

Bill Earhart

Teacher of the Week Bill Earhart

Bill Earhart is a teacher of social studies at Beahm Junior High School in Mount Joy; he is also the coach of the girls basketball team at Donegal High School.

As both teacher and coach his fundamental goal is the same: to bring out the very best in his students and athletes.

As an example of what Mr. Earhart has accomplished in bringing out hidden talents, the girls basketball team is impressive evidence.

Four years ago when Mr. Earhart took over as coach the team won one game. The second year they won eight games. The third year, 19 games, and last year 19 games were won again, and Mr. Earhart believes that the team was the best in the section, but because of the tension of the championship game they lost a heart-breaker to Hempfield. They had previously beaten this same team decisively.

Mr. Earhart fervently hopes that more fans will come out for the home games this year. He hopes the stands will be packed, so that his girls will get accustomed to the tension created by wildly cheering fans, who will be a big help.

The whole championship calibre team from last year will be back this year, and much improved. These girls will deserve packed houses for every game. They will be something to watch. Mr. Earhart is not saying how far they will go in the playoffs, but it is not hard to read his mind: they will go far.

He has been working with them since they were in the eighth grade, bringing out

latent talents they never knew they had, like the talent for winning jump shots, which some people have said girls cannot do. "Hogwash!" says Mr. Earhart who proved the skeptics wrong.

What he has done with his basketball players he does in his classrooms too, bringing out abilities that students never dreamed they had. In his course on "Pennsylvania" he has his students actually dig out local history for themselves. They interview older people about local history, recording the interviews on tape recorders, and then writing reports on their research. In the course of carrying out these reports, they learn social, technical, and literary skills, skills that will stand them in good stead in the future.

Instead of just learning history, "because knowing the past will help you understand the present and the future," these students have created their own history books about their own immediate community and have developed practical skills that may well be valuable in their future vocations.

Last summer Mr. Earhart took a course "Alpha awareness." It gave him a perspective on the human brain as a computer that has to be properly programmed to function at peak efficiency. Practically anyone can function more efficiently by re-programming his own brain to do so.

Basic to more efficient functioning is self-confidence. Developing skills is at the root of self-confidence, knowing that you can

do something, feeling, "I can do it." That is the feeling Mr. Earhart strives to instil in his classroom students and his basketball players on the court: "I can do it."

Mr. Earhart says that everyone has a big self and a small self. "The small self makes you shy, retiring." The whole idea is "let your big self take over." As an example of letting the big self take over Mr. Earhart cites the immortal tenor Caruso. "He was always nervous before going on stage, but he would let his big self take over as he went on stage. His chest would lift, and he would rush out and take charge."

Mr. Earhart believes that girl athletes need confidence even more than boys. Boys have been better programmed by our culture to have confidence in competitive sports. Therefore, it is even more important for girls than boys that they acquire the appropriate psychological attitudes to win. It is not enough to look externally confident. Mr. Earhart knows that, because even though he looks calm sitting on the bench during a basketball game, he is often not internally calm. "If you don't feel it inside you're just kidding yourself, and can't perform in a tight situation."

He is very proud of what his basketball players have been doing since last season. Over the summer they played in the county basketball league, sharpening their skills, picking up confidence.

Most of them are playing hockey or tennis now, but toward the end of October they will begin to get in shape for the potentially great season ahead of them, by running. They begin serious practice November 1. These girls have set goals for themselves to achieve. That is the secret of confidence: establish high but reasonable goals, and achieve them. Very likely, for these girls, as the season progresses, their goals are going to rise. Anything is possible for them.

For some reason, girl athletes, unlike a lot of boy athletes excel academically as well as athletically. Mr. Earhart's girl basketball players are just as good constructing sentences and solving equations as they are at dropping baskets. He feels that their academic success adds to their confidence on the basketball court. They have an all-around competence.

Mr. Earhart believes that there is a great future for women in sports, just now developing. Girls are winning high-paying athletic scholarships to universities and colleges, covering the major costs of their educations. The opportunities for girls in sports, he feels, are unlimited. (Look at Tracy Austin.)

Mr. Earhart does not merely preach his doctrine of success through confi-

dence based on developing skills. He has honed a few skills of his own. He earned his principal's certificate by studying at Temple University. He studied at the American Academy of Dramatic arts in New York, and played the male lead in *Picnic* a few years ago, not to mention bit movie parts.

