

The DALLAS POST

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

Dallas School Board OK's \$128 million mega school

DAVE KONOPKI
Dallas Post Editor

DALLAS TWP. — An unhappy Dallas School Board unanimously voted to scrap all construction plans submitted by architects from Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Evelyn. The firm had been hired by the district to build a new high school and an addition to Wycallis Elementary School.

The decision was made during a meeting held in the back room of the Farmer's Inn.

At the meeting, the board also decided to go ahead with plans submitted by the innovative, but highly-controversial firm of Strangelove and Orwell, Inc. of Rochester. The plans call for the building of a \$128 million high school and a multi-use sports facility.

Due to the high cost of building the new high school, the Wycallis expansion has been placed on hold. Students who currently attend Wycallis Elementary School will be home-schooled until the new high school is completed — in approximately 2011.

Strangelove and Orwell, Inc. came under some scrutiny 12 years ago when a high-rise apartment complex for senior citizens it had designed suddenly collapsed.

"That's all in the past," said world-renowned architect Eileen Slightly, who will oversee the project. "Thank God there was enough money left over after the trial to keep things going. We've had better luck with schools. Well, mostly anyway."

The current high school and middle school will be razed to make way for a mega-school, which will include an artificial turf football field and transportation chutes from the parking lot to the Ted Jackson Learning

Center.

The state-of-the-art cafeteria will feature a menu of seven entrees daily, including food in pellet form and freeze-dried astronaut ice cream. A high-tech machine will deliver the food to the students through pneumatic tubes.

"I believe the children are the future," said one board member, who asked not to be identified. "Teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they possess inside. Give them a sense of pride to make it easier. Let the children's laughter remind us how we used to be."

Things will also be high-tech in the classroom.

Each teacher and student in kindergarten through 12th grade will be furnished with a post-silicon nano computer — as soon as they're invented. All of the information in the universe will be contained in the space the size of a marshmallow peep.

Several board members have expressed concerns about the price tag. Taxpayers can expect an increase of approximately 215.2389 mills over the next three years. A mill is \$1 for every \$1,000 of assessed value. Dallas taxpayers can calculate their approximate tax increase by taking the amount of their take-home salary, dividing it by 17 percent, subtracting the ages of their children, and adding the last three numbers of their Social Security number.

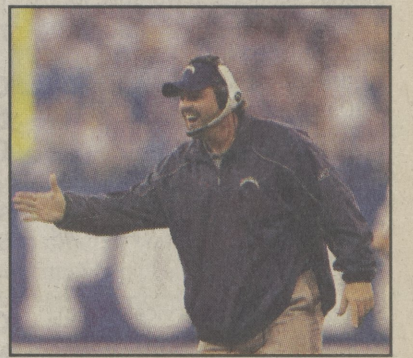
The tax increase could be significantly reduced, however, if the district finds a buyer for all of the asbestos lining the walls of the current schools.

Others, however, say it will be money well spent.

"Trust me," said the school board member. "When all of this is done, people will remember the name Dallas."



ARTIST RENDERING BY STRANGELOVE AND ORWELL



Greg Manuskay is the new head football coach at Dallas.

Manuskay 86's the Forty Niners

By DAVE KONOPKI
Dallas Post Editor

DALLAS TWP. — Greg Manuskay began his storied football career in the stadium adjacent to Dallas High School. He plans to end it there, as well.

Less than three months after being named the defensive coordinator for the San Francisco 49ers, the former Dallas standout made a stunning announcement Wednesday afternoon in front of a small group of family, friends and reporters at Mountaineer Stadium.

Manuskay is the new head coach at his alma mater.

He will replace highly-successful veteran head coach Ted Jackson, who decided to step down and devote more of his time to his true passion — stamp collecting. With 192 career victories, Jackson was just eight wins away from reaching the prestigious 200-win plateau. GAR coach Tony Khalife offered to give Jackson five of his career wins, Wyoming Area coach Paul Marranca offered two more, and Lake-Lehman coach Carl Kern offered ... his sincerest wishes for a bright future.

Manuskay said the decision to forgo a high-profile and lucrative NFL coaching career really wasn't difficult.

"C'mon," he said. "They wanted me to live in San Francisco. *San Francisco!*"

The former Colgate University All-American came to his decision while spending a few solitary hours driving along the California coast.

"Finally, I asked myself two questions," said Manuskay, who earned degrees in education and geology. "First, where am I going to be the happiest? And second, is there really a difference between partly sunny and partly cloudy?"

Manuskay, who was a linebackers coach with the Washington Redskins and San Diego Chargers, says it won't take long before his presence makes an immediate impact on the program.

