

Editorial/opinion

Editorials

The truly brave

We moved, we married, graduated, bought a new car, a house. We had children, an operation, finished the class, the semester. We saw our own children do the same and now we may be looking forward to retirement. Throughout, confrontations with the daily struggles of life and with our ultimate end made and enriched our lives. There's a glimmer of gallantry in all of this. We are the brave.

Yet these moments pale in comparison to the incredible courage of good men and women in past generations who unequivocally gave life and limb for society's benefit. They physically confronted politics gone mad, oppression, and injustice. So they should never be forgotten. They are dear to our hearts at all times; especially so at Memorial Day.

Today, around the world - in Poland, in South Africa, in Afghanistan - the same sacrifices are being made to bring the noble ends of freedom and justice for all men. For freedom is a status based on courage. As we live our lives and face the dragons that confront us, we need to remember the sacrifice of the ones who came before us. So, along with a chorus of voices, we add our salute to the very brave among us and departed who were honored on Memorial Day, 1988.

Congratulations, Knights

Championship seasons are always memorable, but for the Lake-Lehman boys' baseball team, just being champions wasn't enough this year. Congratulations to them on finishing the season atop the Wyoming Valley Conference with an unblemished 14-0 record.

The Black Knights expected a strong year even though they had lost five key starters to graduation last spring. But it's unlikely they expected their perfect record.

Now it's on to the district playoffs with a game today against Scranton Prep. We wish the Knights all the best, and hope their winning ways continue.

Andy Rooney

BY ANDY ROONEY
Special to The Post

Could I be excused for liking a letter that praises something I've written better than one that denounces me as an ignorant, opinionated idiot?

The best negative letters I get and the ones I'm most apt to take to heart are the ones that begin, "Usually I agree with what you say, but I was very disappointed with what you said today." Those get to me. I worry about having done something wrong.

The letter that's a little angrier begins, "I have been reading your column in our local paper for many years but after today, I will never read it again." I always hope the editor doesn't see those.

Miriam Stephens of the Reading (Pa.) Education Association criticizes me in the nicest way possible. She points out that I wrote, "Why did the people who built the house only install two electrical outlets?"

She says she is not criticizing me but wants to know if it is now considered proper to put the word, "only" on either side of the verb.

Come on Miriam! I can take it. I was wrong and you know it. It should have read "install only two electrical outlets."

Mark Caldwell of Marietta, Ga., says I'm wrong in referring to "a grammatical error." If it's grammatical, he claims, it isn't an error. Mark suggests I should have said "an error in grammar."

Liana Lanswing of Denver puts me at ease.

"Keep on writing," she says, "and include some mistakes - it gives us nitpickers something to

write about."

The column I did about Israel and the Palestinians on the West Bank evoked some vicious mail.

"Your knowledge of history regarding Israel is due to lack of knowledge or self ignorance," writes Cecelia Lent from West Palm Beach, Fla. "The Israelis never attacked first! They attack only in retaliation."

Only one "I" in "retaliation," Cecelia.

"Why don't you concentrate on your fellow Irish problems? Your remarks are one-sided, biased, anti-semitic and only bring out the hatred you have..."

