

Commentary

Editor's notes

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

A GREAT BIG WELCOME to Rick Rogers of Dallas who recently joined our sports staff.

Rick is a 1981 graduate of Dallas High School and a 1985 graduate of West Virginia University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism.

While at West Virginia, Rick wrote for the student newspaper, The Daily Athenaeum for three semesters, covering business and sports. He also covered the West Virginia Legis-



DOTTY MARTIN
lature and edited a journalism laboratory publication, "Take One."

At The Post, Rick will be responsible for covering boys' high school sports, summer recreational sports and for writing a weekly sports column.

I honestly feel with the addition of Rick Rogers to our sports staff, The Dallas Post's sports coverage will be even better than ever - just one more step in our attempt to please our readers as much as possible.

SPEAKING OF SPORTS, The Dallas Post will once again be awarding a male and female athlete from both Dallas and Lake-Lehman High Schools with its annual Student-Athlete Awards.

The recipients of these awards, who are decided upon by members of The Dallas Post editorial staff, must be seniors, must be involved in a varsity sport for at least one year, must maintain an above-average grade point average, must be considered leaders among their peers and should be community involved.

Although The Dallas Post seeks input from guidance counselors and athletic directors at both Back Mountain schools in an attempt to make the best possible selection, the final decision is made by the newspaper staff.

These awards are decided upon and presented at the conclusion of the sports seasons at both local high schools.

BARBARA STRAUB of Dallas certainly surprised herself and everyone around her when she recently pulled her own name out of a hat as the winner of a 50-50 drawing.

Seems the members of the Dallas Fire and Ambulance Auxiliary have started a monthly drawing and will have someone pick the winner at the organization's monthly meetings.

Barbara was chosen to pick the winner for the first drawing and, lo and behold, picked her own name. No, it is not a fixed drawing, but rather sheer coincidence. Wasn't it, Barbara?

CHRIS OPALICKI of Dallas is being awarded the first-ever Dallas Post Dog Walking Award for his efforts in making sure the family's two dogs get their fresh air and exercise on a daily basis.

Chris, whose mother, Jane Cummings, works in our office, calls his mother every day upon his return home from school. Jane, however, is unlike any other mother who would normally ask her child if he had a good day in school, what he did, and so on and so forth.

Instead, Jane's first question to Chris is, "Did you walk the dogs?"

According to Mom, Chris needs to be reminded about walking the dogs so Jane wants to be sure to remind him of his daily chore. It's become quite a joke around the office these days because I honestly believe Jane is going to go home from work some day and the dogs are going to rat on Chris by telling Jane they didn't get their daily walk.

CONCERN opens office

CONCERN, a professional foster care agency, has opened a regional office to serve the northeastern counties of Pennsylvania.

Jim Bunnell, director of the newly-opened office in Pittston, reported that CONCERN is a private non-profit corporation which is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. Since beginning operation in 1978 with two foster homes serving eight children, CONCERN, has grown to serve over 500 children through its offices in Berks, Bucks and Union Counties.

County children and youth offices

MUCH THANKS to Rob Warner who called and corrected us on the identification we ran under our Remembering photo on the Commentary page last week.

Seems we reported the photo was one of Main Street, but according to Mr. Warner it was Church Street in Dallas that was depicted in the photo and not Main Street.

Thanks, Rob, we sure do appreciate your concern.

HELEN FRANKLIN, our Jackson Township correspondent, stopped in with some news bits the other day.

But, with her she brought a copy of The Dallas Post from 1906 and boy, did we have a good time looking through that.

Helen pointed out that her mother's name, Maud Bulford, was listed in a story about school teachers being elected. Seems the Dallas Borough School Board had elected a few teachers for the Dallas Schools and Mrs. Bulford was among them. Her salary - \$35 a month.

