

OUR OPINION

Congratulations, grads. Now you're in for it.

Congratulations, high school graduates. You should be justly proud and happy that four years of effort — no matter how little or how much you put in — has returned the reward that you'll never again have to sit through Earth Science or Algebra, or listen to the drone of Mr. So-and-so's voice as he recites significant dates in European history. At least they're significant to him. Hall monitors and notes from home are things of the past. You're free!

Before you get too excited, we must warn that the future is not as bright, or as frightening as it may seem. You're sure to meet Mr. or Mrs. So-and-so again, probably more than once, as you move up the educational ladder or into the working world. They'll appear in the form of a professor, your boss, a landlord or a co-worker, and depending on which they can make your life every bit as miserable as that teacher who so loved red pencil. If you let them.

And the notes from home? No longer necessary, but the consequences of missing class or work will now fall solidly on your shoulders. If you go to college, you'll likely find a balance between partying and studying, and a few absences won't hurt too much. It's different if you go straight to work — instead of handing in a note you'll be getting one, and it probably will be pink. If you were planning to skip college, you might want to reconsider.

By the way, mom and dad are beaming with pride, while secretly breathing a sigh of relief. "At last you're growing up," they think, "and we'll be able to resume the life we once had B.C. (before children)." Don't be surprised if they're more eager than you to see you head off to college or work, even though they'll feign sadness at the parting.

This may not sound so great, but really, it is. Once you adjust, you'll find that taking control of your own life is more fulfilling than figuring out how to skip class or avoid homework. It may take a few years to make the transition, but you'll get there — everybody does. You've taken a good first step. We wish you the best as you go on from here.

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

- On June 15, 1300, poet Dante Alighieri becomes one of six priors of Florence, active in governing the city. Dante's political activities, which include the banishment of several rivals, lead to his own exile from Florence. Later he would write his great work, "The Divine Comedy," as a virtual wanderer, seeking protection for his family in town after town.

- On June 18, 1815, at Waterloo in Belgium, Napoleon Bonaparte suffers defeat at the hands of the Duke of Wellington, bringing an end to the Napoleonic era of European history.

- On June 19, 1864, off the coast of Cherbourg, France, the Confederate raider CSS Alabama loses a ship-to-ship duel with the USS Kearsarge and sinks to the floor of the Atlantic, ending an illustrious career that saw some 68 Union merchant vessels destroyed or captured by the Confederate sloop-of-war.

- On June 17, 1917, Dino Paul Crocetti, later known as Dean Martin, is born. After working as a prizefighter and a steelworker, Martin started a nightclub act. In 1946, he teamed up with comedian Jerry Lewis, and they became one of the most successful comedy duos of all time.

- On June 16, 1977, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, first secretary of the Soviet Communist Party since 1964, is elected president of the Supreme Soviet, thereby becoming both head of party and head of state.

- On June 13, 1983, after more than a decade in space, Pioneer 10, the world's first outer-planetary probe, leaves the solar system. The next day, it radioed back its first scientific data on interstellar space. Headed in the direction of the Taurus constellation, Pioneer 10 will pass within 3 light years of another star — Ross 246 — in the year 34,600 A.D.

- On June 14, 1996, singer Ella Fitzgerald dies at the age of 79. One of the most influential singers of the big-band swing era, Fitzgerald enjoyed five decades of popularity and continued performing until her death.

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Letters, columns and editorials

Editorials, which are the opinion of the management of The Post, appear on the editorial page and are written by the editor unless otherwise indicated. Any artwork represents the opinion of the cartoonist, and columns are the opinion of the author.

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be published, subject to the following guidelines:

- Letters must be signed and include the writer's home town and a telephone number for verification.

- Names will be withheld only if there exists a clear threat to the writer.

- The Post retains the right to accept or reject any letter, and to edit letters for grammar and spelling, as well as to eliminate any libel, slander or objectionable wording.

Letters can be sent many ways by e-mail to: thepost@leader.net

Or by mail to: The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711.



Dreaming of the derby. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.

Performing Arts Institute begins June 26

The Performing Arts Institute of Wyoming Seminary (PAI) opens its seventh season on June 26 and runs through August 6. Within six weeks, PAI students and faculty will present more than 30 free public concerts/performances.

The institute is a summer arts program in music, dance and the musical theater for dedicated young artists ages 12 to 18. World-renowned solo artists and directors will prepare the students for the performances. Some of the artists include:

The Shanghai Quartet, a foursome which has earned the reputation as one of the world's most outstanding string quartets; Craig Biesecker who appears with the Metropolitan

Opera Ballet Company; and Steve Fidyk, formerly of Hanover Township, who has 30 jazz recordings to his credit and three Grammy nominations. Fidyk is currently the drummer with the Army Blues Jazz Band.

Other faculty members include Carrie Ellmore-Tallitsch who is in her third season dancing with the Martha Graham Dance Company and Paul Hostetter who has appeared as a guest conductor with the New York City Opera and has conducted Broadway Productions of "Candide" and Gershwin's "Fascinating Rhythm."

William Roudebush, Creative Director for Lombard Entertainment and adjunct pro-

fessor at Temple University, will be PAI's Director of Musical Theater. Under his direction the students will perform Broadway's award-winning "Kiss Me Kate."

"Kiss Me Kate" will run August 4 and 5 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts, Wilkes-Barre. Roudebush will also teach students the art of designing and making masks for theater.