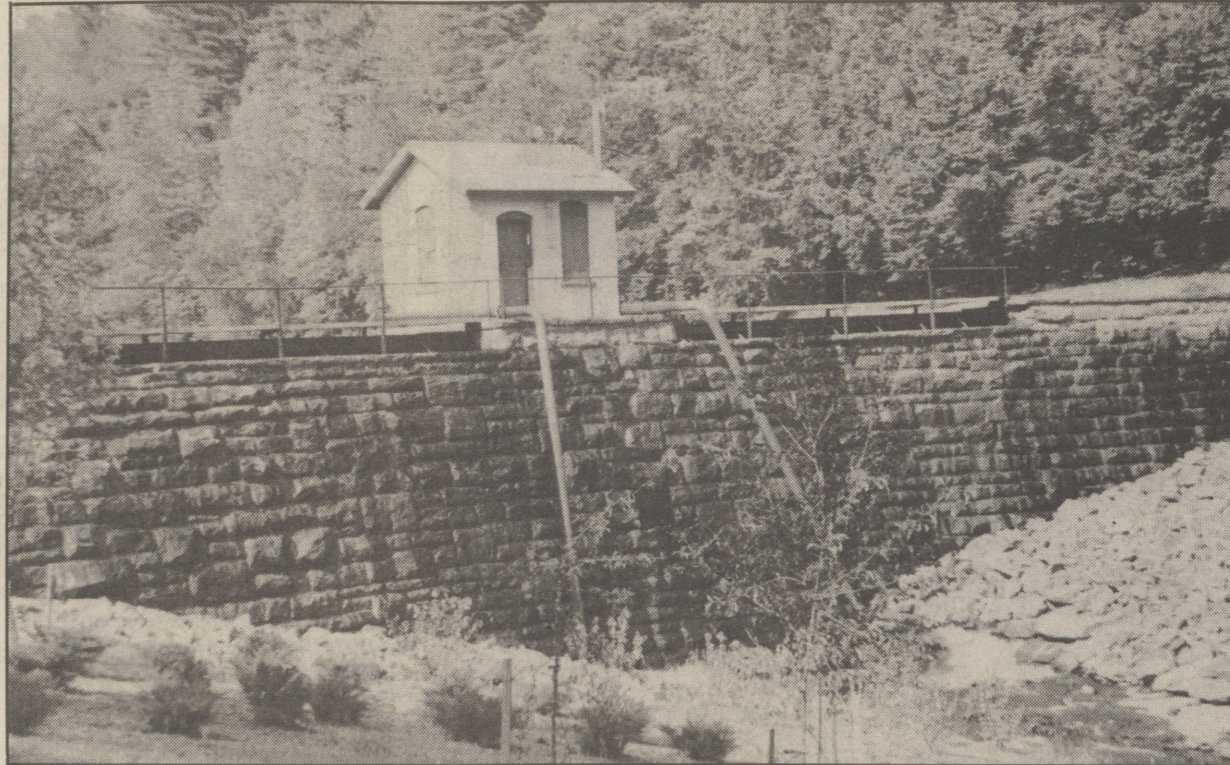
That's "anti-Semitic," not "anti-Semetic," Cecelia.

Robert Brok of Reading, Pa., wrote a very good letter, which I disliked getting because he was so moderate and sensible in his criticism.

"Your article is a disservice to our one real friend in the Middle East and a disappointment to many of your readers."

It irritates me when the militant pro-Semites accuse anyone who criticizes anything Jewish or who criticizes any Israeli action, as being anti-Semitic. As someone who spent four years of his life helping to destroy a regime that committed the most monstrous acts in all history, I need make no apology for my opinions about current Israeli leadership. I am embarrassed by the actions of Israel's leaders today and I am nervous because I see in the situation the potential for the revival of the kind of anti-Semitism I dread and detest.

Thanks for your letters. Try to be nice to me.



Tranquil scene

Landscaping around the dam at the Huntsville reservoir has made this spot even more attractive on a warm bright day

Letters

Dallas board action shortchanged students, ignored voters concerns

Dear Editor:

On May 24, 1988, in front of a packed, overcrowded board room, the Dallas School Board held a controversial budget meeting. After Board members arrived at 7:35 to begin a meeting which was scheduled for 7:00, the members hastily voted for a ten mill tax increase instead of the 15 mill increase previously publicized. Students, parents, teachers and community residents did not come in force to combat the proposed increase, but rather came, through no coercion as insinuated, to ask how the board could justify a modified proposal at the expense of curriculum and student benefits.

Repeatedly, attendees requested specifics regarding which programs would be cut, what departments would suffer staff cuts, and which elective programs would be severed. Instead of answers and a well prepared plan offered, the board had vague and indecisive replies.

Although teachers cited clear instances where a difference in class size did not justify removal of a program or instructor, the board stressed education based on numbers. Although students pleaded and strived for current programs to be retained and ample teachers for each course provided, no assurances were made by the Board that their requests would be honored. Also, even though parent after parent stated that they were willing to "pay the price" for quality education, and stated over and over again that they wanted the district to be progressive and move ahead academically, socially, artistically and in all other avenues, the Board provided no alternatives to the 10 mill plan with attendant cuts.

I cannot believe that I witnessed a situation where the public loudly

Thanks Post for therapy story

Dear Dallas Post:
Let me take this time to thank you for a superb job done on the article "Therapy Dogs" by Charlot Denmon, Staff Writer.

I am sure the article will prove to have a positive effect on the

and earnestly voiced a request for a revote, and the gavel sounded that the meeting was adjourned.

My husband and I "chose" Dallas a long time ago, before any of our four children began their formal education. We chose it because we were assured it was a progressive district where academic excellence was strived for, class size was monitored, and music, sports, art and other elective programs were encouraged and enthusiastically supported. Instead we are finding a district where fiscal planning has been short sighted, and programs conducive to learning for all students are being exposed to extinction because the Board doesn't have the intestinal fortitude to request an adequate tax base from the public.