Also in this 1906 publication was an advertisement from Fowler Dick and Walker the Boston Store (now called Boscov's for all you youngsters). It was the last call on summer goods and offered 17 cent striped white goods for 10 cents, men's 50 cent colored underwear for 37½ cents, ladies' 25 cent vests for 19 cents, misses' black mercerized lack stockings for 12½ cents a pair and men's 1½ cent fancy sox for 25 cents or 3 pairs for 25 cents.

And, to think, that was a lot of money in those days.

IT WAS SO NICE to meet Mike Williams of Shavertown the other day. Mike, an employee at the Dallas Post Office, is the brother-in-law of a girl I played basketball with during my high school days.

Mike, who also has basketball in his blood, having coached a team at Gate of Heaven at one time, tells me my former high school teammate is now bouncing two babies rather than basketballs.

Anyway, nice to meet you, Mike - and keep up that pleasant smile at the Dallas Post Office.

WELCOME HOME to our own Charlott Denmon who returns home from a two week pleasure trip in Florida.

Charlott, who serves as both a staff correspondent and an account executive for The Dallas Post, was vacationing in the sunshine with her brother, Tex Wilson, and other family members. It's a good thing the local gang chose someplace other than Fort Lauderdale to frolic in the sunshine - seems the college kids who used to get away with everything but murder during spring break in Fort Lauderdale are finding themselves in a different predicament this year - mainly behind bars and I don't mean the ones in which you bend your elbows.

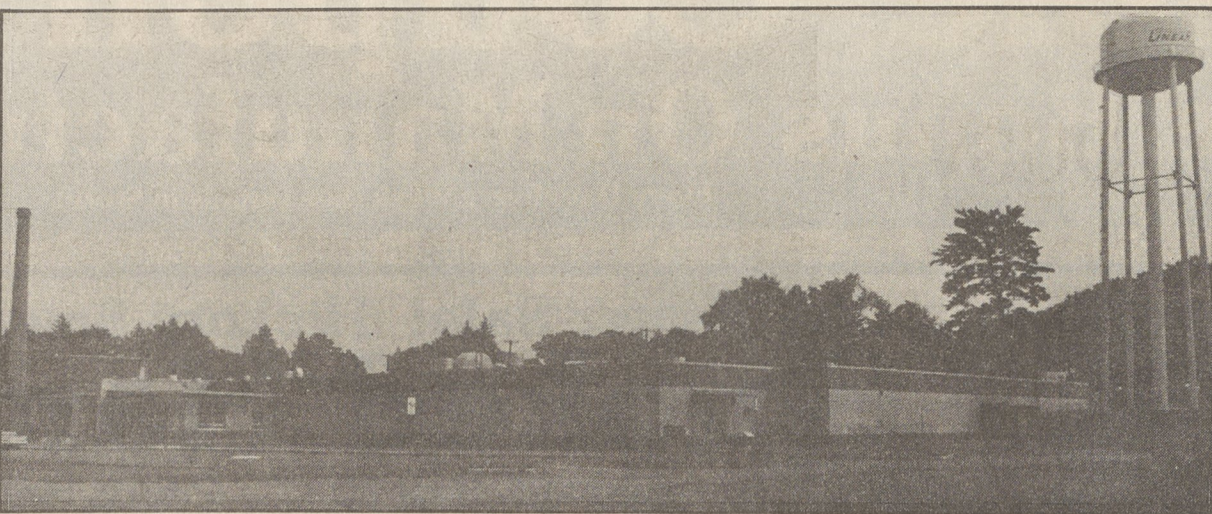
CONGRATULATIONS are extended to the Dallas High School girls' basketball team for their recent efforts in District 2 playoffs.

The Lady Mountaineers, who advanced further than any other local team in post-season cage action, were eliminated in their quest for a state championship by North Schuylkill Saturday night.

However, the locals were defeated by a mere 10 points after being a 25-30 point underdog and were a good representative of District 2 girls' basketball.

The Dallas Post staff extends a hearty round of applause to head coach Kit Karuza and his squad for a job well done. The Dallas School District can certainly be proud of its female cagers.

