

## Grad 2000

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Dudascik. "I wanted to spend a little more time with my classmates before I move on with my life. And I wanted to stay out of trouble," said Mike Bayer.

Almost all students and chaperones stayed up all night, and the video lounge was closed because no one was using it. The chaperones were scheduled for shifts lasting three or four hours. "We'll pay for it tomorrow," said Ned Bessmer, a chaperone.

*"I wanted to spend a little more time with my classmates before I move on with my life. And I wanted to stay out of trouble."*

Mike Bayer  
Dallas graduate

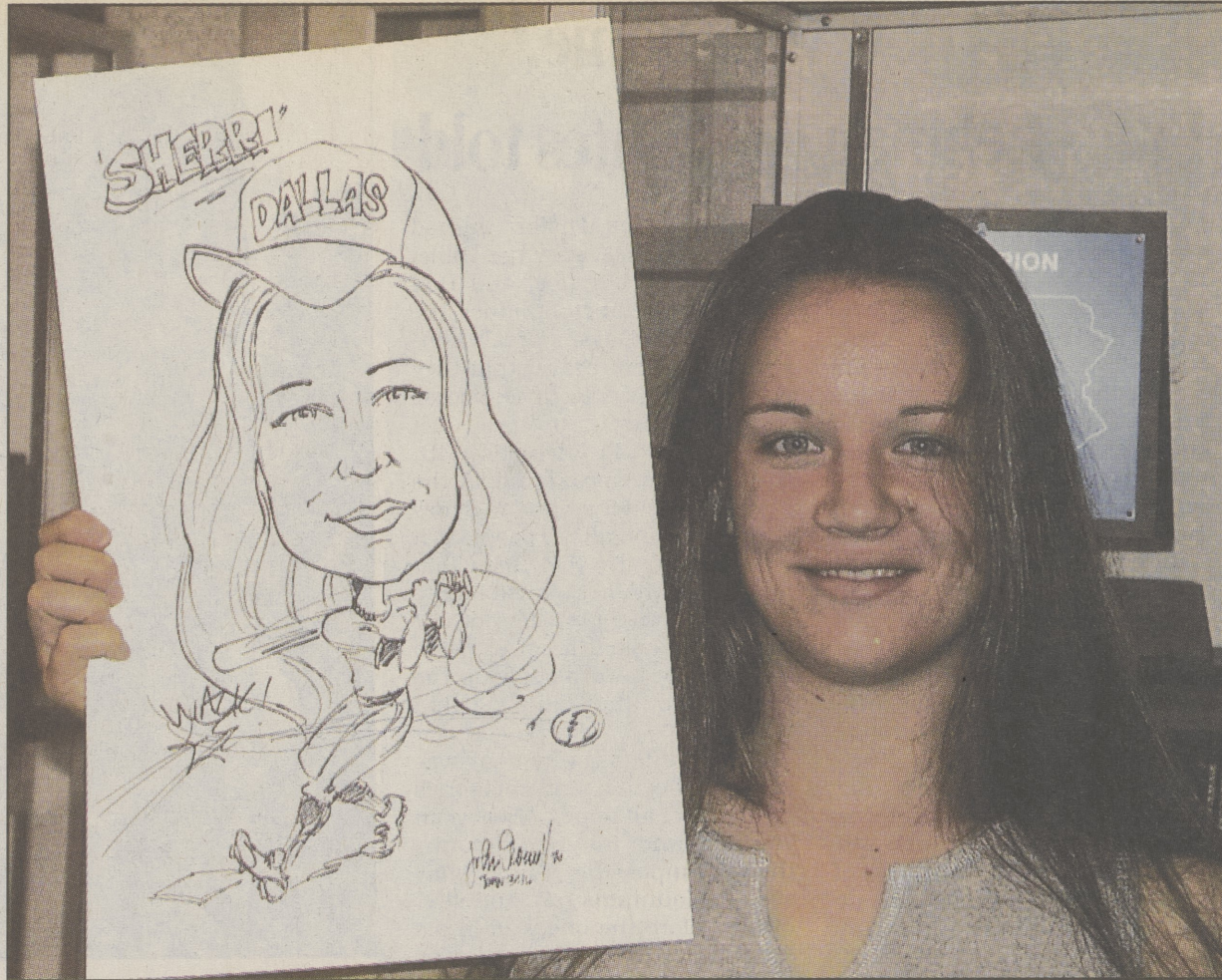
Dr. Gil Griffiths, Superintendent of Schools, and Frank Galicki, high school principal were on hand for the entire night. Dr. Griffiths served ice cream to the students at 2:30 a.m. "It's a good way to say goodbye to the kids," he said.

Breakfast was served at 5 a.m., and at 6 a.m. the students were let out. "On the way out, Mr. Galicki gave out class photographs to the kids. He was individually wishing them all goodbye and good luck. That doesn't happen at every school. It was a touching moment," said Bartolini.

### Having fun at Grad 2000.

Sherri Kuderka displayed the caricature done of her, top photo. Near left, Robyn Jones, a guidance counselor, tried her hand in the money booth. Elizabeth Dudascik, left, and Jillson Bryant modeled straw hats in the far right photo.

POST PHOTOS/BILL GOODMAN



## Library auction

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nate time and again, she says, but the committee also works hard to get first-time donors involved. Committee members work with the businesses to secure donations, and go to pick them up if necessary. Noteworthy items this year include a Penn State football signed by Joe Paterno, and two season tickets to the Northeast PA Philharmonic.

"It's good publicity for them. It's invaluable to us," says Harvey.

