

A Blow To Kids' Gymnastics

EDITOR:

For the past year, a controversy has been taking place concerning gymnastics in Plymouth.

This controversy has been centered on introducing gymnastics into the list of approved school activities.

Currently 62 children, ages eight to 17 years, are involved in this program with a degree of success but no injuries.

These children have now been dealt another blow to add to the many they have suffered in their pursuit of this sport within the last year. The gymnastics program has been cancelled.

The reasons given for cancelling this program are as follows:

1. **Plaster's Wars** - because of the gymnasts going barefoot, cases of plaster wars have increased substantially. Mr. Cunningham, the coach of gymnastics, should have checked all students for plaster wars before he let them participate.

2. **Some girls at Junior High East** have become engaged in arguments with the gym teacher there, because Mr. Cunningham is then gym teacher and does not wear shoes while performing tricks; the gym teachers say it is necessary.

3. The chalk left on the floor by the gymnasts has made floor conditions slippery.

4. Mats have been damaged by members of the gymnastics group.

5. A personality problem has developed between Mr. Cunningham and members of the administration.

My answer to problem number one on plaster wars is as follows: Every day, I along with other students make the trip from our lockers into the shower room, a distance of approximately 50 to 60 feet. I have made this trip every school day for the last two years and made a similar trip for two years preceding that, at Junior High East. I have yet to acquire a case of plaster wars.

To my knowledge, there has been only one case of plaster wars in the last four years.

As for having Mr. Cunningham check each person's feet for this, then correspondingly, this shouldn't be limited to Mr. Cunningham. The same thing should be done in every situation throughout the city where a person's bare feet touch the floor, in my four years in gym classes throughout the Plymouth school system, none has checked my feet.

As for the arguments which came about at Junior High East, this is a petty argument. In my opinion, but all the gymnasts, whom I have consulted, have never worked out with gym shoes on and none have had plaster wars.

The chalk left by the gymnasts has caused many problems.

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.

Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

How To Help Kids In Saigon

EDITOR:

I would like to offer a suggestion to the many people who did not take part in the recent Vietnam war protest.

Many people may not realize that the Army's main job is not to kill and destroy in Vietnam, but rather it is our mission to promote and maintain peace.

There are many civic action programs that are sponsored by the United States Army, as well as the many individual efforts, that are undertaken by Army personnel, to provide a better way of life for the people of this war-ravaged land.

It is about one such program that I would like to call your attention to. There is a program underway to provide Christmas gifts for the children in the Saigon area. This is an individually sponsored plan that involves the personnel of the adjacent general office at MACV, the people of Wayne, and we hope a lot of smiling Vietnamese children.

There is a wonderful lady in Wayne who is dedicating a lot of time and effort to make this program possible. Her name is Mrs. Robert Byrd, and her address is 5090 Treadwell Road.

Anyone desiring to make Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS for a lot of underprivileged children is urged to either contact Mrs. Byrd, or to send gifts directly to the following addresses: SSG Larry P. Dickson 345-04-1865, HQ MACV AG-AR, APO San Francisco, CA, 96322; SP4 Robert L.R. Byrd 365-54-4678, HQ MACV AG-AR, APO San Francisco, CA, 96322.

We hope that there will be a huge response to this program, as this means a lot to all of us concerned.

LARRY P. DICKSON
ROBERT L.R. BYRD
U.S. Army

Fast Arrest In Westland

EDITOR:

Wayne police who made the arrest on Bryar and Cherry Hill on Nov. 2 deserve a promotion, as I have never seen a better performance by any police, very efficient and quick.

It has made me and many others proud to live in Westland where we have such excellent police.

MRS. M. MOFFAT
Westland

Got A Buck? Get A Pic!

As they say in Las Vegas, the point is six.

If you're one of the luckier Overland hunters who bring back a six-point buck, or better, feel free to telephone Plymouth News Editor at either 261-9600 or 443-3300.

We'll not only believe you but we'll take your picture so that your in-laws and the fellows at work will believe you also.

Remember, though, it's six points. Two three's won't do. Good hunting and play it safe.



