



# The Dallas Post

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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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## Borough slam dunks backboards after vandals 3rd strike

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - Many basketball players are paying the price for the actions of a thoughtless few. The backboards of the Burndale Rd. courts at the Kenneth A. Young Memorial Park off Center Hill Rd. have been down since early April as a result of vandalism.

According to Milton Lutsey, Dallas Borough manager, the decision to remove the backboard was made by the council after a new lavatory and shed were broken into for the third time in late March. "It's a darn shame. I'm sure undeserving people are paying the price," Lutsey said.

Lutsey said all someone has broken in

the doors each time, breaking the frame. Once the assailants used the restroom facilities while the water system was turned off for the winter season.

He estimates this last episode cost the borough about \$160 to fix. "There has been a lot of mischievous things up there," said Lutsey. He cited broken bottles and stolen garbage cans as examples.

"All these things just shouldn't happen. We'd like to have our program, but if people are going to tear it down.....," he said trailing off. "We're just trying to protect our recreation center." The backboards will be replaced in June when the summer programs begin.

The borough runs a 10-week summer program for area children. Jack Wolensky, a guidance counselor at Dal-

*This hurt a lot more kids than it helped. There is a lot of good going on there.*

**Nafty Hage**  
Youth basketball coach

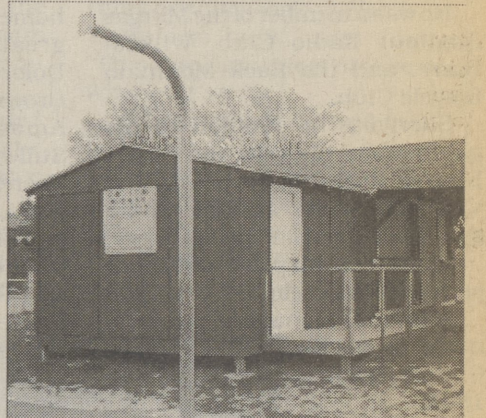
las High School helps run the program. "It's real unfortunate," he said about both the vandalism and the actions of the board. "It's used a lot year round. It's nice that the borough leaves them up all year."

Wolensky said the vandalism seemed to worsen this past year and he supports the council's decision. "You have to draw the line somewhere," he

said. The building serves an important role in the summer program and gets a lot of use, such as storing equipment, said Wolensky.

The children's summer program offers many activities including swimming, ping pong and basketball. Wolensky thinks it would be "a real loss to the community if the recreation center was closed" due to the vandalism. "There are few recreation centers that are easily accessible and in a real neighborhood environment," he said. "It's a good, safe and clean place for kids to go. It's a real asset to the community."

Nafty Hage of Dallas also thinks the park is an asset, but he does not agree



**Basketball backboards** at the Kenneth A. Young park have been taken down after vandals damaged the building for the third time. They'll be put back up in June.

See BACKBOARDS, pg 8

## Budget, building concern Lehman candidates

By JENNIFER JUDGE  
Post Correspondent

**LAKE-LEHMAN** - With the primaries approaching, the candidates for Lake-Lehman School Board are talking about the budget and different ways to deal with the school district's mounting debt. Along with budget issues, the candidates face the problem of the substandard conditions of the middle school and the expiration of the teachers' contract.

Robert Allardyce, a Jackson township resident for the past 35 years doesn't feel the present board is doing a very good job. "Well, they just finally balanced the checkbook since June 1995," Allardyce said. Allardyce was inspired to run because of last year's tax increase and the board's refusal to answer his questions, he explained. "They resent your questions. They evade the questions. They're pretty slick about that."

Allardyce feels that "public education is a disaster." He said, "Children have no self-respect. They know about computers but they don't know about life. We need to re-motivate them on some of the basics."

David D. Crisman graduated from College Misericordia with a double major in business administration and psychology and has worked as an international commodities broker, as well as in marketing, advertising, and sales. Crisman has also worked with the Pennsylvania Petroleum Dealers Association on the Underground Tank Act. Crisman feels that his past experience would help him as a board member. "I think that

See CANDIDATES, pg 13



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

## IT'S REALLY FUN

Tiffany Ritz modeled her reading project during a Reading is FUNdamental program at Lake-Noxen School. More photos on page 3.

## Children's Wing fund goes over the top

Only 18 months ago, the Board of Directors of the Back Mountain Memorial Library voted to address the needs of children into the future. On Tuesday, the future arrived as the board announced that \$812,187 had been subscribed for the addition of a new Children's Wing and a restricted endowment.

Mrs. Ruth Tetschner, chairperson of the Board of Directors, said it was "the challenge to meet the increasing number of children using the facilities, the advanced technology available to broaden the horizons of our children, and the realization of the requirement of more modern, user-friendly space" which compelled the Board to implement their vision.

The Community Campaign was launched last September with Dr.

