

**Tournament set**

The Luzerne County Fair Open Horseshoe Pitching Tournament will be held the weekend of the County Fair. Preliminary qualification will be held on Saturday, Sept. 6, at 3 p.m. to determine Class A and Class B players. On Sunday, Sept. 7, at 4 p.m., Class A and Class B players will compete for the first place trophies and other prizes. National Horseshoe Pitching Association (NHPA) rules will be followed (this is a non-sanctioned tournament). To register, please send your name, address and registration fee (\$5.00 non-refundable) to: Luzerne County Fair, c/o Open Horseshoe Pitching Tournament, P.O. Box 393, Dallas, PA 18612. Deadline for registration is August 30. The tournament is sponsored by the Luzerne County Fair and under the direction of the Dallas Area Horseshoe Club. Pictured, from left, are Bernie Snyder, John Urbane, Joe Shurmaitis, Jean Long and Peanuts Long.



**Concert planned**

Joseph Suprum and Boxcar Willie discuss arrangements for his appearance at the Luzerne County Fair planned for September 3 with shows at 8 and 10 p.m. Suprum is serving as entertainment chairman for the 1986 fair and recently met with Boxcar Willie at the Lycoming County Fair during July. The Luzerne County Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 3 to Sunday, Sept. 7 at the Rte. 118 location in Dallas. Advance tickets for the Boxcar Willie and the Texas Trainmen show are available by calling the fair office at 675-6448. The fair provides five days of entertainment, amusement rides, commercial and arts and crafts exhibits, 4-H exhibits and shows, horses and livestock, numerous food stands and wholesome family fun. Commercial exhibitors are reminded to make their space reservations as soon as possible, by calling the fair office at 675-6448. Premium brochures for arts and crafts, 4-H exhibits, livestock and horse entries can be obtained also by calling the fair office. Other entertainment scheduled for the fair is star of "Hee Haw" Shotgun Red and Steve Hall with Southbound 76. Shotgun Red will appear on Thursday, Sept. 4 with shows at 7 and 9 p.m. and the fabulous Leahy family planned for Sunday, Sept. 7. Additional entertainment will be provided on a second stage arranged for the first time during the 1986 fair. Co-sponsor of the Boxcar Willie show is Franklin First Federal Savings and Loan, Wilkes-Barre.

**Ladies invited to compete**

Young ladies between the ages of 16 and 20, are invited to compete for the title of Luzerne County Fair Queen. The winner will be chosen during the fair scheduled for September 3 to 7 at the Route 118 location in Dallas. The crowning will take place on Saturday, Sept. 6 at 5 p.m.

Numerous prizes will be awarded and the Queen will go on to compete for the title of State Queen, sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. The State competition will be held in January 1987 at the State Fair Association conference in Pittsburgh.

All contestants must be 16 to 20 years of age by June 1.

For further information and an application, call the Luzerne County Fair at 675-6448 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Deadline for registration is August 22, 1986.

**Locals take part in Games**

Three girls each from Dallas and Lake Lehman High Schools will be taking part in this weekend's action at Penn State University in the finals of the Keystone Games competition.

The six will be participating in fast-pitch softball play beginning on Friday, August 8 at 2 p.m. at State College.

The group, representing Region 2, will play a round-robin schedule against teams from three other regions.

Those from Dallas include: Joyce Tinner, Tracy Cave and Heidi Scholz. From Lake Lehman the three are Noel Kuznicki, Lori Pantle and Beth Finn.

The team is coached by Flossie Finn, Lake Lehman; Sue Moore, Dunmore; Marge Kelly, Wyoming Valley West and Cheryl Travis of Lake Lehman.

**Grossman on economics**

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN  
Special to The Dallas Post

In one of the most fascinating books on anthracite and the heritage of Northeastern Pennsylvania, two Lafayette College professors have published a 360 page book titled "The Kingdom of Coal."

The book written by Donald L. Miller, an Associate Professor of History, and Chairman of the American Civilization Program at Lafayette College; and Richard E. Sharpless, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, PA, and now an Associate Professor of History at Lafayette College, is a striking commentary on the cleavages and clashes and spirited, yet depressing anthracite era which has riveted the attention of many historians, but has rarely been placed in such an exciting context as that which the authors have portrayed. In words and photos, the entire panorama of anthracite history is laid out and expressed in a fashion which strikes at why the region developed the way it did and how the problems of Northeastern Pennsylvania's economy have persisted for so many years.

It is a fascinating analysis of how Northeastern Pennsylvania grew around diamonds of anthracite to control the destiny of tens of thousands of Northeastern Pennsylvanians. All of the turmoil of the anthracite era, the industrial revolution which anthracite production literally enabled, the coalrail monopolies which dominated the American scene, the ethnic migrations which expanded the population base of Northeastern Pennsylvania and carved out the economy for decades, and the engulfing clashes and conflicts between labor and management are spelled out in a dazzling array of descriptions and interpretations as the real life drama of anthracite heritage unfolds in the pages of the book.

Up and down the Lackawanna Valley, Wyoming Valley, Lehigh Valley, and Schuylkill Valley, march the managers, executives, labor leaders, and others as the writers stimulate the mind senses and paint a portrait of where we were, where we are, and how we got there.

In another example of characterization of the village and community life of Northeastern Pennsylvania, comments are made concerning Mauch Chunk, now Jim Thorpe (in Carbon County).