While PAI prepares serious young performing arts students for a lifetime in the arts, it also reaches out to younger artists with its junior division for grades five through eight, Young Artists Musical Theater for ages 10 to 13 and Music Makers for children 7 to 9 years

of age. These programs will be offered at the Wyoming Seminary Upper and Lower Schools July 11 through August 6.

PAI consists of three-week and six-week programs that are available for residential and day students. The program is based on the belief that students need intensive rehearsal, practice and class time to develop their skills in depth. Large ensembles rehearse two hours daily. Each student is assigned to a chamber ensemble and is coached daily. The students perform regularly throughout the summer. For more information or to enroll in PAI contact Wyoming Seminary at 270-2186.

70 Years Ago
June 14, 1935

WORK RELIEF PROJECTS COULD EMPLOY 500

In addition to the \$50,000 worth of work relief projects which are dependent upon passage of legislation pending the General Assembly, there are other projects awaiting approval at Harrisburg which would bring an additional \$67,000 into Dallas and its vicinity. Together, the projects would give employment to 500 men.

Miss Helen Himmler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Himmler of Dallas, was voted "Miss Wyoming Seminary" during the commencement program.

Trucksville Volunteer Fire Company elected its officers for the ensuing year at a meeting last week. Ralph Hazletine was re-elected president; A. G. Groblewski Jr., treasurer; David Schooley, recording secretary; and B.M. Leonard, fire chief.

60 Years Ago
June 15, 1945

IDE PATRIARCH DIES AT 77

Silas Callender Ide, who knew more about the Ide family than any other person, died at Loyalville Saturday night, in the home where he was born and spent most of his life. He

would have been seventy-eight on July 4. For twenty years, Mr. Ide was historian and president of the Ide Reunion and wrote a book containing the genealogy of the Pennsylvania branch of the family.

Doris Shunk Ruger, Luzerne, at present in charge of the Skating Palace in Wilkes-Barre, together with Michael A. LaRose, has opened the Lake View Skating Palace at Sandy Beach, Harveys Lake.

Condition of Pvt. Edwin "Bud" Nelson, who is seriously ill at the Army's Stark Hospital, Charleston, S.C. is slightly improved. Pvt. Nelson, member of radio company, was seriously wounded in the abdomen and his captain killed in action following V-E Day in Italy.

50 Years Ago
June 10, 1955

MRS. GIRVAN'S PET ALLIGATOR PASSES ON

Children who are accustomed to drop in on Mrs. John Girvan on Lake Street to admire her alligator, will be sorry to hear that it died last Friday. For eight years, during which period it grew from ten inches to almost two feet in length, Willie occupied a tank in the workroom.

The Alaskan cat, another of Bill Girvan's donations, is flourishing.

Because several children in Kingston Township have been bitten by stray dogs in the past few weeks, all dogs found wandering loose in the Township, starting Monday, will be impounded and the owners

finned. If you love your dog — keep him tied up!

Durelle T. Scott was elected president of Dallas Borough-Kingston Township Joint School Board Monday evening, to assume office July 1. Charles H. Manneer was named vice-president; L.L. Richardson, treasurer; Mrs. Eleanor C. Jones, secretary for four years.

40 Years Ago
June 10, 1965

AUCTION RAFFLE FOR A NEW VALIANT

Clyde Birth, service station owner, sold the first ticket in the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction raffle to Clarence Meyers. The winner gets a brand new Plymouth Valiant.

Two Dallas Area Elementary School students won first prizes at the Fine Arts Fiesta Children's Sidewalk Art Exhibit. Michele Cybulski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Cybulski, won in the six-seven age group. Carol Duffy was first in the eight-nine year old group. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duffy.

Cave's Supermarket at Idetown Corners was selling, PURE Ground Beef, 3 lbs., \$1, and YOUNG tender, baby beef liver, 39¢ lb., thin sliced.

30 Years Ago
June 12, 1975

FIRE COMPANY FAIR AT 'DUKE' ISAACS

Earl Hess, chairman of the Trucksville Volunteer Fire Company summer fair

announced that the fair will be held June 19-21 at Howard "Duke" Isaacs on Route 309. James Wisniewski, parade chairman, announced that the parade will begin at St. Therese's Church.

To the tune of William Tell Overture, Oak Hill's Marlboro Insurance man, Joe Comiskey and his pistol-packing mama Ann, rode side saddle on their bucket seats to the Angelicolas' Open House. Recently returning from a fabulous vacation in Arizona, Joe and Ann were favoring the casual western dress they became accustomed to.

Jim and Jack Davis, competing in the York Open Wrestling Tournament at York last Saturday, captured titles in this highly regarded event. Both lads were superb grapplers for Lake-Lehman.

20 Years Ago
June 12, 1985

LOOK AHEAD WITH HOPE, GRADS TOLD

Valedictorian Michael Annetta and Salutatorian Sandra Diction spoke at Lake-Lehman High School graduation ceremonies. "We can drown in a sea of pessimism or build a world with a more positive outlook," Diction said.

"My Dad is special because he helps other people when they are in need, and he practices baseball with me," said Kristen Hardisky, 12, of Dallas.

Dallas High School hockey coach Robyn Jones and Lake-Lehman High School softball coach Flossie Finn were named

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15 N. MAIN ST., WILKES-BARRE PA 18711 • 570-675-5211
thepost@leader.netPatrick McHugh
PUBLISHERRonald Bartizek
EDITORErika Calvert
ADVERTISINGPat O'Donnell
PREPRESS MANAGER

Q: Where do you find the most
Back Mountain news each week?

A: Only in The Post