SILVER BEAVERS - William A. Smith (left) and his wife Angus B. Leggat with Mrs. Leggat are pleased with the committee's selection for the annual Silver Beaver award. Smith and Leggat received plaques, and their wives were presented orchids marking the occasion.

Scouting's Best: 2 Silver Bearers

Boy Scouting's highest honor - the Silver Beaver award - was presented to two Livonia men for their outstanding performance as Boy Scout leaders in Overland.

Honored at special ceremonies Nov. 6 at the annual meeting of Sunset District were Angus B. Leggat, scoutmaster of Troop 737, and William A. Smith, assistant district commissioner.

The presentation at Roma Hall was made by Lloyd Smith, district council board member. It climaxed the annual meeting, which included an election of officers. The district includes the Overland area in Wayne County.

Names of the winners were kept secret until the close of the meeting.

A BOY SCOUT himself, Leggat was awarded the Silver Beaver award for his contributions during his 25 years in Scouting.

In his announcement, Smith said Leggat "has been an important influence in 25 years of Scouting."

Active in many community activities, Leggat is also registered with the Girl Scouts of Metropolitan Detroit and aided in fund raising for the YMCA building.

A MEMBER of the PTA for 20 years, Leggat was awarded the scoutmaster's key in 1964.

Within his own family circle, he boasts two sons who are Eagle Scouts as well as a daughter in Girl Scouts and a boy in Cub Scouts.

He is active in the Presbyterian Church where he has served in various capacities. He is an engineer with General Motors.

SMITH'S 11 years of scouting have seen him serve as scoutmaster, assistant explorer advisor, a staff commissioner, merit badge counselor and troop committee.

Introductory remarks told how Smith has been "instrumental in the organization and reorganization of many Boy Scout troops which are continuing to actively serve boys."

Livonia's Girl Scouts also have benefited from Smith's services because he has spent many hours teaching girls the outdoor skills learned as leader of Philmont Scout ranch.

Also active with the PTA,

he often organized and chaperoned many Boy Scout-Girl Scout activities.

LIKE THE Leggats, the Smiths are also a Scouting family. Mrs. Smith was a Girl Scout leader for many years.

Their daughters are in Scouts at the present time. One of the couple's sons achieved the Eagle rank and is now a Scoutmaster.

A Ford Motor Co. employee, Smith was recently honored by his company for outstanding community service.

OTHER AWARDS presented during the evening included the scoutmaster's key given to the following:

Ernest A. Baylor, A.M. Frusher, James L. Nelson, Vincent Pellerio, Leonard Perry, Jerry Rota, Lloyd S. Scott, James R. Sharpe and John Sudduth.

Scouter's awards were presented to:

George Brown, Melvin Bunnell, David Cameron, Lawrence Damask, Arthur Dixon, Bert Estes, David Fowler, Karl M. Gerardi, Robert Fowler.

Carl Haapala, Al Hardman, Glenn Hoffman, Willis L. Johnston, Leonard A. Leonard, Floyd Miller, T.E. Moorhead, Frank

in Osborne, Stanley Patyna, George Lin Poy, Ed Sadowski, Steve Shewchuk, Jack L. Shafer, Marj Whitlow and Bobby York.

FOUR PERSONS were presented the dean leader's trailing award. They are: Jean E. Ganne, Audrey Tucker, Maxine Williams and William Vanderloop.

Instructor's certificates went to Bob Beumelster, George Brown, Norman Perry, Gerald Douyard, David McLean and Arthur V. Phillips.

Eight men were recipients of the Arrowhead honor. They are: Ray Bauer, Ernest A. Baylor, Robert Brown, Albert Gault, Paul Howard, Clifford Lawrence, Clint Minter and Leonard Zwick.

REVIEWING The progress of Sunset District, the largest in the Metropolitan Council, District Chairman Ed Scheeling reported that more than 2,875 boys advanced at least one rank since Jan. 1, 1969; 21 boys earned the rank of Eagle; and more than 176 men have earned as merit badge counselors.

Growth of the district was evidenced by the addition of 20 new scouting units, boosting the total membership over the 9,000-member mark.

