

# Commentary

## Editor's notes

### OOPS, I GOOFED!

While relating the wonderful story of the missing golf shoes being returned to their rightful owner last week, I mixed up some of the people I wrote about.

The truth of the matter is that Ann and John Walsh are the sister and brother-in-law of the woman who claimed the shoes while Lana and Jack Burnstock are friends.

Helen Thomas, the owner of the golf shoes, and her husband, Harold, are avid golfers and are members of the Lehman Golf Club. While visiting Ann and John Walsh in Clearwater, Florida, they ran into Lana and Jack Burnstock on a golf course there.



**DOTTY MARTIN**

I made the mistake of mis-identifying all the people from Florida in last week's column and promised Mrs. Thomas I would make good this week. Now - she'll have to send two copies of our paper to The Walshes and to the Burnstocks.

Sorry about that error!

**I HAD THE MISFORTUNE** of being in the middle of a ride around Harveys Lake one day last week as a thunderstorm approached the area.

I never realized how dreary the lake area is during a storm, but I sure found out then. Boy, for as pretty as the lake is on a nice sunny, summer day, it's just as ugly on a day of stormy weather.

**SPEAKING OF RAIN**, our own Charlot Denmon got drenched while attempting to do her job last week.

When we got wind of the Vision Quest wagon trains making their way up the Dallas Highway, Charlot armed herself with her camera and a notebook and pencil to chase down the horses and buggies for a story and some pictures.

Well, just before she got to the caravan, a torrential downpour made its way into our area and drenched not only the horses and buggies, but Charlot as well. Being the trooper she is, though, she still managed to get some photos of the whole thing.

Later that same day, while the sun was shining, we were informed that the people involved with Vision Quest were setting up tents for the night at the Dallas Intermediate School.

So, Charlot decided to try again - this time in an attempt to talk to some of the individuals to get more of a story than she had gotten during the first downpour.

And - off she goes - with camera and notebook and pencil in hand. But, guess what! The rain started again, but this time it waited until she was in the middle of the field, trying to make her way through the mud in a dress and high heels.

Managing to make her way back to her car before being completely drowned, Charlot went home, dried off, changed her clothes and, when the sun came out again, went to the intermediate school once again - this time without getting soaked!

Getting a story is not always this difficult for a reporter, but I sure hope those of you who take the time to read her story on the Vision Quest caravan will appreciate all she went through to get it.

Something tells me The Dallas Post is going to be paying for her beauty shop appointment this week.

**CHEERS TO Michael Daley** of Dallas, who was featured in a story in the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader this week.

Daley, a student at College Misericordia, has fought his way back from a very serious automobile accident in 1980 that left him minus two hands, a foot and full of facial scars.

After more than 60 operations, Michael is still plugging away and accomplishing more than some people without any physical impairments ever do.

You're a credit not only to the Back Mountain, Michael, but to the human race as well.

Congratulations on all you've done so far and the best of luck to you in everything you attempt from here on in.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES** to Dena Miles, of North Lehigh Street, Shavertown, who will celebrate her 17th birthday on Saturday, August 16.

**GET WELL WISHES** to Sheila Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Brutto of Dallas.

Sheila suffered a nasty fall from her bicycle last Thursday afternoon and is currently in the middle of a long recuperation period.

Keep your chin up, Sheila - better days are ahead.

### I HAD AN INTERESTING

**PHONE CALL** from a woman by the name of Jennie Dugan. Jennie, who has been a resident of the Back Mountain all her life, is seeking a photo of the Goss School. The school, she tells me, was located in what is now New Goss Manor in Dallas.

Jennie was a student at the Goss School during 1928 and 1929 and says she would love to have a photograph of that school. If anyone has a photograph of that school, Jennie would love to talk to you about purchasing it or having a copy made of it as she would like to have one to hang in her livingroom.

Anyone with such a photograph is asked to call Jennie Dugan at 696-2506.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Spaces - and to the Smiths.

A baby boy, Matthew, was born to Mark and Jill Space of Forty Fort on Thursday, August 7, at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Space is the former Jill Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith of West Pittston. Jack is the proprietor of Elston and Gould Automobile Service in Dallas.

Mr. Space is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Space of Forty Fort.

Matthew is the first grandchild for the Spaces and, although the Smiths are not new to the business of being grandparents, they're just as proud can be.

Congratulations to all of you. And, I must add, a special congratulations to Jill since she and I graduated from high school together and it sure is nice to write about good things happening to your former classmates.

**SINCERE SYMPATHY** is extended to Wendy Martin of Dallas, an employee of The Dallas Post, on the death of her horse, "Goldie."

Goldie, who had been with Wendy for 18 years, died this past week. As a lover of animals, I can appreciate the grief Wendy and her family are feeling over this loss.

