

# Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield, Mountainside and Summit

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 69 NO. 51

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1998

TWO SI

ENTS

## THIS WEEK

### NEWS



#### Back to school

With September just around the corner and the start of the new school year upon us, how's your chance to discover how your local merchants have put their shelves for students of all ages. See our Back to School section inside this newspaper.

### THE ARTS

#### No mystery

Librarians' writing talent is really no mystery to those who know her.



#### Wrapping up

The Party Dolls will wrap up the Union County summer concert series at Lago Lake Park in Mountainside. We give you a taste of what they sound like.

### NEW MEDIA

#### Get local updates throughout the week

Call our InfoSource hot line at 908-786-9808. Selection 7531.

#### Web site

Visit our site on the World Wide Web, which can be accessed at <http://www.localsource.com>

### WEATHER

Friday: Partly sunny and warm. 85.  
Saturday: Partly sunny and humid. 91.  
Sunday: Partly sunny. 86.

For the most up to date reports, call (908) 866-8898, Ext. 1790.

### INDEX

- Community calendar
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## Officials sigh with relief as clinic move delayed

By Philip Sean Curran Staff Writer

Springfield officials celebrated temporarily after learning that the attorney representing the Union Township-based methadone clinic withdrew his application to use variance at last Wednesday's Township Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting.

Clark, named Clifford H. Bass, is moving his operation into an industrial area off Route 22 and out of a residential zone.

Originally, when negotiations between officials representing Union and Bass produced an agreement allowing the transfer to move, Bass was going to open space on Progress Street, but that arrangement broke down, forcing him to buy a 1.50 acre tract that includes two town, tree and shrub care company located a block east in the same area.

That change means Bass must apply again, said Richard Malanda, county planning code official of Union Township.

Actually, the attorney, Stephen H. Helt, never submitted a formal application. During a July board meeting, Helt asked for and received an extension until August, when the next hearing could take place. But because Bass chose a different site, the application needs to be listed under the new address — but the old one. Another hearing date depends on Helt's diligence; the next possible date is Sept. 2. By law, an applicant can appear before the board, which meets on Wednesdays, 10 calendar days after public notice is published in a newspaper.

Helt declined to comment about the matter.

On this side of the Railway River, officials adamantly oppose the clinic move, arguing that the Progress Street location is too close to residential neighborhood and county park. The Township Committee adopted a resolution that expresses its displeasure. The negative impact previously experienced in Union will not be experienced in the new location.

ated, but will only be transferred to the residents of Springfield, the resolution reads.

In part, the Springfield Committee is disappointed that Union's governing body seemingly ignored what impacts would be felt on Springfield if the privately owned clinic should move. Roy Allan Hirschfeld, one-time mayor and now committee member, said Union's governing body should have consulted Springfield officials about the matter before moving ahead with the plan.

"I think they have to be sensitive to the surrounding communities," Hirschfeld said. "It is just not an appropriate place for a program like that." Hirschfeld is joined by Mayor Sy Mullman in calling the Progress Street area a poor choice for a methadone clinic.

"Any methadone clinic belongs in one place, a hospital," the mayor said.

Committeeman Gregory Clarke asked township health official Cynthia Weaver to investigate why the clinic, the scene of drug arrests in the past, was moving. Weaver said any questions relating to activity outside the clinic could be most appropriately answered by Union Township Chief of Police Thomas Kraemer, whom she directed the committee to talk to.

While Union Mayor Anthony Terrazza said the matter is one ultimately decided by the zoning board, at least one Union Township Committeeman said Union might re-examine it.

"Maybe we, as a governing body, may have to take a second look on the proposed location's impact on the residential neighborhood," said Greg Maillet.

Muller continued: "I think the governing body, as well as the zoning board, needs to take into consideration the health, safety, and welfare of Vauxhall and Springfield. Springfield does have concerns we need to look to see if those are verified concerns or perceived concerns."



Photo By Barbara Krakulski

Lifeguard Joe Andrasko swims alongside Pat Farley during the Super Swim Classic at the Springfield pool Tuesday. Proceeds from the event will benefit leukemia research.