Dallas District is losing out because of the tactics the Board of Education is using to pay for the education it is providing. It is even sadder to note that the children of Dallas Area are losing out because of poor performance by the people entrusted with their education process.

I can only hope that this unfortunate situation can be handled so that all parties involved can reach a solution which is fair to each faction, but most of all I hope and pray that a decision is being contemplated where the children and their right to an adequate public education, the backbone of our nation, is the primary objective of everyone involved.

Hopefully, at future meetings the Board will have the courtesy to listen to the people who elect them and serve the needs of the children in the Dallas District.

Sincerely,
Pamela M. Langdon
Shavertown

Sincerely,
Janice Blight

From the capitol

Bill would list campus crimes

Rep. George C. Hasay on May 25, urged the governor to approve legislation which would require universities and colleges to annually report campus crime statistics to the state police and make the information available to prospective students and faculty.

The legislation was introduced at the urging of a Pennsylvania couple whose daughter was murdered in her dormitory room at Lehigh University in 1986.

"Too often crime statistics and security measures at our colleges and universities are not well publicized," said Hasay, a cosponsor of the measure.

"Parents expect their sons and daughters to live in a safe environment while attending college. They assume the climate is secure and that proper protective measures have been taken," he said.

Under House Bill 1900, colleges and universities would have to report crime statistics to the State Police each year and provide each prospective student and new employee with a copy of the report if requested.

In addition to the annual crime report, the institutions also would have to provide information on security policies and procedures to all faculty members and students.

Any institutions failing to provide the information would be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000.

"Parents and students who are investing tens of thousands of dollars for a college education have every right to know the record of major crimes on campus and security measures before attending the school," Hasay said.

"Attending college for the first time in an unfamiliar area can be an especially difficult time for a young person," he noted. "Colleges and universities should inform students of dangerous neighborhoods and encourage them to take precautions when they travel."

Hasay said the bill was approved unanimously in both the House and Senate. The governor has until June 4 to consider the measure.

"Ideally, this bill will become law in time for the 1988-89 academic year," Hasay said.

'88 area grads from Penn State

About 6,600 students received degrees at Penn State's spring commencement exercises May 14 and 15. The following Back Mountain students received their degrees:

DALLAS: David C. Aicher, Red Ledge Dr., A Eng. 2 yr. Electrical Engineering Technology, (Wilkes-Barre); Bert A. Baloga, 10 Hillcrest Dr., B.S. Psychology-BS Degree (University Park); Michael H. Brody, 31 Claude St., A Eng. 2 yr. Telecommunications Technology, (Wilkes-Barre); John C. Burke, 57 Gordon Ave., MBA Business Administration (University Park); Walte Grabenstetter, 25 Saginaw St., BS Real Estate (University Park); Deirdre E. Havey, 16 Glendalough Rd., BS Marketing (University Park); David B. Hislop, RD 3, Box 203, A Eng. 2 yr. Electrical Engineering Technology (Wilkes-Barre); Cheryl A. Lamoreux, 31 Westminster Dr., BS Secondary Education (University Park); Cathy A. Major, RD 2, Box 315-2, BS Biology (University Park); Debbie T. Miliauskas, Box 213A, E. 42nd St., B.S. Quantitative Business Analysis (University Park).

Also: Gerald H. Rollman, 10-11 Jackson St., BS Structural Design-Construction Eng. Te. (Capital College); Anne L. Ryan, RD 2, Box 253A, A A 2 yr. Letters, Arts, Science (Wilkes-Barre); Brian S. Schaffer, 119n Oval Dr., BS Computer Science (University Park); Cristi A. Strauser, 7 Pear Tree Lane, BA Telecommunications (University Park); Stephen J. Strazdus, RD 3, Box 302a, BS Electrical Engineering with Highest Distinction (University Park); Stuart L. Thomas, RD 4, Box 209b, BS Business Logistics (University Park); Alicen L. Vangorder, RD 2, Box 359, A Eng. 2 yr. Telecommunications Technology (Wilkes-Barre); Mark S. Weaver, 24 Sterling Ave., A Eng. 2 yr. Telecommunications Technology (Wilkes-Barre); Maria C. Ziolkowski, 411 Elmcrest Dr., BS Mathematics, BS Degree (University Park).

HARVEYS LAKE: Russell C. Baer, RD 2, Box 47, BS Biology (University Park); Sean D. Billings, RD 2, A Eng. 2 yr. Electrical Engineering Technology (Wilkes-Barre); Andrew T. Jubis, RD 1, Box 351 A, A Eng. 2 yr. Architectural Engineering Technology (Worthington-Scranton); Thomas MacDougall, RD 2, Box 429, A Eng. 2 yr. Telecommunications Technology (Wilkes-Barre).