Wendy, as a tribute of her love for Goldie, offers the following prayer for other animal lovers:

"To thee, my master, I offer my prayer. Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day's work is done, provide me with shelter, a clean dry bed and a stall wide enough for me to lie down in comfort. Always be kind to me. Talk to me. Your voice often means as much to me as the reins. Pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you. Do not jerk the reins, and do not whip me when going up hill. Never strike, beat or kick me when I do not understand what you want, but give me a chance to understand you. Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is not wrong with my harness or feet.

Do not check me so that I cannot have the free use of my head. If you insist that I wear blinders, so that I cannot see behind me as it is intended I should, I pray you be careful that the blinders stand well out from my eyes.

Do not overload me, or hitch me where water will drip on me. Keep me well shod. Examine my teeth when I do not eat, I may have an ulcerated tooth, and that, you know, is very painful. Do not tie my head in an un-natural position, or take away my best defense against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail.

I cannot tell you when I am thirsty, so give me clean cool water often. Save me, by all means in your power, from that fatal disease - the glanders. I cannot tell you in words when I am sick, so watch me, that by signs you may know my condition. Give me all possible shelter from the hot sun, and the cold. Never put a frosty bit in my mouth; first warm it by holding it a moment in your hands.

I try to carry you and your burdens without a murmur, and wait patiently for you long hours of the day or night. Without the power to choose my shoes or path, I sometimes fall on the hard pavements which I have often prayed might not be of wood but of such a nature as to give me a safe and sure footing. Remember that I must be ready at any moment to lose my life in your service.

And finally, O my master, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, or sell me to some cruel owner, to be slowly tortured and starved to death; but do thou, My Master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter.

Amen.  
(Dotty Martin is the Executive Editor of Pennaprint Inc., publishers of The Dallas Post. Her column appears weekly.)



### Minstrels

Shown here are the Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company Minstrels in a photo taken in 1941.

## Only yesterday

## Hallock is named supervisor

**50 YEARS AGO - AUG. 14, 1936**

Howard Hallock of Shavertown was named part-time teacher and supervisor of music at Dallas Borough School.

Among the record-breaking crowds attending daily services at the 26th Annual Camp Meeting being held at B.T. Roberts Memorial Grove in East Dallas were two women who had served as African missionaries. Grace and Mary Hitchcock had served 30 years at a missionary home in Durban, South Africa.

Married - Betty J. Laycock and William Thomas; Edna Cease and Ted Cerwanka.

Engaged - Ruth Arlene Patton and Virgil E. Wright. You could get - Legs of lamb 29c lb.; chuck roast 20c lb.; ground beef 2 lb. 33c; sweet potatoes 4 lb. 25c; tub butter 2 lb. 79c; vinegar 19c gal.; cocoa 2 lb. 15c; 2 bunches celery 15c; sugar 10 lb. 49c; Certo, 2 bottles 45c; pt. size mason jars 49c doz.; 1/4 lb. tea 15c.

**40 YEARS AGO - AUG. 16, 1946**

Natona Mills, a division of Native Lace Works Inc., Hightstown, N.J. was well under construction, the plant would employ 350 people.

Alderson Methodist Church presented its Sixth Annual Flower Show sponsored by the Women's Christian Society of Christian Service. The show was held at Laketon High School. Committee members included Mrs. Raymond Garinger, Mrs. Gilbert Carpenter, Mrs. Robert Ferrey, Miss Margaret Davis and Mrs. David Morgan.

Engaged - Bette Jones to Kenneth L. Grose; Laura Grace Keiper and Leland Case.

Married - Loretta Hilbert and PFC. R.S. Fitzgerald. Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ruggles, Meeker, 53 years.

Deaths - James Youells, Luzerne. You could get - Cucumbers 5c ea.; apples 4 lb. 25c; California Red Grapes 29c lb.; cabbage 3c lb.; Palmolive soap 3 reg. bars 20c; bread, lg. loaf 10c; honeydew melons 10c lb.; eggs 59c doz.; butter 75c lb.; prunes lb. 16c.

**30 YEARS AGO - AUG. 17, 1956**

Lehman-Jackson-Ross board of education voted in favor of a further jointure with Lake-Noxen Schools. Edgar Lashford was president of Lehman-Jackson-Ross Board of Education. Lester B. Squier was supervising principal.

The final barn clearance session of the 10th annual Back Mountain Memorial Library closed with receipts of \$616.03 for the day. A small crowd of about 300 people attended this finale to the annual auction.

Engaged - Diane Clara Bystrak and Carl Otto Metzger.

Married - Judge Benjamin R. Jones and Jane R. Griffith; Ethel Margaret Merchant and Arthur Leonard Nuss.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ruggles, 63 years; Dr. and Mrs. Otis Allen, 45 years.