## Pool sponsors event to fight leukemia

By Mark Goldwert Staff Writer

One afternoon earlier this summer, Springfield Pool Director Patrick Farley found himself chatting with the executive director of the Southern New Jersey Chapter of the Leukemia Society of America.

From that conversation and the news that a 12-year-old Springfield boy had recently died of leukemia, the Super Swim Classic was born at the Springfield Pool.

Swim sponsors have pledged to donate a certain amount for each lap completed and swimmers of all ages hit the water Tuesday for the first day of the two week event. Proceeds from the Super Swim Classic benefit leukemia research.

Four of Tuesday's swimmers, the youngest of whom were 3 years old, had only recently learned to swim. According to Farley, those who come for adult evening swims will also be able to participate in the Super Swim Classic. Adults, dump here to stay in shape, Farley said. "If we get them involved, then we can make their swimming even more meaningful."

A goal of \$2,500 has been set and participants will pledge and are awarded prizes according to their gender and age totals. Sponsor forms are available at the Springfield Pool or prospective swimmers can call the Leukemia Society of America at (731) 376-9550.

"We hope to expand this program this coming winter with the club teams of New Jersey Swimming and with the high school swim teams in New Jersey," said Farley. "We want to start here in Union County."

Now that the Super Swim Classic is underway, Farley believes that this kind of event could easily gain momentum and become a major contributor in the fight against leukemia. "It can really build," said Farley. "This is just the beginning. Each year we can increase the amount of support that we have. More community pools throughout New Jersey could do this on an annual basis. I think that if we worked together, we could have \$100,000 a summer."

The Super Swim Classic at the Springfield Pool runs until Aug. 29.

## School regionalization addressed by state task force

By Sean Daily and Walter Elliott

A state Assembly panel asked those familiar with the Union County Regional High School District dissolution to appear at a public hearing Thursday.

While school officials from Clark, Berkeley Heights and Garwood spoke, counterparts from Kentwood, Mountainside and Springfield did not go to Trenton.

Appearance notices were sent last week by Assembly Majority Leader Jack Colton. It is unclear on behalf of colleague Joseph Malone, Milford, D. Burlington, heads the

Assembly Task Force on School Regionalization.

"With more than 600 school districts in the state, regionalization may well offer some savings in certain areas," said Malone, "but we have to look at all aspects. Our job is to find the overriding facts behind a regionalization or breakup from a variety of viewpoints."

Thursday's hearing went well, said Berkeley Heights Superintendent of Schools Robert Stowell. "My impression is that they wanted to know why the Union regional district dissolved. They wanted to know the

advantages and pitfalls of regionalization."

Berkeley Heights is home to Governor Livingston High School, one of four schools which comprised the former regional district. The other three are Jonathan Dayton in Springfield, David Bradley in Kenilworth and Arthur L. Johnson in Clark — were built and operated by the district through regional taxes. Mountainside and Garwood, which largely send their students to Livingston and Johnson, also paid in.

The district's closing of Bradley in 1993, however, launched a drive to

regionalize. A statewide referendum to dissolve the district passed in 1995 and the transfer of the high schools to their home districts was made on June 15, 1997. The dissolution ended the state's first regional district after a 60-year life.

The former Union County district was the only one which paid for its education. The merger was a result of a similar breakup of the Eastern Camden district and Plumstead Township's withdrawal from the Upper Freehold district in Ocean County.

"There was a comment made by the

Plumstead school's business administrator Tom McMahon just before I spoke that impressed me," said Stowell. "McMahon said every municipal and regional school district has their own factors. Those factors should be considered before starting or ending a regional district."

Paul Orfanedes, Clark's superintendent of schools, said the township suffered a decline in school tax increases as a direct result of regionalization. Part of the hike came when the highly paid and highly senior teachers stayed at

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## Sweeping the streets



Photo By Jeff Orman

Pat Pociello, vice president of Pulaski Savings in Springfield and president-elect of the Kiwanis Club, tackled the littered intersection of Meisel and Morris avenues last week with broom in hand as part of the Adopt-A-Highway program. Leo Wallace, president of the Kiwanis Club, and Ruth Schwartz, chairman of the Beautification of Springfield Committee, also pitched in on the project.