(Dotty Martin is Executive Editor of Pennaprint Inc., publishers of The Dallas Post.)



REMEMBERING

Linear Plant

Years before Offset Manufacturing Company occupied the building at the intersection of Main Road and Route 309, Dallas, the Linear Plant from Philadelphia moved into the property formerly occupied by Bloomsburg Mills.

Only yesterday

Former area resident describes her boat trip

50 YEARS AGO - MARCH 20, 1936

A graphic tale of a trip by automobile and boat from Lakewood, New Jersey to Honolulu was received from Mrs. Marvin Oney, former local resident who had arrived at the Islands with her husband, a construction expert for the Navy, and their son, Thomas. The Oney's began a three year stay in Hawaii.

Wyoming Valley saw the worst flooding in seventy years when melted snow caused the Susquehanna to overflow its banks. The flood caused the closing of the Wyoming Bridge causing hundreds of residents to be cut off from their jobs.

Married - Edith Augusta Myers and Roswell Thomas Murray.

Birthdays - Mrs. D.G. Kleintob, 76 years.

40 YEARS AGO - MARCH 22, 1946

Mary Lamoreaux, a sophomore at Lehman High School was the only local entry in the Pennsylvania Forensic and Music League competition. Mary who was coached by Bernard Ikeler, English teacher, competed in the county oratorical contest.

For their services during the war, especially in providing comfort for wounded veterans, three Lehman faculty members Joseph Ellsworth, Mrs. Ella B. Lewis and Miss Frances Austin and registered nurse Ruth Simms, were awarded certificates of merit by the American Red Cross.

30 YEARS AGO - MARCH 23, 1956

The General State Authority asked for bids for the new institution for Defective Delinquents to be built in Jackson Township. The \$10 million dollar plant would house 1,000 inmates only 10 percent under maximum security.

Douglas F. Storer, president of Believe It or Not, Inc. presented a copy of the famous Believe It Or Not Book that had sold over 7,000,000 copies to Howard Risley, publisher of The Dallas Post. The Believe It Or Not Book would be auctioned off at the annual Library Auction in July.

Deaths - John Stredny, Kunkle, Olive V. Traver,

Ruggles; Mary Elizabeth Milliner, Nanticoke; Loren Dodson, Hunlock Creek.

20 YEARS AGO - MARCH 24, 1966

Six new members were inducted into the Dallas Kiwanis Club. They were Robert Wilkes, Warren Dadurka, John Blase, Richard Pallina, Thomas Neyard, Thomas Herbert and Herb Hawk.

Two Dallas High School teachers were given special recognition recently when Mr. and Mrs. John Cathrall were named to the Sigma Gamma Epsilon Honor Society of the University of Oklahoma. Mrs. Cathrall taught English while her husband was a science instructor at Dallas.

Engaged - Diane D. Salinger and Michael F. Bean.

Birthdays - Frank Dennis, Sr., 87 years old.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Morgan, Jr., 25 years.

Deaths - Mary Connolly, Trucksville; Paul B. Hughey, Trucksville; John Morgan, Sr., Lower Demunds Rd.; Henry Sicker, Centermoreland.

10 YEARS AGO - MARCH 25, 1976

Jackson Township organized a new fire company auxiliary. Officers elected were president, Mrs. John Fielding; vice president Mrs. Ralph Esser; secretary, Mrs. Elmer Laskowski and treasurer Mrs. Sidney Fielding. Helene Haley and Helen Franklin were auxiliary organizers.

Dallas Rotarians observed their 49th anniversary with a dinner meeting at Irem Temple Country Club. Bob Besecker was chairman of charter night assisted by John Casner and Kerry Freeman.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Gordon James, 45 years.

Deaths - C. Leroy Kahler, Shavertown; Thomas Park, Dallas; Mrs. George M. Sorber, Hunlock Creek; Leona Rinehimer, formerly of Dallas; Irene B. Raph, Tunkhannock.

