

OUR OPINION

Take us out to this ballgame any time

There was a Little League game played at the W.W. Kubis Memorial Field on Church Street in Dallas last weekend. There were no championships on the line. There were no double plays. And there certainly was no mention of the word "steroids." Back Mountain Baseball, Inc. hosted its annual Challenger Baseball game at the field. For those who aren't familiar with that division of Little League, the Challenger league offers mentally and physically disabled boys and girls a chance to play baseball.

And for those didn't attend the game, you missed baseball being played in its truest form.

You missed Shawn Michael Goldsworthy sliding into home plate, making sure every inch of his clothing was covered in dirt before getting up and giving everyone around him a high-five. You also missed a piece of his birthday cake he shared with everyone after the game.

You missed Jacob Serafin hitting the ball and running around the bases while his sister Joelle - wearing a red and white cheerleading uniform and a gold medal around her neck - shouted cheers with the same passion and excitement as a college football cheerleader. The Serafins are from Shavertown.

You missed the bright smile on little Johnny Keegan's face as one of the buddies - baseball and softball players from the Back Mountain who volunteered to assist the Challenger players during the contest - pushed him around the bases in a stroller. Only a broken leg prevented Johnny from running the bases himself.

And you missed the looks of delight when the players received a new shirt and hat following the game - courtesy of Back Mountain Baseball, Inc. and league president Jack Snyder.

Many players couldn't wait until they got home, quickly taking off the shirts and hats they were wearing and donning the new ones. And they were sporting ear-to-ear smiles while holding the new baseballs given to them - exhibiting the same joy as a professional hockey player clutching the Stanley Cup.

But if you missed the game, you certainly weren't alone. There weren't hundreds of fans at the contest - like the kind of crowd that watched Back Mountain National play Back Mountain American several weeks ago in a District 16 game.

The no-shows included almost all of the league's board members and coaches.

That's too bad. They missed a lot. It wasn't a chance to see Barry Bonds or Roger Clemens or Manny Ramirez.

It was a chance to see the Serafins, Goldsworthy, Keegan, Brian Harowicz, Matthew Gardner,

Quentin Karpowicz, Taylor and Chris Banas, Jennifer Cusate, Melissa Karsko, Joseph Bubbo, Jean-Luc and Christopher Yarchak, Ryan Wasko, Brandon Howell, Kim Wychock, Joseph Chopyak, Robbie Flaherty, Adam Raniero, Robert Jones and Walter Eaton.

And we'll take such enthusiastic players on our team any time.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On Aug. 13, 1521, after a three-month siege, Spanish forces under Hernando Cortes capture Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztec empire. Cortes' men leveled the city and captured Cuauhtemoc, the Aztec emperor. Tenochtitlan was founded in 1325 A.D. by a wandering tribe of hunters and gatherers on islands in Lake Texcoco, near present-day Mexico City.
 - On Aug. 14, 1935, during the Great Depression, the Social Security Act is passed by Congress. The bill mandated the now familiar "contributory system" in which workers put part of their salaries into a joint pension fund.
 - On Aug. 8, 1945, in the final days of World War II, the Soviet Union officially declares war on Japan, pouring more than 1 million soldiers into Japanese-occupied Manchuria in north-eastern China.
 - On Aug. 10, 1954, workers at the Studebaker factory in South Bend, Ind., agree to take a pay cut to help the struggling company. Despite the agreement, which trimmed workers' salaries from \$20 to \$12 an hour, Studebaker soon went belly-up.
 - On Aug. 11, 1965, in the predominantly black Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles, racial tension reaches a breaking point after two white policemen scuffle with a black motorist suspected of drunken driving. The incident touched off five days of rioting that left 34 dead, 1,032 injured, nearly 4,000 arrested and \$40 million worth of property destroyed.
 - On Aug. 12, 1973, golfer Jack Nicklaus wins the PGA championship for his 14th major title, surpassing Bobby Jones' record of 13 major championships. The "Golden Bear" shot a 7-under-par 277 at Canterbury Golf Club in Beachwood, Ohio.
 - On Aug. 9, 1985, Arthur Walker, a retired U.S. Navy officer, is found guilty of espionage for passing top-secret documents to his brother, John, who then passed them to Soviet agents. Walker was sentenced to life in prison and fined \$250,000.
- (c) 2005 King Features Synd., Inc.

