

# THE DALLAS POST

## EDITORIALS

### American people are hungry for real, meaningful change

Bush administration officials are scurrying around trying to figure out why so much of the American public seemed unimpressed with the President's state of the union speech last week. The address itself was a good one, delivered in a more natural style than has characterized some of Mr. Bush's appearances. The problem wasn't the delivery; it was the message.

There's no doubt that the President staked too much on this single event. For the last several weeks he referred inquiries about his plans for the economy to this speech, and expectations that he would announce sweeping new initiatives mounted steadily. Then, as the day approached, the White House staff began to downplay the significance of the address and leaked tidbits of the President's plans to the press.

There haven't been many arguments with Mr. Bush's short-term prescription to deal with a slow economy. Pumping extra money into consumers' pockets is a time honored fix to boost economic output, and the President's medicine will probably do some good. There's some fear that the deficit will increase as a result, but most people — layman and expert alike — will make that tradeoff in the short run. The disappointment came when Mr. Bush listed his long-term agenda, most of which sounded like a rehash of his 1988 campaign.

Whether the statistics justify it or not, many Americans are frightened. That's because most of us know in our hearts that our nation has not held itself up to the standards we once expected of ourselves. We've let our educational system take a back seat to material consumption, we don't take care of the poor and needy as we should, we don't demand accountability from those who receive government assistance and too few of us strive for excellence in our workplace. That has made us apprehensive, and rightly so:

- What if we lose our job, because our company can't compete in the international market?
- Losing the job would probably mean losing our health insurance, or having to spend an unconscionable amount of money to keep it. But going without it is a one-way ticket to poverty should illness strike.
- Worst of all, we've temporarily lost hope for the future; the belief that at least our children's world will be better than ours.

For nearly 20 years we've signed on to the notion that lower taxes, less government and more incentives for the rich to get richer were the keys to a secure future. We were told, and many nodded approvingly, that unfettered free-market capitalism would provide an ever-rising tide of wealth that would raise all boats. It hasn't worked that way, and the present crisis of confidence flows from our willingness to believe that markets — not thinking, feeling human beings — could best direct our progress.

The American people are ready to trade in their blind faith in the market; to shape their national fate with their own hands. They now know that unrestrained capitalism is great for financial buccaners, but it leaves a lot to be desired for everyone else. The scales of false hope that they'll make a million have fallen from their eyes, and they're ready to bolster the benefits of the free market by applying the wisdom of human experience.

Our leaders must offer more than an extension of past practices. The American people are hungry for real change and progress. They are ready to face the challenges presented by a radically-changed world. We need leaders like the President to recognize that fact, to listen and to search the globe for the best ideas with which to reshape our destiny.

Give Mr. Bush credit for reminding us of the monumental changes that have taken place in the world in only one year. He was correct to point out that the cold war is over and to honor the sacrifices of the men and women who fought in Korea, Vietnam and other places. Taking all the credit for the United States seemed a bit extreme, but there's no doubt that our perseverance was a key factor in the West's triumph. But in the end, communism may have died as much from that system's own economic and spiritual failings as from our military might. We must now be careful that the same fate doesn't befall us.

As we approach the new millennium, there really is a new world order. The United States is an important part of it, but we are not immune to the changes that are rapidly taking place. The American people know that; we need leaders who do, as well.

### Do you agree? Disagree?

Editorials are the opinion of the management of The Dallas Post. We welcome your opinion on contemporary issues in the form of letters to the editor. If you don't write, the community may never hear a contrasting point of view. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Please include your name, address and a daytime phone number so that we may verify authenticity. We reserve the right to edit for length and grammar.