"From the 1850's on, the character of Mauch Chunk changed appreciably. The griddy little company town became a prosperous shipping center. It boasted more concentrated wealth than any other town in the Lehigh Field; in 1870 it probably had the highest mean per capita income of any city in the

United States...Money flowed in from coal transportation and services. It built impressive new buildings, including Lehigh Coal's massive brick headquarters and a collection of fine homes along "millionaires row" on a ridge overlooking the town. Mauch Chunk's scenic location added to its attraction.

The railroad brought affluent tourists from New York and Philadelphia to this "Switzerland of America." They disembarked from the train at the foot of a new resort hotel, eager to take the mountain airs, ride the scenic gravity railroad, see and be seen in the new opera house, and bask in the warm self-congratulatory atmosphere of capital gains."

Their characterization of Wilkes-Barre is an interesting commentary of those turbulent times.

"Wilkes-Barre's capitalists demonstrated an amazing unity and single mindedness of purpose in making the field they controlled the most productive in the anthracite region and their city one of the two largest and most prosperous in the area. They did so because of a commonality of interest sustained by a commonality of culture and family relationships. They invested in each other's companies, sat on each other's board of directors, and married into each other's families.

They created a relatively closed world of business and society which outsiders penetrated only with extreme difficulty...This inbred group of coal entrepreneurs and lawyers maintained an iron grip on all important public and private organizations and institutions. They controlled both political parties and groomed their own for local, state, and national offices. They did not, like the Packer group (Asa Packer, a leading industrialist in Carbon County and nearby communities), diversify into iron and steel. One industry dominated Wilkes-Barre, as it did every other community in the Wyoming Valley.

A comparison of employees engaged in coal and manufacturing in Luzerne County in 1980, for example, shows that 92.2 per cent were in coal, while only 7.8 per cent

worked in manufacturing. Through their control of the 20 coal mining companies headquartered in the city, another in Kingston, and five in Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre's capitalists exercised pervasive control over the principal industry of virtually every town in the region."

The railroads were given strong paragraphs in the book as a dominating factor in the growth of the anthracite industry.

As the authors note, "by the 1960's the five great anthracite railroads—the Philadelphia and Reading, Lehigh Valley, Delaware and Hudson, Delaware Lackawanna and Western, and Central of New Jersey—were in place, along with several smaller roads. They carried the fuel that heated the homes of the northeast and fired the furnaces of America's new industries. Their reach extended beyond that of the canals, whose monopoly they broke, and whose final demise they assured."

In denoting the great labor management strife which dominated the anthracite region for decades, the authors point to the Great Strike of 1902 which permanently established the United Mine Workers and the Anthracite Fields.

The powerful lawyer, Clarence Darrow, pointed to the results of the five month strike as follows: "The blunders are theirs, and the victories have been ours. The blunders are theirs because, in this old, old strife, they are fighting for slavery, while we are fighting for freedom. They are fighting for the rule of man over man. We are working for democracy, for humanity, for the future, for the day that will come, and will remember our struggles, our triumphs, our defeats, and the words which we spoke."

The anthracite era is a story worth telling and one which deserves the readership of all Northeastern Pennsylvania.

(Howard Grossman is the Executive Director of the Economic Development Council of Northeast Pennsylvania. His column appears periodically in The Dallas Post.)

**Township realizes profit**

Jackson Township was one of four Luzerne County Communities to be recognized recently by State Auditor General Don Baily for investment practices on its temporarily idle liquid fuels tax funds.

As a result of the measure, which usually involves some type of short-term investment such as certificates of deposits, the township will have an extra \$2,537 to spend on road repairs.

The audit report for the liquid fuel tax funds covered the period from

January 1, 1983 to December 31, 1984. The remaining reports, concerning Hazleton, Kingston and Wilkes-Barre, represented the calendar year for 1984.

Liquid fuels money is given to municipalities by the state for the construction, repair and maintenance of roads and bridges, including snow removal and the acquisition, operation and repair of street safety devices. The funds cannot be used for any other projects.

**The Dallas Post's Football '86**

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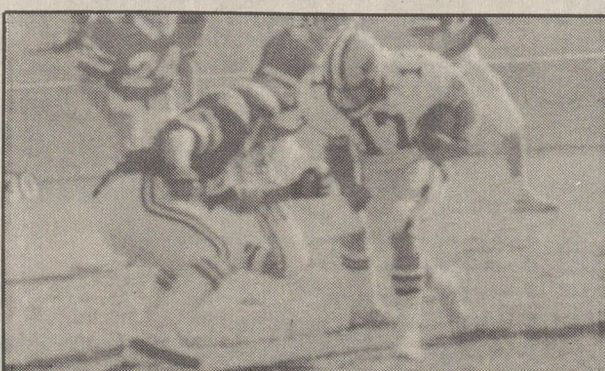
West Side Tech

The Dallas Post is endeavoring on its third special section, to be published August 27, entitled "Football '86".

The publication will be devoted mainly to the high school teams from the area, but will also be full of informative reading the local football fan won't want to miss as the 1986 season gets underway.

Items on local athletes playing for colleges around the country, predictions on conference races, and lots of photos of players, coaches, cheerleaders, and twirlers are all expected to be a part of "Football '86".

What better way can you think of to reach the sports-minded customer than by reserving your advertising space today in this special edition of our salute to the gridiron?



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For more information, including rates, call 675-5211, or write to:

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