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## Bearde expected to be named AD

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

Following a month's vacation from board meetings, Lake-Lehman School Board was scheduled to hold its August meeting last night at the Lake-Noxen Elementary School.

Despite the refusal of administrators and members of the school board to comment on the reappointment of Roger Bearde to the position of athletic director, it was learned from outside sources that Bearde's reappointment was on the agenda and it was anticipated that he would be named to the position by a narrow majority.

Members of the Lake-Lehman Education Association and taxpayers of the district expected that Bearde's appointment would be made.

The motion to table Bearde's appointment was approved by a 5-4 vote at the June meeting and a

motion was also approved to advertise the position in local newspapers.

All applicants, who applied for the position with the exception of John Howe of Dallas, withdrew when they learned the position was part-time. Following his interview with the Lake-Lehman Personnel Committee, Howe told Dallas Post personnel that when he applied for the position, he thought it was a full time position. He also stated that at the time he was not aware of the political undercurrent and did not want to become involved in the political friction.

Howe said that he did not know Bearde personally, but that he learned through conversations with persons who knew Bearde that Bearde was a well-qualified and highly-respected individual.

Repeated attempts to contact Roger Bearde since the June meeting have been successful.

## Dallas Band gets brand new director

Dallas Senior High School has a new band director, Steven Saive, who has already been wholeheartedly accepted by the band members and the majority of the band sponsors, despite many having to change their vacation plans.

Saive, a native of Altoona, is a recent graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and, although this is his first position as high school band director, he assumed the position prepared to pick up where former director, David Benn, left off.

Saive immediately called practice when he arrived in the district and, soon after, scheduled band camp for the week of August 4 and the week of August 18, so the 45 band musicians and the 44 auxiliary members would have their field show ready prior to their first appearance at the August 30 football game.

"I had an idea for a field show before I came here," said Saive. "And a classmate and friend of mine, Gary Ziek, had been working on it. I had to wait until I knew how many students I had to work with before it could be finalized so Gary was here to help me during the first week of band camp.

"These kids are great. They are very coachable and they pick up the moves very quickly. They have a lot of experience."

Saive explained that the band will be in Group 1 this year instead of Group 2. Grouping is determined by the number of actual playing members and since Saive started with 49 members, which barely made Group 2, he moved four to the Color Guard and went to Group 1.

"Group 2 ranges from over 45 to 65 members so we would be a very low group 2. This way the band is a high Group 1," explained Saive.

His goal this season is to maintain



STEVEN SAIVE

the excellent performance of the band as it has been during the past several years and to surpass past performances.

The music Saive plans to use in this season's field show includes 'España', 'La Bamba', a drum solo; 'Basin Street Blues', a concert number featuring the auxiliary members; and 'God Bless America', as a closing number.

Saive said that the band parents have been very supportive (even found him an apartment), and he is looking forward to an interesting year.

"I did my student teaching at Altoona but this is my first position. It will be a challenge, but one I am sure I can meet," said Saive.

— CHARLOT M. DENMON



Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

### Learning — the hard way

Members of Vision Quest, a rehabilitation program for juvenile delinquents, are shown here as the wagon trains made their

way through the Back Mountain last week. The program is an alternate to prison and teaches youth how they can fit into society.

## Vision Quest Program teaches juveniles about real life

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

The encampment of teepees and covered wagons on land adjacent to the Dallas Intermediate School last Wednesday night was not a group of Pioneer Scouts nor other such organization. It was a Vision Quest Wagon Train, a national program for the rehabilitation of first time juvenile offenders.

The 11 wagons, each drawn by a pair of mules and the dozen or more mustangs ridden by the leaders of the wagon train, were one of a number of such trains which travel across various areas of the United States in the Vision Quest program.

Vision Quest is an alternative program to confining first time juvenile offenders to prison, initiated more than 14 years ago. The Wagon Train idea was started in 1976 with the purpose of teaching the juveniles responsibility while traveling across the country throughout the time they are placed in the Vision Quest program.