**THE DALLAS POST**

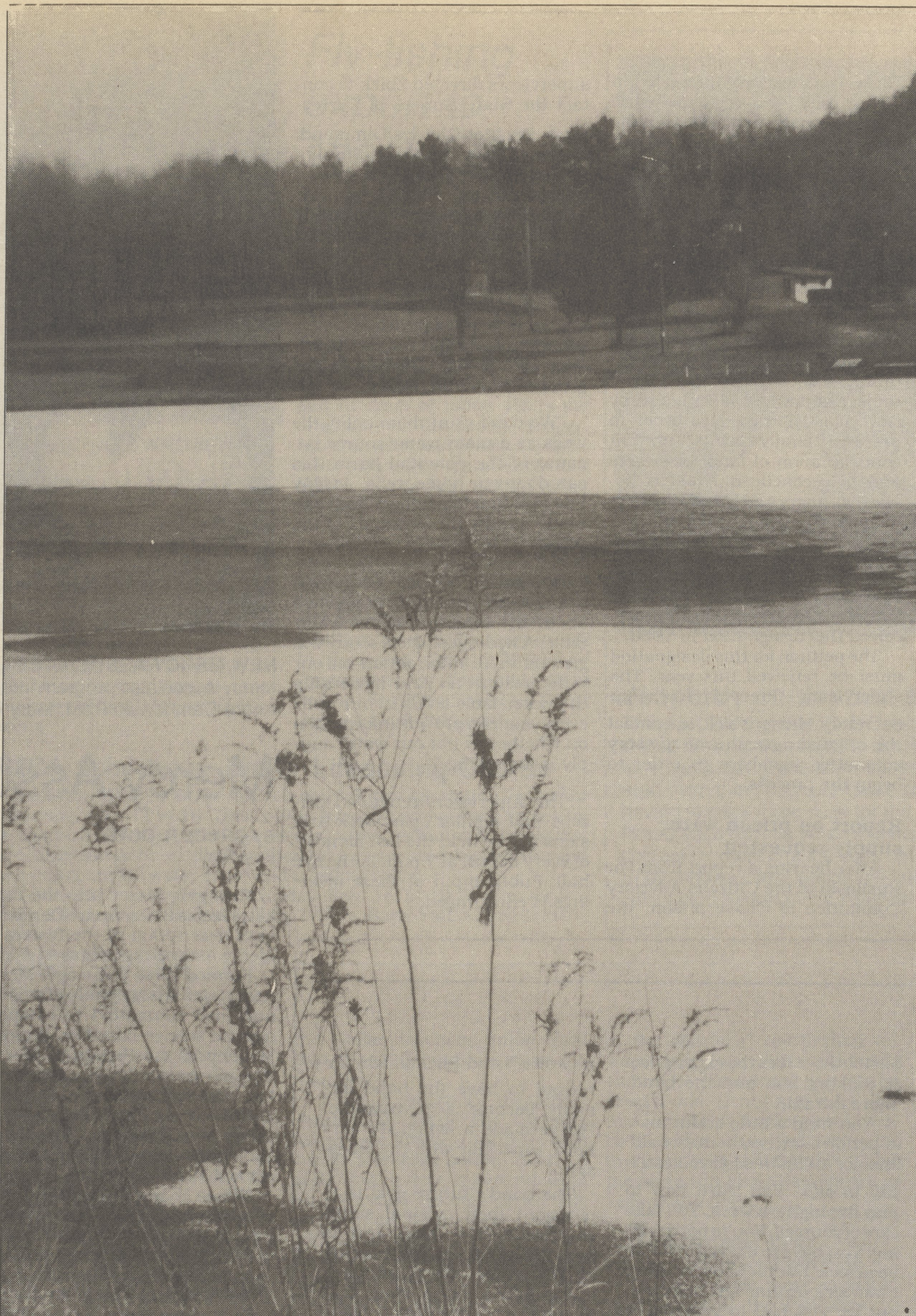
Published Weekly by Bartsen Media, Inc.  
P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612  
Telephone: 717-675-5211

<p><b>Ronald A. Bartzek</b> Editor and Publisher</p> <p><b>Peggy Young</b> Advertising Acct. Exec.</p> <p><b>Paul Rismiller</b> Production Manager</p>	<p><b>Charlotte E. Bartzek</b> Associate Publisher</p> <p><b>Eric Foster</b> Reporter</p> <p><b>Olga Kostrobala</b> Classified/typesetting</p> <p><b>Jean Hillard</b> Office Manager</p>
--	--

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION  
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

### 100th Infantry looking for WW II members

The 100th Infantry Division Association is looking for men who served in the division from 1942 to 1945 in World War II. The 100th "Century" Division fought in France and Germany in the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central European campaigns. Over 30,000 men served in the 100th which trained at Ft. Jackson, S.C. and at Ft. Bragg, N.C. before going overseas in 1944 to join the Seventh Army. Former members, 5,000 of whom have already been located, can obtain more information by calling (215) 699-9498 or contacting William H. Young, Jr., 307 No. Main St., North Wales, PA 19454.