Wallace Stettler, Campaign Chairman, reporting the leaders for each division of the capital effort - John Gager, Leadership Gifts; Kathy Flack, Major Gifts; Jack Meeks, Sustaining Gifts; and Beth Rosenthal, General Gifts. The contagious dedication of these key leaders recruited 75 team members who invited people in the community to support the campaign entitled "Watch Ideas Soar."

During the months of community solicitation, an application was filed, in cooperation with the Luzerne County Commissioners, with the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a grant to assist with the addition to the existing

See LIBRARY, pg 8

## School board reluctant to pin down building cost

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - The Dallas School Board tabled discussion on the maximum construction cost necessary to continue the process of building the new elementary school and administration building at its regular meeting May 12. The board wants more time to look over the \$8.6 million figure presented to them at the meeting. The board will meet again on May 19 at 7 p.m. to make the decision.

Joel Sims of Quad 3, Inc. pressed the board to decide on a maximum project and construction cost in order to move forward with the next plan required by the state. The next step in the process is the Act 34 public hearing, which will describe the specifics of the project to the public, in-

*"When we don't know if the front of the school will be brick, stone or wood, we can't decide on these figures."*

**Ernest Ashbridge**  
School board president

cluding the maximum costs. The hearing must be publicized 20 days before it is held.

Charlotte Williams, business manager, presented a preliminary break down of costs for the board, including the estimated cost of the structure, the architect's fee, furniture and various related

See SCHOOL BOARD, pg 8

## Teen takes whirlwind trip to Turkey

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** - Lindsey Kelly is one worldly 12 year old. With a few thousand miles of frequent flier miles under her belt and firsthand experience in a foreign country, she exits seventh grade with a broad knowledge and understanding of a different culture.

In late April, Lindsey, the daughter of Jay and Laurie Kelly, joined her aunt Wendy Waring and her friend, John Hilner of New York, on a two week trip to Istanbul, Turkey. The opportunity presented itself one day and Lindsey was gone the next - literally.

Lindsey's mom, Laurie, received a call from her sister, Wendy, on a Thursday asking if Lindsey would like to travel with her to Istanbul. The flight was set to leave Friday afternoon. "We drove to New York on Friday, got her a passport in three hours and took her Kennedy Airport in

time for the nonstop flight," said Lindsey's mom.

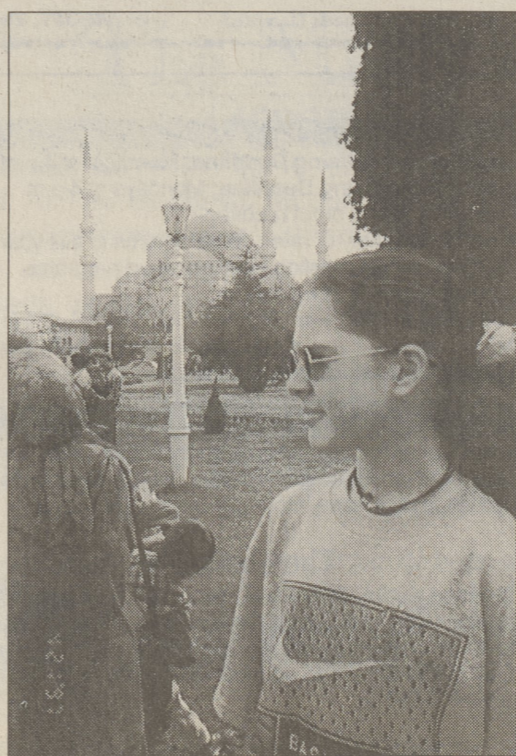
Despite the necessity of a quick decision, there was a lot of discussion about safety and other concerns. "We were a little hesitant at first, but then we talked to people (who had traveled there) to see if it was safe and thought it would be a great educational experience," explained Laurie. "We were really excited and nervous. We knew she was in good hands with my sister and John."

Luckily her teacher, Mrs. Ellen Boyer, was thrilled said Laurie. "She knows the value of traveling," she said. Lindsey was required to give a report on her trip to the class upon her return.

Waring and Hilner were going to Istanbul because Hilner had an acting job in a Turkish commercial. Hilner and Lindsey's aunt are both actors in New York City.

Lindsey, who wasn't exactly sure where

See ISTANBUL, pg 8



Lindsey Kelly, in front of one of the wonders she saw in the Middle East.

### ■ What it's about

for Alfie, the faithful pet, is going to Ochman's jewelry store each day. Pg 3.

### ■ Police pact

Jackson Twp. supervisors okay new contracts for full and part timers. Pg 5.

### INDEX

16 Pages 2 Sections  
Calendar.....16  
Classified.....14-15  
Crossword.....16  
Editorials.....4  
Obituaries.....2  
School.....12  
Sports.....9-11

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