## No movement tallied in Edwards site plan

By Walter Elliott Staff Writer

Those watching the continuing Royal Ahold/Edwards Super Foods Store site plan application hearing before the Springfield Zoning Board of Adjustment left with a feeling of having seen a summer rerun Tuesday night.

An audience of about 95 people saw applicant attorney James Segreio question engineer Cabot Hudson on the overall application. Cabot's testimony and Segreio's questions, however, were a replay of the July 14 meeting.

Board Chairman Susan Applebaum allowed Segreio to do over on the basis of two sets of site plans presented last month. Segreio referred two original sets dated May 1, and a second, dated July 1, presented with panels, suggested revisions. Both were presented to the board before July 4.

You kept referring to one set and then to the revised set in your presentation last month, said panelist Sam Lubick. "I think you'd be better off identifying which drawing is from which set. That will keep us from getting confused."

It is typical in the course of a zoning board hearing for the applicant to revise drawings based on suggestions made by the board, said Segreio. "I can give you a transcript of a list showing each drawing by earliest date and by revised date. Let's make best use of the expert's time who are here."

Segreio suggested going over each of the latest dated drawings, marking and circling them as evidence and going in-depth with each drawing later. He added that several drawings in the file set are dated Aug. 5 and several drawings may be revised even later in the hearing process.

The time would be better spent adjourning the hearing until the applicant makes all of his revisions, said opposing attorney James D'Elia. "It would save us time and confusion in the long run."

Royal Ahold, which owns the former Saks Fifth Avenue site at 90 Millburn Ave., wants to build a smaller Edwards Super Foods supermarket there. Officials in Millburn Township, in addition to residents and block associations in Addison and Springfield, have long opposed a supermarket on the site on land use and traffic volume grounds.

### Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

**How to reach us:**  
The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Worral Community Newspapers, an independent family-owned newspaper company. Our offices are located at 1291 Shyvers Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

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The Echo Leader provides an open forum for citizens and welcomes comments on editorial content. Letters to the Editor should be typed, double spaced, must be signed and should be accompanied by a return address and day long phone number. Letters are considered for publication mail-week. They are subject to editing for length and clarity.

**e-mail:**  
The Echo Leader accepts e-mail comments to our Web site address, is Web site is available on our website. E-mail comments received by 9 a.m. Monday will be considered for publication. E-mail comments will be accepted by e-mail.

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The Echo Leader has a classified advertising section in the Echo Leader. All display ads must be in our office by Monday 5 p.m. for publication that week. Display ads are classified by size and placement. Advertising rates are available in our office by Friday at noon. An advertising representative will gladly assist you in preparing your message. Call 908-686-7700 for an appointment. Also see the display advertising department.

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### La Motta honored

Michael A. La Motta of Springfield recently received a letter of congratulations from Congressman Bill Frank, House of Representatives, 11th District, for outstanding service and dedication to the St. James Society.

La Motta served as president of St. James Society for two consecutive years. He has also chaired other committees since its inception in 1991. The group meets monthly at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Springfield, where members enjoy social functions, and are kept informed of current senior news.

### Chairman selected

Michael Krasner and Steve Briscoe of the Democratic Party's candidates for election to the Mountainside Borough Council have named Lou Thomas as chairman of their campaign committee.

Krasner and Briscoe are urging people to vote to be sure its executive rights and democratic obligations to vote in November. Mountainside voters two often are neglected in decisions that affect their pocket books and the quality of community life. Campaign manager Thomas said.

Karen MacQueen was chosen treasurer of the Committee to Elect Krasner and Briscoe, joining Krasner, Briscoe, Thomas and MacQueen on the committee's planning body, are Phyllis Brooker and J. Scott Schmedel.

