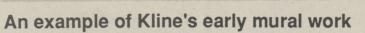
6 The Dallas Post Dallas, PA Wednesday, January 10, 1990



Marilyn and Phillip Santareli of Harveys Lake



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The Band played on...



Betty McDonald, Wilkes-Barre

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Reception for Franz Kline exhibit at Misericordia

The beginnings of the art style known as abstract expressionism will be on display at the MacDonald Art Gallery at College Misericordia through January 30, when the College features "Franz Kline: the Lost Murals and Early Works" exhibition.

This exhibition, which opens the Gallery's 1990 schedule, is important because the murals laid the groundwork for Kline's later work as an abstract expressionist, said Brian J. Benedetti, gallery director. The murals also show Kline's use of an "intuitive lyrical line," Benedetti added.

Kline painted the five murals in 1933 on the wood-slat paneled walls of a Lehighton roller-skating rink. The paintings, which show five different performing jazz musicians, were saved when the rink was torn down some years later. Edward Halter Meneeley, a friend and colleague of Kline and a wellknown abstract expressionist artist from Weissport, recently came upon the murals' owners and arranged for their public showing.

In these paintings, Kline imitated the style of 1920's illustrator John Held, Jr., but used his own loose brushstrokes and curving

lines to give the musicians an and open to the public. The energetic, improvised attitude, MacDonald Art Gallery hours are: energetic, improvised attitude, MacDonald Art Gallery hours are: Benedetti noted. Lighthearted Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursballoons and musical notes wafting through the background add a festive air, he added.

Kline, who was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1910, grew up in Lehighton and later moved to Greenwich Village, N.Y. At his death in 1962, he was seen as one of the world's foremost abstract expressionistic painters and a member of the "New York School," an important part of the abstract expressionist movement.

This important exhibition is free

day, 12-5, 6-8 p.m.; Friday, 12-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; closed Monday. The Gallery is located in Regina Hall, adjacent to the Rosenn Plaza on the College Misericordia campus.

Photos by **Charlotte Bartizek**

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