



This photo taken by Charlotte Bartizek of the start of the 1994 Greater Wilkes-Barre Triathlon was voted the second best in the

nation in small weekly newspapers in the National Newspaper Association contest. It also won second place in the state contest.

Boaters

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competing with swimming pools, RV's, golf and other forms of recreation for money in a flat economy. Overregulation only drives the public away from boating, he wrote.

Copies of the letter were sent to Governor Tom Ridge, nine legislators and four boating trade associations.

Harveys Lake Mayor Rick Boice said he didn't know anything about the petition. Last year the borough council passed an ordinance which empowers the police to help the Fish and Boat Commission enforce the after dark no-wake speed limit.

"There are many accidents up here at dusk," Boice said. "There's no need to go screaming at a high speed across the lake in the dark. It gets very dark very quickly, especially if there's no moon or if it's cloudy."

Although the state boating code requires a white light at the stern (back) of a boat, a red light at the port bow (left front) and a green light at the starboard bow (right front), Boice said they're hard to see because they're often very small.

"Those little lights can come up on you very quickly," he said.

Harveys Lake Protective Association executive committee member Guy Giordano said his organization was instrumental in getting the controversial speed limit enacted.

"I'll tell you what the biggest problem is out there. It's alcohol."

Don LaBar
Boat store service manager

"People were concerned about the boaters' rights," he said. "I think they should leave the speed limit alone — it could save someone's life someday. I always felt it was a good idea. If you're seriously concerned about boating safety, it's silly to worry about a speed limit on the water."

The Protective Association has worked hard to get the state to pass boating safety laws, Giordano said. The rules of the road — which require boats to travel counterclockwise around a body of water and follow specific passing procedures — originated at the lake, he said.

For many years the Protective Association has placed special buoys marking no wake zones 100 feet offshore at the request of lakefront owners, who pay for them. The association also worked hard to get the borough to pass an ordinance prohibiting swimming outside the posted no wake zones as a safety measure, Giordano said.

LaBar's boat service manager Don LaBar said he hasn't seen any cuts in his business because of the lake's no-wake speed limit.

"The fishermen are probably the most upset about it," he said. "They think that by the time you get to your fishing spot using the no-wake speed, you've wasted a lot of time. I haven't heard any other complaints."

LaBar doesn't think all boaters obey the no-wake speed all the time because there aren't enough fish wardens to enforce it 24 hours a day at every section of the lake.

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Guy Giordano
Protective Ass'n member

"It's alcohol."

"I have no problem with the speed limit," said John Phillips, who regularly fishes Harveys Lake and blames many problems on the jet skis. "It's safer — it just takes you a little longer to get where you're going."

Carol Urban, who signed the petition, said most people she knows don't speed on the water at night anyway.

"A slower speed at night is fine, but no-wake speed is too slow," she said. "You're barely moving. You need a nice speed to move."

Most accidents which I have seen happened during the day anyway."

"We haven't had a night speed limit at the lake for 50 years," said Dale Campbell, who has boated at Harveys Lake for more than 40 years with no problems. "We don't need one now. The Fish Commission is trying to push this onto everyone. The real problem out here is drinking and boating, not speeding."

Before it makes a decision whether or not to keep the speed limit, the Fish and Boat Commission will study it and prepare a staff report listing its history, background, good points and negative points, and make recommendations on whether or not to uphold it. If it doesn't consider the speed limit at its October 22 meeting, it will probably make the agenda of the January meeting.

Post

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second place for Best Sports Column.

These awards come on top of three state awards which included a first place in business and economic reporting and a second place in health reporting in addition to the

photography award.

The Abington Journal, published by the owners of The Post, won two third-place national awards, one to editor Kenneth Books for best humor column and another for best editorial page.

11 accidents, 6 lives lost on lake since 1983

A history of boating accidents at Harveys Lake spurred the Pennsylvania Fish Commission to pass a low-wake speed law after dusk designed specifically for the lake. Boaters and the Pennsylvania Marine Trades Association recently asked the commission to change its mind and overthrow the law.

According to newspaper reports and commission records, 11 accidents were reported at Harveys Lake during the past 12 years. Six people died in three of the incidents.

