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# L-L expects to add courses

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

The Lake-Lehman School Board at its regular meeting last night was expected to act on a number of proposals discussed at last week's work session.

The directors were expected to approve a Spanish IV course at the high school level for the 1988-89 school year and to also approve a revision of the current district wide testing program. If the directors approve the revision, IQ tests would be administered to students in second through 10th grades instead of the current testing of students second through fourth grades.

A change in district policy regarding the awarding of special transportation bus contracts as recommended by board member Liz Sichler at the work session was expected to be presented to the board at last night's meeting.

If approved, the district administration shall place a notice in at least two daily papers and two weekly newspapers serving the immediate area announcing the acceptance of applications to provide special transportation service.

Applicants shall be provided specifications, procedures and policies relative to special education and private car transportation services.

An interested party must complete an application for employment as a bus driver, submit the results of a physical examination and provide an Act 34 background check (not more than one year old) to the superintendent of schools or his or her designee.

Discussed at the work session and to be presented for approval at last night's board meeting was a request to provide late bus transportation services to students participating in after-school activities. The administration to be authorized to contract for said services. The late bus services will be comprised of three buses with the last stop of each route at three central points in the district. The contemplated stops to be presented for approval at the present time are Chase Firehall, Lake-Noxen Elementary School and Ross Elementary School.

The directors also were expected to act on a request to amend the board policy on Sabbatical leave relative to eligibility, application and compensa-

tion.

Other actions expected to be taken at last night's meeting were recognition of achievements and accomplishments of former students, hiring of junior high coaches and assistants for baseball and track; an assistant and volunteers for boys volleyball, and congratulations extended to present students selected for Regional Chorus, PMEA District 9 Orchestra Festival, and Regional Band, as well as congratulations to Lisa Gunn, Thomas Witter, winners of the 6th grade spelling bee, and Debbie Coslett and Ann Barber, 1st runners-up; Victoria Dougalis, 7th-8th grade winner and Tom Norconk, 1st runner-up. Gunn will represent Lehman-Jackson, Thomas, Lake-Noxen Elementary Schools; and Victoria will represent junior high at the Regional Spelling Bee, Saturday, March 19, at Wilkes College. The runners-up will be available as alternates for their respective schools.

Discussion may ensue in the near future on the adoption of a nepotism policy since the board is presently reviewing the district's current policy on the employment of individuals related to any member of the board.



Dallas Post/Linda Shurmatla

## Future Olympic hopefuls?

Katie Bennett and Danette Chimock, Dallas, test the slopes in Katie's backyard off Machell Avenue. Although the weather was a little cold, the snow was just fine for skiing. The girls took advantage of their day off from school to practice their downhill form. Are the girls future contenders for Olympic gold? Only time and a few years will tell.

# Dallas board discusses fundraiser

A request by Dallas high School student wrestlers to allow jello wrestling as a fundraising again this year will be taken into consideration by the school directors after they meet with the wrestling coach to discuss the feasibility of the fundraising meet or if the students should hold a different method of fundraising.

The decision was reached following the explanation by Richard Morgan, supervisor of buildings and grounds, that cleaning up after last year's event was a major job. He said the jello pudding was all over the locker rooms and the restrooms in addition to the match area in the gym.

Milton Lutsey of Dallas was appointed to fill the position of secretary to the board, left vacant following the resignation of Mrs. Gloria Brennan, who submitted her resignation last month.

Lutsey retired from his position as business education teacher at Wyoming Valley West in January, 1986, after holding the position for 27 years. Prior to the Valley West jointure, Lutsey was head basketball and baseball coach and assistant football coach at Luzerne High School. He also coached senior high school basketball at Valley West.

Lutsey and his wife, Audrey, reside at Split Rail Lane, Dallas. As secretary to the board he will receive \$2,000 per year.

Dallas senior high head girls varsity hockey coach Robyn Jones submitted her resignation in order to pursue her masters degree. The coaching position will be advertised.

Mrs. Betty Gensel, who has been employed by the Dallas School District for 31 years, announced her resignation as executive secretary to superintendent Gerald Wycallis, effective July, 1988. The board accepted Mrs. Gensel's resignation with regrets.

A request to apply the \$25 allowed per athlete in accordance with the athletic handbook for the purchase of rings for members of the Dallas Eastern Conference championship football team was approved unanimously by the board.



Dallas Post/Charlot N. Denmon

## For that special someone

Some young lady will be very happy with this gentleman's Valentine's Day purchase. Flowers are a popular gift, along with candy and beautifully decorated cards. Happy Valentine's Day!

# How much does it cost to say "I love you"?

BY DEBBY HIGGINS  
Post Editor

Valentine's Day is for lovers. It has been said, birds choose their mates on February 14, thereby setting a fine example on which to base a holiday for lovers of all kinds.

Red hearts, chubby cupids, mushy-worded cards, and sweet treats mark the occasion when being in love needs to be shouted from the rooftops or whispered in an ear.

A holiday with origins in Roman times, has grown into a commercial enterprise that involves florists, jewelers, candy makers, travel agents, and purveyors of exotic merchandise.

What was once celebrated with an inexpensive card and a peck on the cheek, is now an occasion when lovebirds can spend a lot of birdseed.

For those who have their hearts set on a bouquet of velvety, red roses as an expression of fondness from their sweethearts, don't be surprised at the cost of that sentiment.