Under the supervision of Wagon Masters Glenn Davis and Richard Zasa, the Wagon Train camped at Dallas last Wednesday night as it was making its way back from West Palm Beach, Florida, hoping to travel as far as Vermont before cold weather. A year ago, the train left from Kalamazoo, Mich. for Florida.

The caravan of wagons includes 62 boys and girls and 38 staff members. They travel for five days and rest for two and usually cover from 12 to 20 miles per day depending on conditions. The juveniles construct the teepees in which they live and attend classes, make camp, prepare the meals and do all other chores relating to the

camp and the travel. Included with the wagon train is a semi-kitchen equipped with refrigerator, stove and other necessary appliances.

The juveniles attend classes four hours each day in order to obtain their G.E.D. and receive their high school diploma. They are ready to re-enter society when they have successfully completed Wilderness Camping, Wagon Train program and obtained their G.E.D. At the end of that time it is determined by the Vision Quest administrative officials whether they have changed their attitude toward society.

The animals used in the wagon trains are provided by the Bureau of Land Management. The horses are wild mustangs which have been broken by their riders. A scout moves approximately five miles ahead of the train to find campsites for the group, sites which have adequate facilities and some sort of cover in the event of emergency.

The juveniles range in age from 16 to 18 years and are placed in Vision Quest by approval of the court. Those juveniles in the wagon train which traveled through Dallas to Tunkhannock and then farther north are from the Eastern region of the United States, including a boy from the Back Mountain area, one from Reading, some from Pittsburgh and from Philadelphia.

How do they feel about the program?

The local juvenile, charged with burglary, has been in Vision Quest for four months. He said that it is a lot of hard work but he is getting a new perspective on life. "It means a lot to have someone to talk to and discuss your problems," he said. "It is helping me mentally and physically. I'm learning to appreciate home."

The juvenile from Reading was found guilty of assault and will be eligible for release in a few

months. "I would have been in residential now," he told us. "But I became angry with one of the staff members and threatened to hit him so now I am on C.O.A. Believe me, I have learned to keep my hands to myself. When I get out, I'm going home, work and buy a car." He explained C.O.A. meant 'Center of Attention'; he had to stand in the center of the camp in view of everyone, and all knew the reason, for a stipulated length of time.

Several others questioned, all guilty of robbery, gave much the same answer. "We work hard, it's not easy but we have learned to be responsible citizens and when we are released we're going to school or to work. We're going straight."

All offenders must serve a minimum of 12 months in the program which is divided into three parts: Wilderness Camping, Wagon Train and Residential. All juveniles are first time offenders. There are no second time offenders in the program.

All of the staff members are college graduates and most of them are specialists in child care or related fields. Davis has a degree in criminal justice. Zasa has been with the program for about 12½ years and carries the title, Senior Wagon Master.

The national office of Vision Quest, which originated in Exton, Pa., is in Tucson, Arizona. The office in this region of the country is in Exton.

Despite traveling 12 months of the year from north to south and back, making and repairing their own equipment, preparing their meals, attending classes daily, the juveniles appear to be achieving the purpose of the program. They are learning to become responsible citizens and how to become productive individuals in our society.

## Job Corps program may be in jeopardy

By JOHN HOINSKI  
Staff Writer

Despite its high rate of success nationally, a major concern of the Job Corps program has been the continued flow of federal money to keep the operation afloat.

Due in part to the Gramm-Rudman bill and the number of cuts

outlined by the Reagan administration, funding for the Job Corps program has been a struggle. This year, eight centers nationwide were targeted for elimination, but because of lobbying efforts by house members those measures were rescinded.

The program, which serves as sort of a last chance opportunity for 90,000 youths annually, has a job-

placement record of 85-90 per cent for its graduates as opposed to only a 2½ per cent drop out rate.

