, Ruth Besecker, Betty Sebolka, Alwyn Sickler, Robert Monk, John Navich. Third row, Kenneth Shaffer, Robert Bodycomb, Donald Besecker, Burton Sickler, Andrew Sebolka, Richard Miller.

Little Pilgrim

Thomas Browne, a student at the Dallas Township Elementary School, portrays a Pilgrim during the school's annual Thanksgiving play held last Friday.