Locally, the lovely blossoms can cost anywhere from \$20 to

\$50 and upwards a dozen. In larger cities, \$100 is not an outlandish figure for a token of someone's love. Carnations, still lovely but not quite as rosey, average about one dollar a piece. Other types of flowers are given but none express someone's love as well as the rose.

Another token of a sweetheart's affection is rapidly becoming a traditional Valentine's Day gift.

The diamond heart, placed on a chain and hung around the neck of the lady of a man's dreams, is a gift some hope to get but few receive.

Take several diamonds, place them, each in a 18 carat mounting in the shape of a heart, and hang the sparkling symbol on an 18-inch, 14 carat gold chain. Place on some well-deserving neck. There's no need to accompany the ritual with an "I love you". If the recipient doesn't realize the giver has spent \$700 to \$1500 or more on the bauble, which should give the receiver some indication of the extent of the giver's affections, then an "I love you" certainly won't convince her. It would seem

sort of redundant, anyway. Diamonds made into jewelry for other places on the person is also sometimes given. Many a diamond ring, indicating a more permanent, long-term affection, has been given on Valentine's Day. The cost? Suffice it to say, a little or quite a lot.

For those stung by cupid's arrows who have a sweet tooth, confections of chocolate are a welcomed gift.

Top of the line chocolates, boxed in ornate, heart-shaped containers that may become heirlooms in themselves, vary from \$2.95 to \$22.50 a pound and more.

Lady Godiva, the chocolate lover's chocolate sold in better department stores, has become synonymous with experiencing a taste of heaven on earth. At \$22.50 per pound, it's plain to see the high cost of satisfying a sweet tooth and saying "I love you" at the same time.

For lovers with a lot of affection but who are short on funds, a one-pound cellophane bag of sugary, miniature hearts that say, "Be Mine" and "Sweet Gal" costs about \$1.79. They get the job done at a cut-rate price.

For the ultimate expression of love that is less one-sided, a get-away weekend for two is a mutual way to celebrate the holiday.

Take two people, pack some things in a bag, hop in the car and drive to one of the many resorts located in the nearby Pocono Mountains.

Heart shaped hot tubs and beds, romantic fireplaces, and room service champagne await Valentine's Day celebrants who really care to spend some bucks.

A "let's be alone together" Valentine vacation, can cost several hundred dollars.

Many couples also take other trips on the holiday to ski, gamble, or relax on the beach. Costs again vary, depending on how long the couple wishes to stay and how far they wish to go. But the good outweighs the bad when two can spend a few days in Bermuda in the middle of February.

Valentine's Day gift-giving has expanded to include cars, fur coats, and boats. The price tag grows larger along with the gift and the degree of sentiment, or so it would seem.

For most, (including this writer), a simple card containing hinged words signed by that special someone, and maybe a peck on the cheek, is enough to get the message across. The price tag? About \$1.25. Happy Valentine's Day!



Dallas Post/Charlot N. Denmon

Those were the days! — Don Kahler and Al Mahler discuss some of their experiences they had aboard World War II destroyers in 1942 to 1944.

# W.W. II destroyer vets remember big ships

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

News stories of the sailors on escort duty in the Persian Gulf bring back vivid memories to Al Mahler of Dallas, and his good friend, Don Kahler of Muncy.

The two men, former members of the United States Coast Guard, were among the 1200 sailors who served on the destroyer escort ships making up the Coast Guard Flotilla during World War II. There were six of these ships with 200 men on each one, that ran convoys in the Atlantic and later in the Pacific.

The destroyer escorts were named that by the government but they were nicknamed "DE's" by the men which stood for "Destroyer Expendable" because so many times these by comparison, small ships saved the large convoys carrying men as well as the aircraft ships.

These six ships and the men aboard them were from the 20th Division of the U.S. Coast Guard which normally is under jurisdiction of the Treasury Department but during World War II were under jurisdiction of the United States Navy.

Mahler served on the U.S.S. Pettit and Kahler on the U.S.S. Hurst but never knew each other until they met at one of the division's conventions several years ago and became good friends.

All but one of the DE's are gone, the lone one remaining is the former U.S.S. Hurst which was sold to the Mexican Navy after World War II and renamed the "Comodoro Manuel Szueta". The former

DE docked in Philadelphia last August but is now in Australia on duty for Mexico.

The ships now doing the job of the DE's are the FFG's of which the U.S.S. Stark is an example. Mahler and Kahler expressed their deep appreciation for the job today's men are doing on escort duty in the Persian Gulf.

"Traveling down the Persian Gulf is similar to our going across the Atlantic 43 years ago," said Mahler. "Our ships ran 24 convoys across the Atlantic, to Africa, British Isles and other parts of Europe."

The DE's were known as the 'Lucky 20' after their division and were the only group of escort ships in the Atlantic, who never lost a ship in enemy action from 1943 through 1944.

"During our tour of duty in the Atlantic we had two enemies," Kahler said. "German submarines and the North Atlantic. For weeks we braved the cold, rough waters of the Atlantic. The DE's were only 300 feet long and 34 feet wide. When standing on the deck, we were only six feet above water. The hull was only 3/8 inches thick. These ships were made in 34 days but they were the most successful in the war."

The DE's were used to attack enemy ships and also protected convoys carrying U.S. Marines.

The Hurst and Pettit served as escort ships on trips to Africa and to the Mediterranean and spent about three months on the water. On other trips they were gone only 32 days.

Mahler and Kahler were seamen stood watch on the guns

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