Deaths - Emma Gallup, Pikes Creek; Bessie Cook, Evans Falls; Mary Alice Kemmerer, Lehman; Annie Brown, Centermoreland.

You could get - Smoked hams 59c lb.; smoked bacon 29c lb.; sharp cheese 59c lb.; 2 lvs. rye bread 29c; sweet corn 39c doz.; honeydew melons 49c ea.; watermelons 89c ea.; green beans 2 lb. 19c; 18 oz. glass Peter Pan Peanut Butter 59c.

**20 YEARS AGO - AUG. 18, 1966**

According to Library Auction chairman Jerry Gardner, the annual event grossed \$19,763. In other Library news, Mrs. Richard Dale, resigned her position as librarian to accept the position of reference librarian at Hoyt Library.

Sixty five families in the immediate area met to discuss the organization of an Orthodox Church in the Back Mountain. Meetings of organization were held at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Engaged - Sandra Faye Hoover and Gary Howard Whitesell; Eileen M. Crispell and Elvin Bean; Patricia Zawoiski and James Kozemchak, Jr.

Married - Lois Ann Ryman to Joseph F. Hardisky; Amy Louise Hetrick and Francis Stocker; Carol Lyons and Burton Steltz.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lewis, 43 years.

Deaths - John Belles, Reyburn; Lamon Harmen, Hunlock Creek.

You could get - Boneless round roast 85c lb.; beef liver 43c lb.; Ball Park franks 69c lb.; chicken breasts 49c lb.; sea scallops 59c lb.; Italian Prunes 2 lb. 39c; seedless grapes 19c lb.; cherries 45c lb.; cream cheese 2 3-oz pkgs. 25c.

**10 YEARS AGO - AUG. 19, 1976**

Dallas School Directors approved the sale of the Shavertown Elementary School to William Powell of Dallas. Cost of the school and property \$102,000.

Dallas Area Municipal Authority engineer consultant Henry Haley applied for the necessary funds from Community Facilities State Grant to aid in supplying Stonehedge with the much needed sewer system.

Kingston Township supervisors turned down the request of the Rose Village developer to take over three streets in the development. Water drainage problems were cited.

Married - Margaret Jordan and R. Glenn Harvey; Bonnie Gerrard and George Mahler; Sally Anne Harter and Thomas John Graham; Marianne Domowitch and Leonard J. Reggie; Nikki Belasco and Robert Astary.

Deaths - George Lamoreaux, Huntsville; Andrew Stofko, Chase Road; Alva Holdredge, Trucksville.

You could get - Chickens, whole, 39c; chicken legs 69c lb.; chopped ham \$1.49 lb.; 48-oz. box Ivory Liquid \$1.49; Kraft's grape jelly 8 oz. 59c; 24-oz. cans Hawaiian Punch 99c; cabbage c lb.; bananas 5 lb. \$1; green peppers 29c lb.

## Library news

By **NANCY KOZEMCHAK**  
Library Correspondent

The library has received delivery of four 36 x 72 library tables to be used in the main reading room of the library. These tables have a practical construction top of durable plastic laminate in a medium brown oak wood grain finish. These tables were ordered through the local sales representative of Roberts & Meck, Inc. of Harrisburg, and are Bravo tables manufactured by Texwood Furniture Corp. of Austin, Texas. The addition of these tables completes another segment of the on-going renovation process at the new library. The Dallas Area Federated Woman's Club donated \$500 specifically to be used for the purchase of one table. The other three tables have been purchased with monies realized from the major Capital Campaign conducted by the library which is now into its second year of a three year campaign. Contributions are still being accepted for the Capital Campaign.

Some exciting news regarding our circulation figures. In July of 1985, our first year in the new building, we set a monthly circulation record of 10,049, which was the first time we ever circulated more than 10,000 books in a month. Now, in July of 1986, we have set a new monthly circulation figure. 10,758 books were checked out of the library; 5,420 adult titles and 5,338 juvenile. This shows a 709 increase over last July and surprisingly, the adult circ was up 623 and juvenile up 86. The juvenile circ set its new record breaking the 1985 record of 5,252. Needless to say, July was an extremely busy and exciting time at the library, along with the 40th annual auction which proved to be the best auction ever, running for five days, raining for two, and still coming out with the best financial year, \$71,000.00 gross which should show a net profit for the library of at least, \$45,000; which is about one third of the operating budget for 1986.