- **1983:** A boat operated by Denis Abromavage ran over another boat, killing four passengers.
- **1985:** Harveys Lake resident Kim Krasner drove a boat into a dock and was killed when his head hit the diving board.
- **July 4, 1990:** Fish Commission officials blamed a boat collision at 11 p.m. on the boat operator not paying attention. It caused \$1,200 in damage.
- **August 17, 1990:** A collision between two boats caused \$2,000 in damage. Fish Commission officials blamed it on the operator, who they say didn't pay attention to what he was doing.
- **October 21, 1990:** The Fish Commission blamed an inattentive operator for a collision which caused \$8,600 in damages.
- **July 27, 1991:** Luzerne resident Rich Walter was killed in a water skiing accident when the boat which was towing him, operated by Harveys Lake resident Gregg Hanson, passed close to a dock, slamming Walter into it. Hanson, who reportedly was attempting to splash people on the dock, was charged with homicide by watercraft, homicide by watercraft while boating under the influence and boating while intoxicated.
- **August 3, 1991:** Lynnwood resident Marie Riss was arrested for boating while intoxicated and towing a water skier without having a lookout in the boat. Police said that her blood alcohol level was twice the legal limit.
- **September 1, 1991:** Six people were treated at nearby hospitals after a speedboat operated by Dallas resident Daniel Cochran rammed the rear of a slower boat operated by William Sickler, ran over top of it and left the scene. Three passengers in Cochran's boat and three passengers in Sickler's boat were treated at area hospitals.
- **August 15, 1992:** Fish Commission officials blamed a 9 p.m. collision between two boats, which caused \$900 in damages, on improper navigation lights.
- A second collision, which caused \$5,000 in damages, was blamed on the operator's restricted vision, according to Fish Commission records.
- **June 20, 1993:** An inexperienced operator caused a collision, which caused \$300 in damages, according to Fish Commission records.
- **July 16, 1993:** Fish Commission officials blamed a collision on the boat operator not having a proper lookout on board. It caused more than \$500 damage.
- **July 28, 1993:** Excessive speed caused a boat to collide with a stationary object, causing \$1,500 in damage.
- **June 18, 1994:** Failing to post a proper lookout caused a collision with another vessel and \$4,500 in damage.

Drill

(continued from page 1)

"We would dismiss our students early, then bring our teachers to the middle school to help with the incoming Northwest students," he said. "All district personnel would be involved."

The Northwest students would wait at the middle school until their parents or guardians came for them, with special arrangements made for unclaimed children, Wycallis said.

Back Mountain motorists would experience heavier than normal traffic on Routes 118 and 309, as residents from Hunlock and Huntington townships and Shickshinny and New Columbus boroughs followed their designated evacuation routes to an evacuation center at the Tunkhannock High School.

Tests of nuclear power plants' emergency plans are required by federal law every one to six years, Scopelliti said. This year is unique because many parts of the plant's emergency plan are due for testing at the same time.

LCCC has low-cost dental hygiene clinic

The Luzerne County Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic at the college's main campus in Nanticoke is open to the public. The clinic provides low-cost preventive dental hygiene services including teeth cleaning, x-rays and fluoride treatments.

Appointments are available on Mondays at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.; Tuesdays at 1:30 or 3:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 4 or 6 p.m.; and Thursdays at 1 or 3 p.m. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 829-7446.

Use the coupon on page 2 to subscribe

1995 Wilkes-Barre Triathlon Race Weekend Schedule

SATURDAY AUGUST 12, 1995:	
12:00 Noon	Registration at Penn State
12:00 - 5:00	Health, Sports, and Nutrition Expo at Penn State - fitness testing and nutrition demonstrations; fitness product vendors
2:00 p.m.	Professional triathlete appearances, interviews and autograph signing
4:00 p.m.	Press Conference
5:00 p.m.	Mandatory Pre-Race Meeting for all athletes
SUNDAY AUGUST 13, 1995:	
It is strongly suggested that spectators stay at Penn State and not travel to the Lake; parking is very limited at the Lake; shuttle buses will run from Penn State to the Race Start and return.	
8:15 a.m.	Race Start, Harvey's Lake Beach Club
8:35 a.m.	First Swimmer finish (estimate); bike leg begins
9:00 - 3:00	Sports Expo at finish area at Penn State
9:30 a.m.	First biker finish (estimate)
10:15 a.m.	First overall finisher (estimate)
1:45 p.m.	Awards Ceremony & Raffle.

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