### Bagger announces office hours

The legislative office of Assemblyman Richard H. Bagger will be open to residents of the 22nd Legislative District from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

In addition to regular business hours on weekdays and one Saturday per month, Assemblyman Bagger's office, located at 203 Elm St. in Westfield, is open from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday.

The 22nd Legislative District includes Berkeley Heights, Clark, Clifton Township, Cranford, Danielson, Fairwood, Garwood, Green Brook, Mountainside, New Providence, North Plainfield, Long Hill, Scotch Plains, Warren, Watchung, Westfield and Watchkill.

Further information may be obtained by calling Assemblyman Bagger's legislative office at (908) 252-6070.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the Echo Leader to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To give your community events the publicity they deserve, mail your ad to: P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

**Today**  
• The Trailside Nature and Science Center will hold a "Hula Hoop Play" at 1 p.m. The program is called "Rock and Roll Hula Hoop" and will feature Rodney the Rocket, on a musical journey to the moon and planets to look for aliens and learn about rockets. \$3 per person and \$2.55 for seniors. The show is for children ages four and up.  
**Sunday**  
• The Trailside Nature and Science Center will hold two Sunday planetarium shows. The first program begins at 2 p.m. and is called "Summer Celestial Spectacles." The show will feature finding the summer triangle, Hercules, Scorpius and other prominent constellations. Any special current sky events will also be added to the show. Admission will be \$3 per person, \$2.55 for seniors and the show is for ages 10 and up. Six years of age. The second program is called "Eaves 12" and will begin at 7:30 p.m. The show will feature laser lights and the music of 12. Admission will be \$3.25 per person, \$2.75 for seniors and the show is for ages 10 and up. The Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 N.W. Providence Road in Mountainside. For more information, call (908) 259-6070.

**Monday**  
• The Summit Area Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at St. Vincent de Paul on Hobson Avenue inirling from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. The drive is open to the public and will be conducted by New Jersey Blood Services. Donors will need to bring ID with a picture or signature and know their Social Security number.

**Wednesday**  
• PREP, People Responsible for Elderly Persons, support group will meet from 7-9 p.m. at SAGE Senior-A Day Center, 550 Springfield Ave., Berkeley Heights. For more information, call (908) 273-4508.

**Coming Events**  
Sept. 25  
• The Summit Area Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at St. Vincent de Paul, 587 Springfield Ave. in Summit, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. The drive is open to the public and will be conducted by New Jersey Blood Services. Donors will need to bring ID with a picture or signature and know their Social Security number.  
Oct. 4  
• Sandhurst School, 866 South Springfield Ave., Springfield, will hold an Outdoor Flea Market sponsored by the PTA. The fair date will be Oct. 11, and vendors and crafters with new and used merchandise are wanted. For more information, call Fran at (973) 376-6386.

**Oct. 21**  
• The Springfield Chapter of Hadassah will sponsor a bus trip to Princeton. The trip will include a guided tour of the governor's mansion, lunch at the Nassau Inn and a guided tour of the air museum at Princeton University. The all-inclusive price is \$55, and all proceeds will be donated to Youth Aiyah to be used by the Children's Village there. Help to integrate the young and new arrivals to Israel. Checks can be made payable to Springfield Chapter of Hadassah. For reservations, call Pearl Kaplan, at (973) 376-3770.

**Oct. 24**  
• The second annual flea market at the Springfield, Emanuel United Methodist Church will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fee is \$20 for a space and the main date is Oct. 31. Flea market vendors and people looking to sell off their unwanted garage sale items are asked to call Tom at (908) 587-0779, Esther at (908) 276-4968, or the church at (973) 376-1695 for an application.

**Nov. 21**  
• The second annual Winter Craft Fair at the Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church will be held indoors from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors are wanted, and spaces are \$25 which includes a table and chair. Call Tom at (908) 587-0779; Esther at (908) 276-4968, or the church at (973) 376-1695 to reserve early.

### Church announces new addition

Faith Lutheran Church in New Providence has announced the addition to their staff of Serina Norwood, who will be the new minister of music. Norwood, a native of Wisconsin, has moved to Clifton from her previous position at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MI.