"We have to utilize money where we see real success," said Congressman Paul Kanjorski, D-Nanticoke. "I don't see how we can say that all programs of a certain type are going to be eliminated. They should be looked at separately to see which ones are beneficial and which are not. There may be Job Corps centers around the country that do not measure up, and those cases operations should be eliminated, but not the program as a whole."

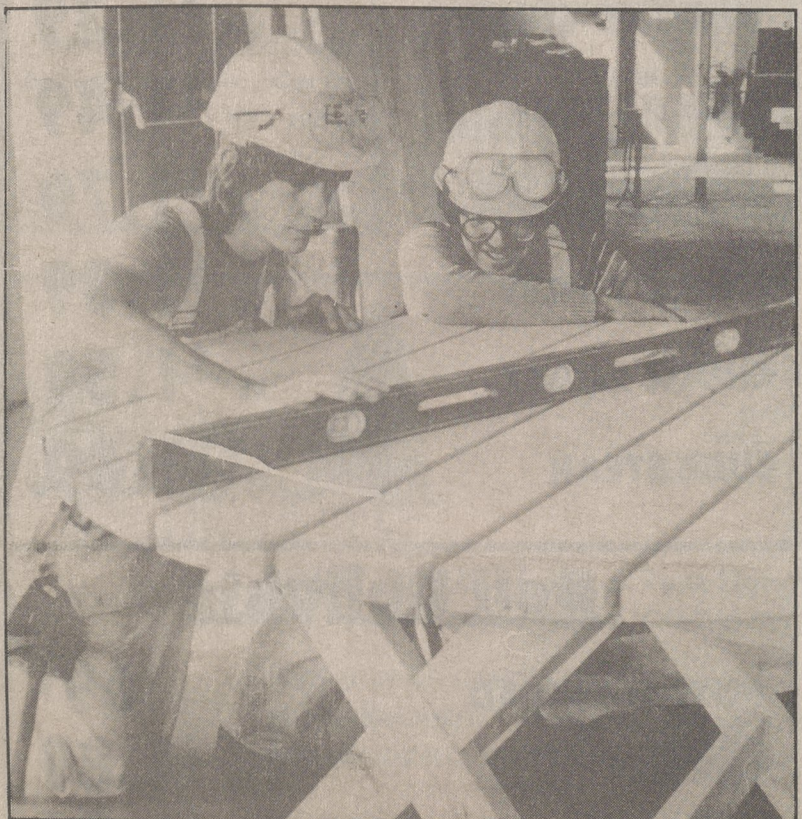
In addition to providing youths with specific job skills, the program also pumps millions of dollars into local communities.

At the Job Corps facility at Red Rock, center director Eric Lerner says its operation kicks in a hefty dollar amount annually into the area.

"Between the services and supplies we purchase locally as well as staff salaries, the center puts in approximately \$3 million a year into the local economy," Lerner, who

has been at the center since 1983, said. "The Corps is like a deficit reduction program. Instead of putting these people on welfare where they just collect and that's it, here the money is spent to educate these people, to provide them with a trade so they can go out on their own and make a living. It's smart

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### Job Corps workers

Bob Betcher, left, and Glen Gromel, right, polish their carpentry skills at the Job Corps Center in Red Rock. The Center, which has been in operation since 1978, provides an opportunity for youths from ages 16 through 21 to learn a skill and become productive members of society.

### Workers help at fairgrounds

Ray Hillman, chairman of the Dallas Area Fall Fair Association, does not have to be convinced of the importance of the Red Rock Job Corps Center.

"How much have they met to us?" Hillman laughed. "Huh, without their help we would probably have half the excavation work done and that's it. Period."

Instead, what they do have is a horse barn and two arts and crafts buildings, each of which are approximately 50 x 100 foot structures, that will be finished by the time the Luzerne County

Fair opens on September 3. In addition, the Corps has also spared the association a bundle of money in labor costs.

"I would say they have already saved us about \$120,000 in labor so far," Hillman said. "And they have been doing excellent, quality work."

Last week officials from the National Association of Homebuilders from Washington came in to inspect the job and were extremely impressed with the

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