In his spare time he is an announcer at radio station WPDC in Elizabethtown. He announces DHS sports events over the PA system. He visits radio stations in New York City, studying the techniques of national announcers.

Not just a teacher of geography, he has travelled widely in Europe. He has backpacked in the western Canadian wilds.

"I like to be doing something; I can't stand inactivity."

He likes New York City, finds it "electrifying." "Something is happening there in every block. I run into all different kinds of people in New York, all of them interesting."

Also, he is a member of the East Donegal Boat Club and likes to go out on the Susquehanna by himself, basking in solitude. He gets up at dawn, goes outside, and sees how many birds he can identify in the early morning.

HOLLINGER OIL SERVICE

ARCO HEATING OIL



HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

SALES & SERVICE

FREE ESTIMATES—
CALL 653-4484

807 WEST MAIN ST, MOUNT JOY, PA

AUCTIONS make the difference in marketing livestock!

NEW HOLLAND

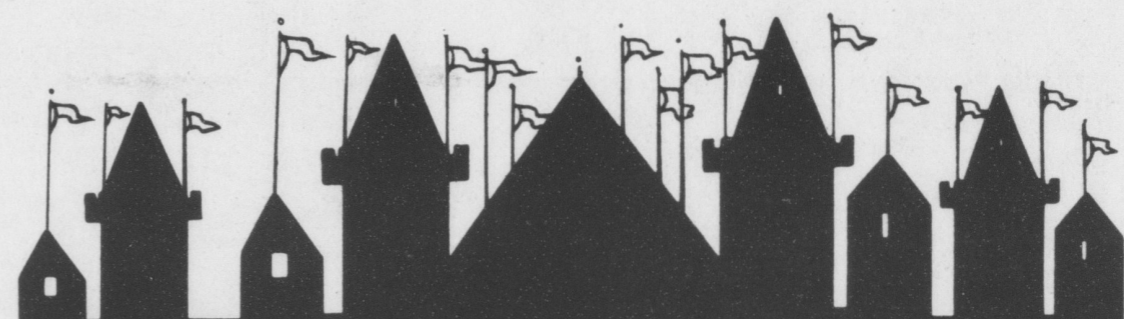
difference in auctions!

MONDAY—8 AM--Fat Hogs
10 AM--Horse Sale
11 AM--Hay & Straw
1:30 PM--Fat Steers, Bulls, Cows & Veal
WEDNESDAY—12 Noon--Hay & Straw
12:30 PM--Dairy Sale
1:00 PM--Feeder Pigs
THURSDAY—11 AM--Fat Steers, Bulls & Cows
4:30 PM--Sheep & Veal

New Holland Sales Stables, Inc.

New Holland, Penna.

Abram W. Diffenbach, Manager Phone [717] 354-4341

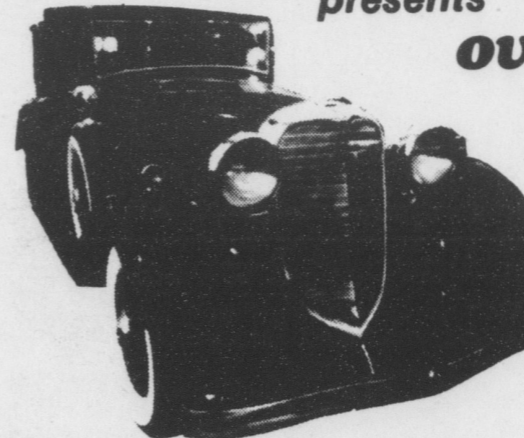


Dutch Wonderland

presents

over 300 exciting

**ANTIQUE
AUTOS
CLASSIC
CARS**



at the 7th annual

**ANTIQUE and CLASSIC CAR
AUCTION and EXHIBIT**

SEPTEMBER 29 through OCTOBER 1

September 29 and 30 — Exhibit. View over 300 classic collector's cars from all over the world.
September 30 and October 1 — Auction. Collectors from all over the United States and Canada will bid on exotic autos and valuable classic cars.

All funds handled by Dutch Wonderland Collector Auto Auction.

Auctioneering by J. Omar Landis Auction Service.

DELIGHT in new discoveries at the automotive flea market! ENJOY the fabulous Dutch Wonderland theme park — America's Family Funland!

Dutch Wonderland

Route 30 East 4 1/2 miles east of Lancaster, Pa. 17602 call (717) 291-1888