MODERN TECHNOLOGY MEETS THE PAST



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

At first glance, it appears as though Star Trek meets the Old West in the Back Mountain. Although it might look a little strange, the colorful glass lighting rods serve a very useful purpose on the century-old barn in Beaumont.

LIBRARY NEWS

Summer reading finale

The final party of the summer reading program, "Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds" will be held at 1 p.m. Aug. 12 in the children's room at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Certificates for completing eight books will be awarded by Queen Elizabeth the First (a.k.a. Hannah Grube) and the members of her court.

Refreshments will be served in Mrs. Rudolph's gazebo.

Farmer's market

The Back Mountain Farmers Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday on the library grounds. The market will continue each Saturday through the end of August. The Book Store - which is normally closed during the summer - will be open during those hours for your convenience.

Music program

Again, something new at the library! Night Music will be held from 7:30-9 p.m. on Aug. 18 on the library grounds.

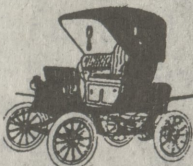
Several local musicians will perform. Bring a lawn chair to sit in near the gazebo as you enjoy the music and light summer breezes. That's a hope, not a prediction.

Light refreshments will be available for purchase.

70 Years Ago
August 9, 1935

WILCOX NAMED TO FILL DALLAS COUNCIL VACANCY

Dallas Borough Council this week unanimously selected Morgan Wilcox, longtime resident of the borough, to fill the position left vacant by the death of Councilman Harry Garrahan last week.



ONLY YESTERYDAY

Mr. Wilcox's appointment was a popular one. He has been active in community affairs for a number of years, is a property owner, and has a background which qualifies him for the position.

A delegation of government inspectors, accompanied by Colonel Charles L. Lindbergh, descended upon Dr. Igor Sikosky's Bridgeport, Conn. factory last week just in time to interfere with his plans for flying here to be guest of honor at Russian Day at Harveys Lake Picnic grounds. The internationally-known aeronautical expert, who has been responsible for many of the planes used in long-distance flights in the last ten years, was to have arrived here Sunday morning.

Dallas Township School Board will open its third set of bids on construction of an annex to the main building on Friday night, Aug. 16. Two previous sets of bids, received by authority of a bond issue approved by voters of the township last fall, were rejected because the board believed they were too high.

Dr. Henry M. Laing's fund-raising, fun-raising, three-night carnival began last night on the Adelman lot, Lake Street, Dallas, and will continue tonight and tomorrow night with special acts, music, stunts, bingo games and surprise features.

Chief of Police Ira Stevenson of Harveys Lake has launched a drive against violators of the Sunday beer law at the lake. Two men were arrested at two picnics last Sunday.

60 Years Ago
August 10, 1945

SHAVERTOWN LUMBER CO.

SOLD TO HOMEBUILDERS

Ralph K. Garrahan and George L. Ruckno, Wyoming Valley home builders, have purchased the Shavertown Lumber Company from Moses Griffith of Plains and will operate the business under the name of Shavertown Builders Supply Company.

One of the men who helped to build the atomic bomb that fell on Japan this week was Wilson Arnold Cease, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson A. Cease, Sr., of Trucksville. For the past year and one half, he has been employed at the Richland, Washington, plant operated by the DuPonts.

An advertisement in the Dallas Post reads: How Smart People and Jack Benny Latch On To Their Money

1. Smart people hang on to their money by buying War Bonds - and holding them. Jack Benny does, too. But don't let that worry you. Buy some anyway. All high-class people do this. Lowlifes like Benny imitate us upper-crust denizens by buying Bonds just so they can get their picture in the Police Gazette.

PFC Edwin Nelson Jr., is a patient at Fletcher General Hospital, Cambridge, Ohio, where he is recuperating from wounds received in Italy, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service in action. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Edwin Nelson, Sr. of Parrish Street, Dallas.

Mrs. Beulah Winters of Center Moreland announces the marriage of her daughter, Laylah, to Sgt. Edward E. Martin, son of Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Martin of Dallas.

