

# Sewage discharged from Chase prison into Bidlack's Creek

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

Field inspectors from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (DER) recently inspected the second discharge of sewage within a year from the State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCID) into Bidlack's Creek in Jackson Township.

Bidlack's Creek originates near the Penn State campus, crosses

prison property and joins Harvey's Creek, a popular area trout stream, below Schooley's Bridge.

According to township resident Fred Murray, whose property Bidlack's Creek crosses, discharges in early April, 1992 and mid-January, 1993, turned the creek "pea-green" and caused it to smell terrible.

"In April, the prison told me that they had allowed a sewage holding tank to drain," Murray

said. "When DER tested a water sample from the creek, they said that the fecal coliform was over 8,000."

A bacteria found in sewage, fecal coliform is toxic to aquatic wildlife and can cause disease in humans.

Mark Carmon of the Wilkes-Barre DER office said that a field inspector's report of the latest incident indicated that the prison's sewage discharge was "a bit

cloudy," but that fish and aquatic insects downstream of the discharge pipe appeared to be unaffected.

The inspector took water samples for testing and is awaiting the results, Carmon said.

There is no uniform statewide minimum fecal coliform count for sewage treatment plant discharge; the minimum for each facility is determined by the plant's size and type and the size and water qual-

ity of the receiving stream, Carmon said.

"Obviously a small creek like Bidlack's can't tolerate the same amount of fecal coliform bacteria as a larger stream like the Susquehanna River," he continued.

"As an outdoorsman and fisherman, I don't like to see this," Murray said. "I've seen too much of a decline in the game fish population due to pollution in lakes and streams."

**Tax help available at Kingston Twp. March 11**

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Revenue will be at the Kingston Township Municipal Building on Thursday, March 11, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. to assist residents in preparing their 1992 Pennsylvania Tax Returns.

## GOOD LUCK! To the Dallas and Lake Lehman Wrestling Teams



**DALLAS MOUNTAINEERS** - Kneeling, from left, Rick Hodle, Mike Heffron, Harry Phillips, Chris Snyder, Cody Freidel, Glen Ellsworth, Mike View. Standing, Bill Janosky, assistant coach, Tim Raub, Adam Hoover, Mike Vavrek, Aaron Gingo, John Fiske, Jamie Oley, Sean Pietraccini, Bill Dierolf, Steve Kaschenbach, coach.



**LAKE-LEHMAN BLACK KNIGHTS** - First row, from left, Alan Raczewski, Rick Finnegan, Tim Sayre, Mike Stuart, Scott Kocher, Burke McGilvrey, Mike Pitcavage. Second row, John Morgan, Ryan Gold, Alan Scott, Bob Roberts, Burt Morgan, John Wood, Brian Meehan, Mike Budzak, Matt Keiper. Third row, Phil Lipski, co-coach, Vito Plosi, Paul Vandermolen, Rob Fugate, Eric Tuttle, Ben Sevenski, Brian Gizenski, Ed Pitcavage, Gary Cavill, Jim Alters, John Grutkowski, Tom Williams, co-coach.

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