Area Deaths And Funerals

WILLIS W. WITHER. Funeral services for Mr. Wither, of 2200 E. 10th Ave., will be held Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 10 a.m. in the Wayne Funeral Home, Livonia Park Center.

Mr. Wither died Nov. 2 at the age of 64.

He is survived by his wife, Vera; six sons, Charles, of 130 N. Hawthorne, Westland; James Richard, Gary, Wain, Jr. and Randall; six daughters, Wilma, Mrs. Phil Flinn, Gail, Mrs. Hugh Gregory, Margaret, Mrs. Shira Hoffman and Linda; two sisters, in Pennsylvania; and 17 grandchildren.

GARLAND M. HALL. Services for Mr. Hall, of 304 Sheridan, Garden City, were held Nov. 7 in the Lane Chapel of the B.C. and G.R. Harris Funeral Home with Rev. Connie Seeger officiating. Burial was in Oakdale Memorial Gardens West.

Mr. Hall died Nov. 3 in Wayne County General Hospital at the age of 63.

He was a retired electrical repairman and a member of Temple Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth; three sons, Mr. Vincent Mulligan, two sisters, Mrs. Bonnie Howe of Ann Arbor and Mrs. Ruth C. Howe; and two grandchildren.

DOROTHY MARIE SUTHERLAND. Funeral services for Mrs. Sutherland, of 619 Gilman, Garden City, were held Wednesday morning with Rev. Roy Franck officiating. Burial was in Rose-Cradle Park Cemetery.

Mrs. Sutherland died Saturday in Wayne County General Hospital at the age of 44.

She is survived by her father, Homer V. Wheeler, stepfather, Harry Cassen, a son, David; two daughters, Mrs. Ruth McPherson and Linda Houska; a brother, Homer F. Wheeler; a sister, Mrs. Lillian Rayson; and one grandchild.

RALPH BEANS. Funeral services for Mr. Beans, of 2011 Bunker, Garden City, were held Oct. 30 in Hunter Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe.

Mr. Beans died Oct. 29 in Ann Arbor Hospital, Wayne, at the age of 96.

He was survived by three daughters, Mrs. Alta Irwin, Mrs. Dorothy Brown, and Mrs. Ruth McPherson; and eight great-grandchildren.

MAE STEVENS. Funeral services for Mrs. Stevens, of 2636 Bunker, Garden City, were held Friday from St. Raphael Catholic Church, Garden City, with burial in Cadillac Memorial Gardens West Cemetery.

Mrs. Stevens died Nov. 4 in University Nursing Home at the age of 84.

She is survived by two nieces, Mrs. Virginia Neale and Mrs. Lois Hoffman.

NINA HAINES GARRETT. Funeral services for Mrs. Garrett, of 2006 Florence, Garden City, were held Nov. 3 with Brother Robert Aulby

officiating. Burial was in Memorial Park, Bunker.

Mrs. Garrett died Oct. 31 at the age of 43 in Garden City Osteopathic Hospital.

She is survived by her husband, James; two sons, Jeff and James; two daughters, Tracy and Jane; and four grandchildren.

PHILLIP K. CHAPPELLE. Funeral services for Mr. Chappelle, 56, of 1833 Garfield, in Redford Township, were held Nov. 3 in St. Andrew Episcopal Church at Livonia with Rev. John Smith officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery.

A resident of Redford for the past 20 years, Mr. Chappelle was a U.S. government employee in procurement. He died Oct. 29 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia, after an illness of six months. He was born in Bathurst, New Brunswick.

Survivors are his wife, Betty; daughters, Anna and Jean; sisters, Elizabeth and Barbara; a son, Henry; Betty Simeon and Mary Chapple.

V. I. P. stands for

DONALD W. SMITH
District Manager

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RAE ANN BLANKENSHIP. Funeral services for Miss Blankenship, 12, of 622 Dering, Garden City, were held Nov. 10 in St. Andrew Episcopal Church at Livonia with Rev. John Smith officiating.

She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Blankenship; her sister, Rebecca; and two brothers, Robert and Elmer. Burial was in Cadillac Memorial Cemetery and James.

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