



**Ready for emergency**

The Nesbitt Memorial Hospital Mobile Intensive Care Unit, housed in the Back Mountain Medical Center on Route 118, stands ready to assist at any emergency.

Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

**Well-stocked**

The mobile intensive care unit, manned by the Back Mountain paramedics, is well-stocked for any emergency.

Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

**Medics**

(Continued from page 1)

schooling that includes 500 hours of instructions. Then, every three months they must be re-evaluated by a physician to assure their competency level and must be re-certified every three years. They are also trained in Advance Cardiac Life Support by the American Heart Association.

Emergency Medical Technicians, on the other hand, receive 120 hours of class and are trained in basic life support.

Although some ambulances don't

always care to work with the MICU, most do, and together they can form an effective team. Sometimes it can make the difference between life and death.

"Another advantage of working together with the unit is that we're always ready to respond since we are on duty 24 hours a day," Ash said.

"Simultaneous transmission can allow us to possibly get to the scene faster than an ambulance. A lot of times these are volunteer services.

By the time they get dressed and get to their vehicles it can cost precious time.

"If someone goes into cardiac arrest, for example, it is very important to get to them in the first eight to 10 minutes to administer effective treatment. That doesn't mean they can't be saved after that, but they can suffer serious damage."

Ash says people who do call for ambulance assistance can also ask for the presence of the mobile unit.

"We don't keep our number listed in the phone book because we would always be getting calls for cuts and burns and that sort of thing," he explained. "That isn't the service we provide. But, in an emergency situation people can request our help from an ambulance and they can't be refused."

And, in life-threatening circumstances, a paramedic can administer the most efficient care. What a lot of people don't realize is that most attendants from an ambulance

service are not paramedics, but EMT's and first-aiders.

Even if a paramedic should happen to be aboard, he would not be able to apply his technical training because those vehicles do not have the facilities to provide advanced care.

Ash says it would be fruitless for each ambulance to be equipped the same as the MICU, however, because of the high cost involved.

"One radio alone costs seven thousand dollars. Our cardiac defi-

brillator also costs seven thousand dollars. That's only two pieces of equipment that cost fourteen thousand dollars. Some of the local services only have that much in their budgets."

Although paramedics do not actually transport patients, they do ride inside the ambulances while accompanying a patient to the hospital.

The Medical Center itself, which was built in 1981, is located off Rt. 118 next to the Luzerne County Fall Fair grounds.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

**KINGSTON TOWNSHIP**

No injuries were reported in a two-car accident that took place last Sunday night in Kingston Township.

Frances J. Reilly, Mineral St., Apt., 266 Wilkes-Barre, said he was driving his vehicle south on Rt. 309 when a car driven by Thomas Barber, 36 Elm St., West Pittston, changed over into the left lane without signaling, striking the front of the Reilly's Plymouth Reliant.

Barber, however, said that he did signal and was struck in the rear end of his Ford Galaxy.

The Reilly vehicle sustained slight damage to the front end but had to be towed. Barber's car also received minor damage but was driven from the scene.

**DALLAS TOWNSHIP**

A snow pile located on Rt. 309 near Lower Demunds Road caused a two-car accident last Saturday in Dallas Township.

Rodman Lewis Shoemaker, RD 6, Box 61, Dallas, told police he was attempting to go south on Rt. 309

from Lower Demunds Road when he pulled in front of William C. Frederick, 50 E. Franklin St., Shavertown.

Showmaker said a large snow pile at the site blocked his view and was not able to see the oncoming vehicle.

**HARVEYS LAKE**

Three men averted tragedy Sunday night when the pick-up truck they were riding in fell through the ice at Harvey's Lake.

According to police reports, Charles Reeder, 33, of Sweet Valley, said he tried to drive his vehicle across the icy lake from the Pennsylvania Fish Commission's boat launch near Sandy Beach to Warden Place when the truck broke through just short of the shore line at Warden Place.

The incident occurred at approximately 8 p.m. Police said the vehicle was recovered nearly three hours later.

Police, so far, have not identified the other two men.

**Group elects new officers**

The following individuals were recently elected at the 1986 General Election of Dallas Fire and Ambulance Incorporated: President, Robert Richardson; Vice president, Timothy Carroll; Secretary, Lynn Sheehan; Treasurer, Paul Labar; Board of Directors: Donald Shaffer, William Ward, William Baker, Edwin Roth, Donald Bulford, Ambulance Chief, Jack Wega;

Assistant Ambulance Chief, Robert O'Konski; Fire Chief, Robert Besecker; Assistant Fire Chief, Thomas Doughton.

Fire Chief Robert Besecker reported that the fire department responded to 79 alarms in 1985, and Ambulance Chief Jack Wega noted that the ambulance responded to 479 calls for the year.

**Swimming pool idea discussed**

Administrators from Penn State Wilkes-Barre Campus, located in Lehman, are visiting the two school boards in the Back Mountain area to discuss community interest in a swimming pool on the campus.

Dr. James H. Ryan, campus executive officer, emphasized that the University has not made a decision about whether a pool should be included in a new gymnasium multi-purpose building, which he expects

to be constructed on campus in the future.

The conversations with school district boards of directors are simply exploring interest. He met with Lake-Lehman in early February and will meet with Dallas in March.

"We want to meet community needs whenever it is feasible. But at this time, our discussions are just to gather opinion," Dr. Ryan said.

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