HUNLOCK CREEK: Robert L. Sando, RD 2, BS Psychology, BS Degree (University Park); Dorraine Superko, RD 1, Box 302, AS 2 yr. Business Administration (Wilkes-Barre); Mark R. Williams, RD 1, Box 263, A Eng. 2 yr. Nuclear Engineering Technology, (Beaver).

LEHMAN: Patrick J. Musinski, PO Box 134, AS 2 yr. Business Administration (Wilkes-Barre).

SHAVERTOWN: Karen L. Banks, 339 Howell Rd., BS Accounting (University Park); Kelly A. Evanish, 720 Park Ave., A Eng. 2 yr. Telecommunications Technology With High Distinction (Wilkes-Barre); Marlyn A. Wisniewski, 216 Chestnut St., BS Finance (University Park).

TRUCKSVILLE: Stephen J. Federici, 91 S. Pioneer Ave., BA Telecommunications (University Park); Michael A. Yasnowski, 223 Holly St., A Eng. 2 yr. Telecommunications Technology (Wilkes-Barre).

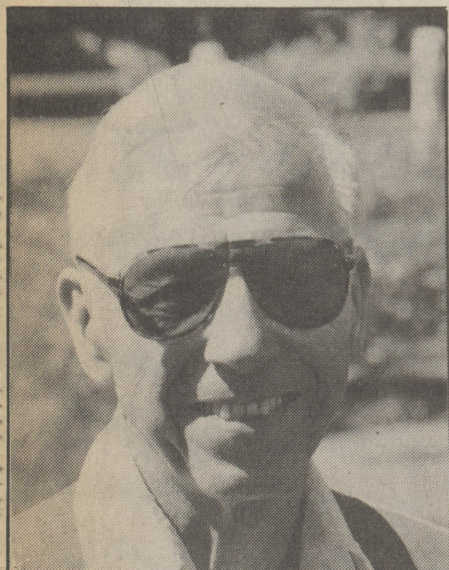
WYOMING: Patricia T. Allen, RD 3, Box 90, BS Nutrition (University Park); Thomas Baseski, Box 146A RD 3, A Eng. 2 yr. Electrical Engineering Technology (Wilkes-Barre); Michael J. Corcoran, RD 3, Box 144, BS Chemical Engineering (University Park).

THE DALLAS POST

RONALD A. BARTIZEK
Editor and Publisher

CHARLOTTE E. BARTIZEK
Associate Publisher

The Post asks: "Should the size of motors on Harveys Lake be limited?"



Bernard Ambrose

Bernard Ambrose
Businessman
Harveys Lake

"I don't care what the size of the motor is, if the operator is responsible I think that's what's important. They should have specified inlets and outlets for traffic and a way to divert boat traffic from the shore line."



Heather Williams

Heather Williams
Student
Harveys Lake

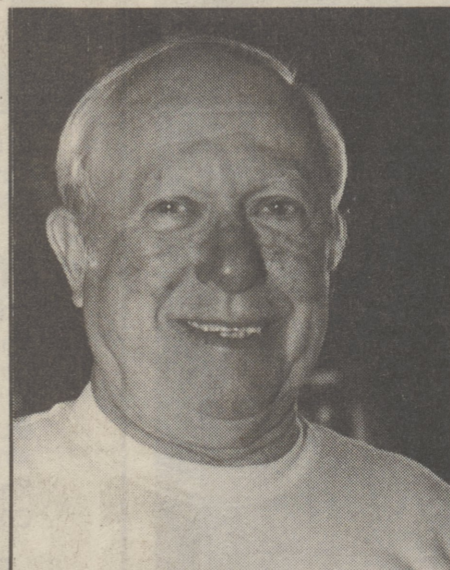
"No, I don't, as long as they're careful with what they're doing there shouldn't be a problem."



Charlie Cavill

Charlie Cavill
Unemployed
Harveys Lake

"Yeah, there should be, it would be safer for the people who ski. Then there's always people drinking, going too fast and they could hit a log or something."



Dick Williams

Dick Williams
Retired
Harveys Lake

"Yes, I think with the smaller boats it would be safer for the swimmers and divers and a lot better for the fishermen."



Katherine Jones

Katherine Jones
Sunshine Markets employee
Harveys Lake

"Yes, I do, they're too dangerous and they go too fast. The people are often drinking and partying on boats and it's dangerous."