You could get - Chicken legs 79c lb.; boneless chuck roast 99c lb.; Ragu 32 oz. jar spaghetti sauce 99c; Pennsylvania Dutch egg noodles 1 lb. pkg. 35c; 84 oz. pkg. Oxydol \$1.99; oranges 69c doz.

OPINION

Controversial bill forces Congress to act on abortions in hospitals

By DOUGLAS JOHNSON

Special to The Dallas Post

A major lobbying battle is underway in the halls of Congress over a controversial measure titled the "Civil Rights Restoration Act."

The bill is controversial partly because it forces Congress to decide whether hospitals which do not perform abortions should be penalized for "sex discrimination."

Under the leadership of Eleanor Smeal, the National Organization for Women (N.O.W.) has made "abortion rights" in general and this bill in particular its top priority for the 1986 congressional session. Smeal predicted that 200,000 activists would assemble in Washington for a "pro-choice" march on March 9.

But organizations opposed to abortion, including the National Right to Life Committee, regard the bill as a major attack on the civil rights of institutions and individuals opposed to abortion.

The bill (HR 700-S. 431) broadens the reach of four existing laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, race, age, or handicap in federally funded programs.

The abortion problem arises with respect to one of these laws, called Title IX ("Title 9"). This law prohibits discrimination "on the basis of sex" in federally funded educational programs.

Congress passed Title IX in 1972, when in most states, it was a felony to perform an abortion. Clearly, Congress in 1972 did not intend to require federally funded universities to provide abortions. Yet in 1975, federal administrators "interpreted" Title IX to say that all federally funded universities must

provide abortions to staff and students, or be guilty of "sex discrimination." This official interpretation is now firmly fixed in administrative law.

As a result, current federal policy on abortion is inconsistent. Since 1976, Congress has annually voted to prohibit direct funding of abortion in federal health programs. But Title IX, as interpreted, requires universities to subsidize elective abortions for students and employees.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act would magnify this inconsistency tenfold. If the bill passes without amendment, the mandatory abortion law will for the first time cover those hospitals which have educational programs - that is, which employ residents, interns, nursing students, and the like - as most do.

Many hospitals do not perform abortions, or perform them only under extraordinary circumstances. Under the Civil Rights Restoration Act, the federal government would put a gun to the heads of these heads of these hospitals. They would be forced to offer abortion on the same basis as other "medical services" - or give up their teaching programs.

There are many - including those who have strongly supported civil rights legislation in the past, such as the National Conference of Catholic Bishops - who believe that applying such a mandatory abortion policy to hospitals would violate the civil rights of countless hospital administrators and staff persons who do not wish to participate in abortion.

Thus, pro-life groups have sought adoption of an "abortion-neutral amendment" to the bill. Under this amendment, sponsored by Con-

gressmen F. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wisc.) and Tom Tauke (R-Iowa), universities and hospitals could either offer or not offer abortion at their option. The amendment does not interfere with institutions which voluntarily provide abortion.

Last May, a committee of the House of Representatives approved the Civil Rights Restoration Act, after first adopting the abortion-neutral amendment. N.O.W. and its allies declared that the amended bill was "unacceptable." They have made it clear that they will not even permit the bill to come to the House floor for a vote, unless a majority of House members first agree to vote to remove the abortion-neutral amendment.

Currently, a solid majority of congressmen support the Civil Rights Restoration Act - but a majority also support the abortion-neutral amendment. No matter how many pro-abortion advocates march in Washington, it is unlikely that a majority House will vote to force hospitals to perform abortions.

Thus, by attempting to use the Civil Rights Restoration Act as a vehicle to advance a pro-abortion agenda, N.O.W. will succeed only in killing the bill.

Perhaps it is time for the leaders of groups representing blacks, the aged, and the handicapped to ask themselves whether a major civil rights bill should be sacrificed for the sale of N.O.W.'s pro-abortion priorities.