"We're going to get down to business right from the beginning," he said. "The first thing we're going to do is throw away those new home uniforms. God, they're awful."

Although he hasn't named a coaching staff, Manuskay has stated he wants uniformity among the coaches. Therefore, all assistants must be former college All-Americans, honor students with dual degrees, have 13 years of NFL playing experience, and six years of NFL coaching experience.

"I'm not asking anyone for anything more than what I accomplished," he said.

During his high school, college and NFL playing days, Manuskay earned a reputation as a hard-nosed, no-nonsense linebacker and special teams player. His all-out style earned him a spot on the prestigious All-Madden team.

At Dallas, Manuskay is demanding that everyone on the team play — and look — like him.

Each player will be required to get a Mohawk-style haircut and grow a Fu Manchu mustache — two traits of Manuskay during his early playing days in the NFL. And what about the kids who can't grow a mustache?

"There's always soccer," he said.

Crosby to play in Harveys Lake

BY DAVE KONOPKI
Dallas Post Editor

HARVEYS LAKE — Like many of his Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins teammates, Jean-Francois Jacques grew up in the heartland of America, skating and playing hockey on the frozen lakes and ponds in the Midwest.

Next winter, Jacques and his teammates will get an opportunity to relive their childhoods — and Back Mountain residents will get the chance for an up close and personal look at Pittsburgh Penguins superstar Sidney Crosby.

The NHL will debut its "Return to Our Roots" program in Northeastern Pennsylvania, with Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins playing the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins in an exhibition game on the frozen water at Harveys Lake. The game will be played when the ice is thick enough to hold the event, most likely in mid-February.

Dubbed the Jones Potato Pancakes Classic, the game is expected to draw more than 10,000 fans, says NHL commissioner Gary Bettman. Temporary bleachers will be installed on the ice as soon as safety permits and several luxury boxes will be available atop Grotto Pizza.

"With Harveys Lake being the largest natural lake in the state — and the fact that real Penguins really do play on ice — we thought this would be a perfect fit," Bettman said. "If everything goes well, we can foresee future games being

played on Lake Erie, Red Lake in Minnesota or possibly Chapman Lake."

The Florida Panthers was the first organization to submit a proposal to host the inaugural game, said Bettman. Several committees, which included some of the best minds in hockey, were formed to look into the proposal.

"But after several months of deep thought and intense study, we came to the conclusion that wasn't feasible," Bettman said.

The winner of the game will receive the Hanson's Cup, named after the former amusement park that once was the showcase of Harveys Lake but closed a few decades ago. Crosby says he's thrilled about the possibility of winning the Cup.

In an era of many self-absorbed, shallow athletes who try to fake their way through interviews even though they know nothing about the subject, Crosby seemed to have a genuine interest — and knowledge — of Harveys Lake and Hanson's Amusement Park.

"I remember coming here with my family as a young boy of about 9 or 10 and riding the roller coaster at Hanson's," said the 19-year-old phenom. "It was so much fun. About a mile or two before we'd reach the park, we'd see the bright metal of the roller coaster shining in the sunlight and we'd get all excited. We came back last year and it seemed as though nothing had changed. We had a wonderful time on the rides and playing the games. I won a huge stuffed lion for my girlfriend on the ring toss game."

The \$4.8 million expansion project at The Meadows Nursing Center on Center Hill Road will include a Chuck E. Cheese's restaurant.

BY DAVE KONOPKI
Dallas Post Editor

Chuck E. Cheese joins The Meadows

DALLAS — Thanks to a grant from Pennsylvania's new "Bridging The Gap" program, little boys and girls throughout the Back Mountain will be able to enjoy pizza — and spend time with Grandpa.

The \$4.8 million expansion project at The Meadows Nursing Center on Center Hill Road will include a Chuck E. Cheese's restaurant.

The decision was made to

bring the young — and the young at heart — together, said one member of the expansion project committee, who asked not to be identified.

"Bring on the pepperoni," he said. "We're thrilled."

In preparation of the project, all nursing center residents will be given a crash-course on video games, including how to whack a fake mole with an oversized soft hammer. The benefits of the merger will be many, according to several inside sources. The American Heart Association recently published a 40-page report that concluded jumping around in multi-colored plastic balls is a great source of cardiovascular exercise.

But not everyone is happy.

Members of the Meadows Auxiliary are concerned about the "Market On The Pond" fundraiser sharing space with an oversized mouse that eats pizza and distributes game tokens. The owners of Pickett's Charge Restaurant are concerned about their hard-earned reputation for scrumptious, mouth-watering prime rib dinners being compromised by the fast-food mentality, while officials at Agway are hoping the smell of pizza won't make its way into the hundreds of bags of fertilizer they sell.