50 Years Ago
August 5, 1955

DROUGHT MIGHT FORCE NOXEN TANNERY CLOSURE

Unless there are heavy rains within the next few days sufficient to swell streams, the big Armour Leather Company tannery at Noxen will be forced to close because of inability to get rid of its wastes. This year, Bowman's Creek is at an all-time low. If the plant closes, 165 men will be out of work.

The biggest golfing event of the Irem season gets underway next Friday, with qualifying

rounds starting for the Best-Ball-Of-Partners Invitational Tournament. It is estimated more than 200 teams will be entered with players coming in from every golf club in this part of the state.

Elmer Wyant, a former Noxen and Lake Township young man, is one of 30 men in the United States and Canada to receive a scholarship grant of \$250 from the National Science Foundation for study at Pennsylvania State University.

At a very quiet wedding Friday at 6 p.m. Iva L. Derby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Derby of Maplewood Avenue, Dallas, became the bride of Ralph Coolbaugh, son of Charles Coolbaugh of Trucksville.

Andy Kozemchak, Overbrook Road, looked out of his kitchen Tuesday afternoon and found himself in possession of a cute little blonde boy he had never seen before, rolling over and over on the grass and kicking his heels in glee while a collie and a hound pup guarded their little master. Andy did what most people do, he called the Dallas Post.

Little Douglas Johnson, two years old, was a friendly child, but he either didn't know his name or had no vocabulary. He later found out that Mr. and Mrs. Archie Johnson had been minus a small boy for half an hour and were very upset.

40 Years Ago
August 5, 1965

BEAR PAYS VISIT TO DALLAS COUPLE

If you want a real thrill while camping out, just fry up some thick juicy steaks and have a black bear suddenly appear and grab the sizzling, juicy morsel right from under your nose. This is exactly what happened to Mr. and Mrs. William Farrell of Dallas while the couple was recently in the Adirondacks.

Many thousands of sunnies, carp, bass, etc. died of oxygen starvation in Cumming's Pond, Franklin Township. Raymond Kuderka, an owner of Fant's, said that with recent weather conditions plus drought, the algae were blooming so rapidly as to use up all the oxygen. Ordinarily, with sunlight, such plant life gives off oxygen.

Six of eight cows were electrocuted at Lehman on Sunday night, probably because of a falling power line. Joseph Park,

whose farm includes the Lehman Horse Show grounds on Route 118, told the Dallas Post the damage would run in the neighborhood of \$2,600. He termed one cow irreplaceable.

Connie Lee Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller, Fernbrook, received honorable mention in a national baby photo contest.

Donald Yozviak, of Orchard View Terrace in Dallas, and his family drove from San Salvador, capital of El Salvador, where he has been in U.S. government service for three years, traveling 5,100 miles in all. Much of the trip was on the Interamerican Highway, which Mr. Yozviak cautions not to expect the equivalent of our newest turnpikes since large portions of the highway more closely resemble our third-class backroads.

30 Years Ago
August 7, 1975

COMMONWEALTH ADDS

PUSH-BUTTON DIALING

Push button dialing, "a convenience feature that is slightly faster and slightly more accurate," will be available to Commonwealth Telephone Company customers in the Harveys Lake exchange beginning Monday, Aug. 11, according to Commonwealth public relations manager Marion Bednar.

Residents of the Back Mountain who have been wondering about the possibility of a hospital constructed on the site along Route 118, need not wonder any longer. The possibility of a fully-equipped hospital in the Back Mountain has been completely ruled out. Members of the Back Mountain Medical Center Committee, however, have not given up. Tom Dombroski, chairman, and members of the committee plan to solicit proposals from architects and engineers for limited hospital facilities to be erected.

Ruckno's Pond, Country Club Road, Dallas, provided the setting Saturday for the Back Mountain Jaycees first clam bake. Much credit for the lovely day goes to the chairman of the function, Louis Ruckno; Doug Bulford, chairman of the entertainment committee; and Jon Promrinke, in charge of reservations. Jeff Farley and Robert Kelley added their thoughts and muscle to the effort.

THE POST

TIMES LEADER Community Newspaper Group

15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711 • 570-675-5211
thepost@leader.net

Patrick McHugh
PUBLISHER

David C. Konopki
EDITOR

Erika Calvert
ADVERTISING