Earlier in the year, the auction also had a fund raiser called Ham n' Yeggs, which was founded almost 50 years ago. The program was dropped for five years, but Ashbridge brought it back when he was auction chairman in 1996. "I felt it was a worthwhile endeavor," he says. The club brings in about \$3,000 a year, and the money is used to buy hams that are sold over the auction block.

The auction block isn't the only attraction. The event is also known for its food vendors, and this year marks the return of auction chicken. Kerry Freeman will prepare and sell chicken at the auction grounds. Other traditional food booths include pizza, funnel cakes, and pies, and a one-day bake sale will be staffed by teachers from Dallas School District. Other booths will include sand art, where children can create their own souvenirs, sweatshirt and t-shirt vendors, and the book booth, which is part of the Slightly Read Book Shop located in the basement of the library.

Other tents include Nearly Old, which features items not quite old enough to be antiques, and Odds n' Ends, which includes used items from coffee mugs to records.

The auction also is a place where the community gathers. "Ask anybody in the Back Mountain about the Library Auction, and they'll know exactly what you mean," says co-chair Joe Stager.

*"It's a tradition. Some people you only see during the auction."*

Anne Davies  
Antiques committee

"It's give and take. You're not just handing over \$50. You're also getting something back."

"It's a tradition," says Davies. "Some people you only see during the auction." Her daughter, who lives in Australia, sent two mixing bowls, and her daughter's friend sent an emulsion bottle. "It's a global affair this year," she says, laughing.

"It's a place to renew old acquaintances. You always leave with a good feeling," says Ashbridge.

For information about the auction or ways to participate, call the Back Mountain Memorial Library at 675-1182.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Jay Niskey shared a laugh with Lucille Parker over the broom he bought for \$35 at the auction kickoff dinner.

## Tax hike

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the roof are in fair condition, but well beyond their life span," he said. "It would be difficult, if not impossible, to guess where the next leaks will be." Flynn recommended patching the roof until next summer, when it could be replaced during construction.

The architects had more solid numbers about the costs of the proposed renovations to the middle school and high school. For the middle school project, the millage increase ranged from 15 mills for a bond issue of \$16,404,000 without a pool to 17.85 mills for a bond issue of \$19,580,000 for the middle school with a pool. The three proposals for high school renovations ranged from 19.92 mills for a bond of \$19,408,424 for the high school without the pool to 23.16 mills for a bond of \$22,113,224 for it with the pool. For both of the projects, the millage increase would be phased in over several years.

The architects also discussed renovating the current high school auditorium rather than building a new one. Some proposed renovations would require raising the roof and the front of the building.

*"The four mills would probably go toward the debt service of one of the construction projects."*

Albert B. Melone  
Business consultant

"We're not prepared to present costs," said Flynn. "There's more legwork to be done."

Ashbridge implied that not all the items in the proposals would be accepted. "It'll be up to the board to decide which renovations to do and which to eliminate," said Ashbridge.

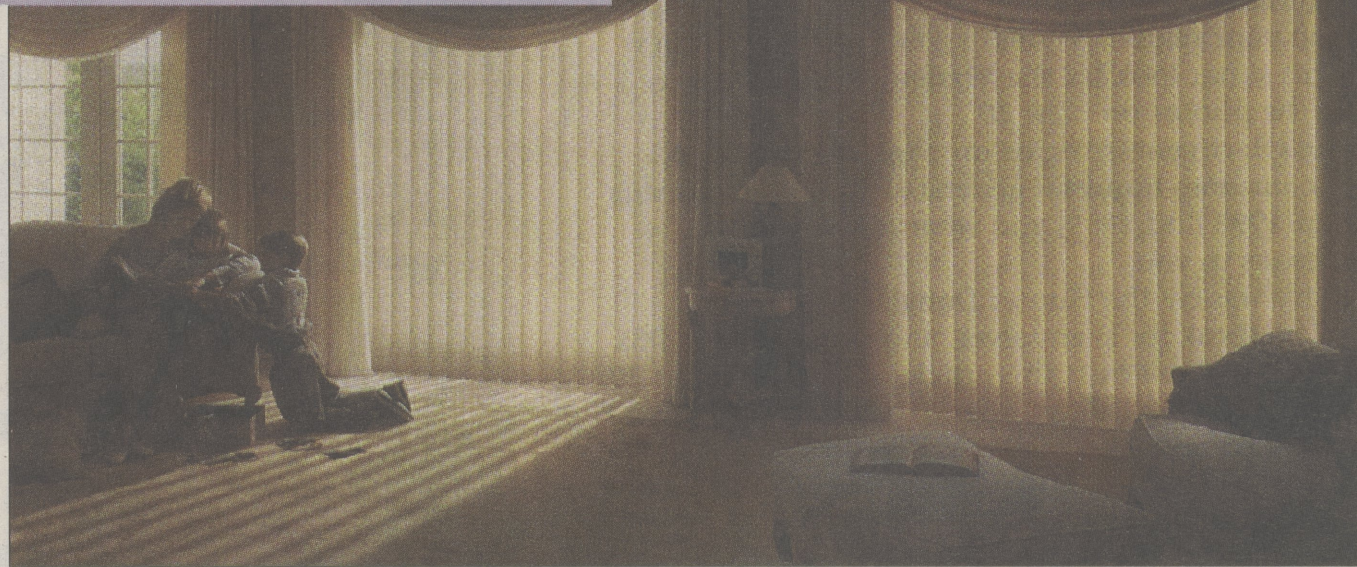
The board will interview construction managers for the middle school project on June 15 starting at 6 p.m. Each of the three interviews will last 40 minutes, and Burkavage will act as consultants to help the board make their decision.

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