Nature in winter, Frances Slocum Park

Photo by Charlotte Bartzek

## Letters

### Restaurant manager sets record straight

Editor:  
I would like to express my views concerning the robbery at the Hanover Bank and what happened at the Bonanza Restaurant. The only officers in the restaurant that night were two borough police officers and two plain clothes F.B.I. agents. The only officers in the dining area at any time were the two F.B.I. agents. The two plain clothes officers that entered the dining area with our permission made themselves appear to be looking for family members or friends. Our employees were not

even aware that there were agents in the dining area. I would like to state that at no time would the owner or I have allowed the officers to enter if we thought there was even the slightest possibility of any type of confrontation with or disturbance of any of our guests, employees or management team. It is possible that someone could have become aware of the uniformed officers presence had they caught a glimpse of them in the kitchen area where they remained. Prior to leaving the restaurant,

the officers asked if there was a phone they could use. We offered the use of our office phone but they refused stating that they didn't want to enter the dining area in full uniform and possible upset our guests or arouse suspicion. I would like to commend the Back Mountain officers, State Police, F.B.I. and all those involved for handling this matter with great expertise and decision making, and for their concern for the safety of all.  
Charles Bloss Jr.  
Manager

### A. Case for conservation

## Let's see if Pa. has any champion trees

By ALENE N. CASE

One of the first essays I ever wrote was entitled "The Majestic Oak." It was inspired by a huge tree viewed from my bedroom window in the village of Altamont, NC where I spent my teen-age years. In my earliest childhood in Celso, NC, long before I saw the skyscrapers of a city like New York, I would give directions using the "twin towers" as a reference. These "towers" were two exceptionally tall white pines across the river from my home. After moving to Pennsylvania in 1978, my husband and I hiked with our children to see the big trees in Rickett's Glen. These were only slightly less spectacular than the mammoth trees my parents showed me in the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest on the North Carolina-Tennessee border.

Judging from the latest issue of *American Forests*, there are many other people who share this fascination with very large trees. The "1992 National Register of Big Trees" is a list of the largest known specimens of more than 700 different kinds of trees. It also includes maps of sections of the country showing where each special tree is located. Of course, I immediately looked at Pennsylvania and found only nine dots! Michigan is about the same size and it has 76. Even Connecticut has eight champions! How could Penn's Woods be so insignificant?

There are two possible explanations. Loggers clear-cut this state around the turn of the century (if you don't believe me, visit the coffee shop at the Prince Hotel in Tunkhannock and look at the photographs on the wall-Tunkhannock was once the timber capitol

of the world!) Did you ever notice that the woodlands of PA seem to be about the same age? The demand for agricultural land and forest products destroyed most of the forests for which our state was named. The vision of a forester named Gifford Pinchot, who was also a two-term governor, led to the protection and restoration of land in state and national forests. It has taken sixty to ninety years for the "Woods" to return. And that is not enough time to grow a champion.

But, the loggers obviously spared Rickett's Glen. And they spared a huge chinquapin oak near Reading that was the National Champ until some upstart from Illinois dethroned it this year. This leads us to the second explanation. It seems to me that we may have champion trees but no one has nominated them. A quick look at the nine Big Trees listed for Pennsylvania shows that three of them were nominated by the same man. He must live in the Philadelphia area. Seven of the nine trees

are clustered in southeastern PA. Perhaps that is the only area where people are aware of this program.

I propose that the readers of this column join me in putting Pennsylvania back on the forest map. Let's begin looking for exceptionally large trees. If you suspect that you know one that might qualify, please contact me in care of this newspaper. I will try to help you measure the tree or find someone who can. The three important measurements are the circumference of the trunk 4.5 feet above the ground, the height of the tree, and the breadth of its canopy. There are over 100 tree species for which no champion has been named, so it may not even be necessary to knock out a current champ. Remember that some trees do not grow very large; a big dogwood will be much smaller than a big catalpa.

So, let me hear from you. I'll let you know if we make any progress. And, in the meanwhile, nurture any future champions now under your care.

### Nominations sought for Brader Award

A volunteer panel of judges representing United Way of Wyoming Valley's 1992 Rose Brader Community Service Award has established February 20, 1992 as the deadline for nominations.

The committee is encouraging organizations and individuals to nominate local residents who render valuable service to others throughout the Greater Wyoming Valley area.