The current library book collection inventory stands at 54,147 volumes, which means that almost one fifth of the current library collection was checked out during the month. The summer reading program and the story hours in the children's department have brought many children into the library who are checking out and returning mountains of books. The second summer semester of the preschool story hour has started with a completely new group of children in order to give those children, who have been on a waiting list, a chance to participate in this program. The Playschool Group and the Playground children and Little People classes have been visiting on a regular basis. All things considered, the library has been busy and staff and volunteers are struggling to keep ahead of the slipping of the returned books and getting them back on the shelves.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is, indeed, on the move! (Nancy Kozemchak is the assistant librarian of the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Her column appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

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## State Capitol roundup

By **REP. FRANK COSLETT**  
Special to The Dallas Post

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from Rep. Frank Coslett, 120th Legislative District:

**SOUTH AFRICAN REVIEW** - After a 16-day speaking tour of four southern African countries, Gov. Dick Thornburgh this week announced that he is ordering a study of Pennsylvania's economic, social and cultural ties to South Africa. In making the announcement, the governor said he wants to discover if any of the state's policies appear to condone apartheid.

**HUMAN SERVICE FUNDING** - Gov. Thornburgh signed legislation freeing some \$28 million in funding in funding for Pennsylvania's human service programs, after blue-lining or removing \$7 million in additional spending tagged onto the bill by House Democrats. The money, included in the state's 1986-87 budget, will be used primarily for county-level programs for the mentally and physically disabled and the needy. The legislation moved to the governor's desk after a recent special session of the General Assembly approved the measure. The session was needed to remove a provision in the budget which prohibited distribution of the money until December 1.

**RABIES LEGISLATION** - The House Game and Fisheries Committee met in Harrisburg but failed to take action on a bill which would require all dogs in the state to be vaccinated against rabies. During the first seven months of the year, 330 cases of rabies have been confirmed in Pennsylvania's wildlife.

(Rep. Frank Coslett serves the 120th Legislative District, which encompasses parts of the Back Mountain area. His column appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

## Opinion

## Why such shock over drug abuse?

By **EDWIN FEULNER**  
Special to The Dallas Post

Drug abuse in the United States is a bit like terrorism - every time there is a highly publicized death, as in the case of basketball player Len Bias, people act with such shock that you would think it had never happened before. But the sad fact is that people die every day from drugs.

Len Bias died of a heart attack allegedly caused by "free-basing" cocaine. There is no such thing as an overdose of this dangerous intoxicant, doctors say, because the same amount may give one person a "high" and kill another. Cocaine causes an interruption of the normal electrical patterns in the brain that send messages to the body. Simply put, Len Bias' brain told his heart to stop beating.

Although cocaine, and an even more dangerous derivative known as "crack," are the drugs in the news lately, a wide range of other substances are similarly polluting the country. Drug use in the workplace has reached near-epidemic proportions. That is not only potentially dangerous to the users' co-workers and in some cases the nearby community, it is costing America uncounted billions of dollars in lost productivity.

Drugs are primarily a youth problem, however. Ask most any college student where to find drugs on campus, and even those wise enough to stay away from them

can probably tell you.

In spite of the evident problem on our campuses, all too often college and university administrators say, "It's the same everywhere," and abdicate their responsibility for trying to eradicate drugs.

In a speech here recently, Secretary of Education William Bennett called these administrators down off their high horses. "Our colleges and universities often, and sometimes quite properly, call to task the rest of society for failing to live up to its stated ideas," he said. "They set themselves the role of moral gadfly, moral conscience."

"Surely when parents send their children to college, they have the right to expect the colleges to take some measures to protect their sons and daughters from drugs," Bennett added.

Bennett suggested after his speech that he would favor congressional action giving the secretary of education the authority to withhold federal aid to any college found not to be making a good faith effort to eradicate drugs.

Some kind of standards would have to be established, of course. It

would be wrong to simply say a school is "not doing enough" because a drug problem has been discovered. Secretary Bennett surely does not have any rash policy in mind, but he is absolutely right to suggest that colleges and universities may have to be forced to crack down on a problem many of them would just as soon ignore.

At the University of Maryland

(where Len Bias played basketball), for instance, students found in possession of drugs can expect penalties ranging from a reprimand to expulsion. "Pushers" are supposed to be expelled.

Not to single out Maryland, but that policy is far too lenient. Possession of drugs is a crime. Those caught on campus with drugs should be arrested by police, and if found guilty, thrown in jail. Students should be told, "If you 'do drugs' on campus, your college career ends. Period. No coming back to class- ever." Even the most thick-headed freshman can understand such a straightforward policy.

Those schools that wish to pursue the sort of "enlightened" drug policies that have made drug abuse a national epidemic may do so without the good grace of federal funding.

Of course, we should not simply rely on the government to solve the drug problem. Parents, teachers, professors, friends, anyone close to young people need to educate them about the dangers of drugs.

There is only one lesson about drugs, really: drugs put the user on "the fast track" - bound straight for a graveyard. Len Bias is not the first to die from cocaine, and he won't be the last. The best legacy he could leave is to have shocked people enough to make them go beyond rhetoric in the war on drugs.

(Edwin Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research institute. His editorials appear periodically in The Dallas Post.)

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