(Douglas Johnson is Legislative Director for the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC), the nation's major pro-life organization, consisting of 2,300 local chapters. NRLC is headquartered at 419-7th Street, N.W., Suite 402, Washington, D.C. 20004. For further information call: (202) 626-8820.)

LIBRARY NEWS

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK
Library Correspondent

The Back Mountain Memorial Library concluded its first year in the new library facilities on Huntsville Road on Tuesday, March 4.

We had some large birthday cards made and invited the patrons to help us celebrate by offering them a Hershey kiss when checking their books out. We found the ribbon which was used in the ribbon cutting ceremony and made two large bows from it and hung them in the main lobby of the library.

A large arrangement of flowers decorated the antique sideboard in the entryway, donated for the auction, and also the front desk. Thanks, Barbara. A total of 296 books were checked out from the library that day and, all in all, it was a nice birthday celebration.

Our 'Friends of the Library' campaign for 1986 got under way on March 1st. This group came into being in 1945 when the library began to encourage individual support for the library. Needless to say, the cost of operating the library has tripled since 1945 and we need community financial support now more than ever.

The 'Friends' campaign donations are a part of our 1986 budget and we hope to raise \$3,000 during the campaign. To date, donations have reached \$543. If you have not been in the new library building, please accept our invitation to visit and become involved in your library.

We have added the USA Today newspaper to our regular daily newspaper collection which is housed in the reference room. Other newspapers received on a regular basis are The Dallas Post, Suburban News, The Times Leader, Citizens Voice, The New York Times and the Wall Street Journal.

I bought a nice white ceramic rabbit the other day while delivering my regular monthly supply of books to the Meadows Nursing Center. They had nice ceramic items for sale all made by the ladies of the craft group at the Meadows. A nice Easter and Springtime reminder.

We had our first motorized wheelchair patron in the library last week. Fred Broghamer of Dallas hadn't been in the library since 1982 and was very happy to find that there was no problem with his using the library. The ramp outside the front entrance was designed with the handicapped in mind and the entire main library area is accessible for a wheelchair. The distance between the stacks gives the wheelchair plenty of room.

The 1986 National Library Week theme is "Get A Head Start At The Library" and we are planning some varied and interesting programs to celebrate, from April 6 to 12. Today, there is more need than ever before for all of us to read better, write better, and communicate better. Your library can help in many ways. Give us a try!

(Nancy Kozemchak is assistant librarian at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Her column appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

STATE CAPITOL ROUNDUP

By REP. FRANK COSLETT

Special to The Dallas Post

AN ATTEMPTED OVERRIDE of Gov. Dick Thornburgh's veto of a bill which would have allowed insurance companies to continue basing auto insurance rates on gender failed in the House this week. The House voted 133-49 in favor of the override motion. However, a total of 134 votes is required in the House to override a veto. Proponents of the override attempt say they will try again in the near future. If the governor's veto is not overturned, insurance companies will be required to implement so-called unisex insurance rates on June 1. The plan would require companies to charge young female drivers the same rates as male drivers. Statistically, young males are involved in more accidents than young females. Rep. Jeffrey E. Piccola (R-Dauphin), who introduced the override measure, argued that unisex insurance discriminates against young women by requiring them to pay more for insurance. "Young women are better drivers and should pay rates accordingly...if we don't vote to override, 600,000 young women will see their rates go up," Piccola told House members.

GROUNDWORK FOR Philadelphia's planned \$455 million convention center hit a snag when the House voted overwhelmingly to reject Senate-passed legislation which would have created a governing board for the project. The House surprised most observers by defeating the measure 128-65. Debate on the bill centered on plans for minority participation in the construction of the center and concern over who would pay for construction cost overruns.

(Rep. Frank Coslett serves the 10th Legislative District which encompasses the Back Mountain area. His state capitol roundup appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

The DALLAS POST

A Publication of Pennaprint, Inc.

J. STEPHEN BUCKLEY
Publisher

DAVID F. CONNER
General Manager

DOTTY MARTIN
Executive Editor