Under criteria established for the award, the nominee's provi-

sion of service could have been rendered to an individual in need, an organization or a certain segment of the community.

Nomination forms may be obtained by contacting the United Way office at 9 E. Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, or by calling 829-6711.

The award recipient will be honored at United Way's Awards Dinner scheduled for March 18, 1992.

## Only yesterday

### 60 Years Ago - Feb. 5, 1932 'MONKEY BUSINESS' PLAYING AT THE HIMMLER THEATRE

Fire believed to have originated from short circuit automobile wiring completely destroyed a garage and two automobiles on the property of Mrs. Charles Brobst, Dallas early Thursday morning. Loss is estimated at more than \$2000.

Now playing at the Himmler Theatre - "Monkey Business" with The Four Marx Brothers.

### 50 Years Ago - Feb. 6, 1942 MEASLES EPIDEMIC STRIKES 150 IN NOXEN

Gov. Arthur H. James has called attention to the fact that all men over 20 and under 45 must register for Selective Service on Monday, Feb. 16.

In the worst epidemic in a decade, measles has struck Noxen.

The Post has complete arrangements to send this newspaper free of charge to every Back Mountain boy who is now serving in Uncle Sam's Army or Navy.

Warren J. Hicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks Jr., former member of the editorial staff of The Dallas Post has enlisted in the Army Air Corps and will leave for Maxwell Field, Alabama, Feb. 15.

### 40 Years Ago - Feb. 8, 1952

### STREET DEPT. WAGES RISE TO \$1 AN HOUR

Wages of Borough Street Department employees were upped approximately 20% from 85¢ to \$1 an hour, Tuesday night at the Dallas Borough Council meeting.

Lehman-Jackson High School is sending William Rinkin and Florence Sobieski to Northeast District Chorus Festival, Feb. 21, 22 and 23 in Montrose.

A mad fox which attacked two dogs in Trucksville, Wednesday evening was shot and killed by Dan Ryzdzewski.

Engaged - Vera Whitesell to Gilbert Tough.

Wed - Ola Mae Montross to George Schoonover; Lorraine Casterline to Robert A. Moore.

"Starlift" in technicolor, with Doris Day and Gordon MacRae now playing at Himmler Theatre.

### 30 Years Ago - Feb. 8, 1962

### PRESBYTERIAN EDIFICE WILL BE BUILT NEAR JUNIOR HIGH

United Presbyterian Fellowship by the action of The Presbytery on Saturday, will definitely locate the new church edifice on a seven-acre plot adjacent to Dallas Junior High School on the road leading to Irem Country Club.

James E. Hutchinson, Franklin Street has purchased the Main Street Building, formerly occupied by Hislop's Market from James Beseker and will open a modern hardware store about the first of March.

George Horwatt on his way to Forty Fort Airport landed his helicopter on Culver Island in response to a call for help by Forty Fort police. Paul Hughes playing on the shore of the Susquehanna fell through the melting ice, was able to make his way to Culver Island, but was unable to return. His playmates notified his parents who notified police and firemen.

On the local high school scene, Dallas opened the second half by dropping a 56-48 decision to Swoyersville. Lake-Lehman dropped its first two starts of the second half, losing to Ashley 81-34 Friday night and dropping a 72-48 verdict to Swoyersville, Tuesday.

### 20 Years Ago - Feb. 10, 1972

### UNITED PENN BANK PLANS EXPANSION

A check for \$7,260 was presented to the Dallas School District Board of Directors at Tuesday's meeting by Robert Moore, Secretary of Luzerne County Housing Authority. The check represented money paid in lieu of taxes on Meadowcrest housing project in Kingston Township.

United Penn plans a \$100,000 expansion to the bank's existing facilities in the center of Dallas. Major feature of the project will be two new drive-in windows, and approach lanes to supplement the one in use now.

Nearly 100 books on criminology and legal aspects of crime fighting have been added to the shelves of the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The books represent the personal collection of Herbert H. Updyke former police chief of Kingston Township who died Nov. 3.

Lake-Lehman Knights bowed in their two games of the second half of the 1972 basketball season when Wyoming Seminary defeated them 72-45 Tuesday night and by Crestwood 61-57 Friday night.

Dallas cagers opened their second half in a 86-57 win over Hanover at Dallas.