Serina Norwood with John Ferguson and conducting with Judith Armstrong as part of her Master's work.

Her duties as minister of music, in addition to worship planning in conjunction with the pastors and serving as church organist and pianist, include directing an adult vocal choir, four youth vocal choirs, two adult handbell choirs, and beginning this fall, a youth handbell choir. Norwood will also be called upon to conduct other instrumentalists on occasion, among them brass and trumpet players, guitarists, bagpipers, and violonists.

Norwood received her Master's degree in Sacred Music from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., in cooperation with St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. She studied organ.

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### Concerns rise in service issue

By Mark Goldwert  
Staff Writer

The Mountaineer Borough Council addressed the emergency services dilemma currently faced by the borough during their regular monthly meeting Tuesday night. "It has become a state-wide problem and it has now hit Mountaineer," said Mayor Robert Vigilanti of the disappearing Volunteer Rescue Squad.

The meeting was scheduled to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. so that Mayor Vigilanti could begin an emergency meeting with representatives from the police and fire departments as well as the rescue squad, but the public discussion reached a pitch that forced the meeting to continue.

Members of the Mountaineer Democratic Club expressed their concern with the borough council's handling of the situation and asked that the Mayor clarify the situation further.

Mayor Vigilanti and the council members repeatedly stated throughout the course of the public discussion that the borough was searching for a solution and considering all options. The Mayor was adamant in assuring the audience that when it comes to emergency medical care and fire response "there will be no void in service" between now and the time when both situations can be resolved. The council will hold a public session on the topic Monday, August 31.

Earlier in the meeting, the three month probationary period of Bor-

ough Administrator Greg Borin was put to an end. "I feel that we have a very capable and able administrator," Councilman David Hart stated. "We will be in very good hands."

A tax credit was authorized by the council for Loews Theater. In the Borough of Mountaineer industries must pay an initial "hook-up" fee for sewage rights and Loews was asked to pay an amount based on an estimate of their needs. When the theater produced an amount of sewage below what the estimate had projected, they were granted the credit which will subtract from their tax bill for the next four quarters. The tax credit has been authorized in place of a reimbursement by the Borough.

The board also announced the purchase of an ice-skating rink for this winter. The rink will be constructed with a plastic liner, 50x170 feet with side walls. The new winter attraction will be located in the playground by the Borough Hall. Nights will be placed on telephone poles, and events, complete with bonfires, will be scheduled for weekends.

In the most pleasant and least controversial moment of the evening, the Borough Council issued a resolution of recognition to pool lifeguard April Renobach for her rescue of a swimmer in distress. "This is one of the pleasures of being a mayor," said Mayor Vigilanti. The resolution goes into the permanent history of Mountaineer.

### Board addresses budget

By Walter Elliott  
Staff Writer

The Springfield Board of Education attempted to answer an \$80,000 administrative and budget question during its meeting Monday night.

The board approved the selection of Ralph Celebre as an interim middle school dean of students into November. "It also appointed Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland to solicit quotes for an administrative assessment study. Both moves were made to satisfy an \$80,000 cut in the current budget for administrative positions.

"Although I had been advertising and taking resumes over the summer," said Friedland, "I had to be careful in recommending an interim administrator for the position which was last into November, when the administrative assessment study would be submitted. I had to consider, however, how to work around the interim candidate's committed work hours and vacation time."

Celebre, of Bound Brook, is no stranger to the Springfield system. He last served as a consultant at the Thelma L. Sandmeier School last fall while its current principal, Elizabeth Young, was phased in. He was an elementary school principal in the Livingston school system and holds a bachelor's and master's degrees in educational administration from Kean University.

At dean of students, Celebre is to assist Florence M. Gaudinier Middle School Principal Dennis McCarthy. He succeeds Mark Majeski, whose resignation was accepted during the same meeting.

Friedland also recommended the abolition of three full-time positions among the 13-member administration, force and provided the board with several choices. The board voted to retain the middle school dean of students, however, and one other position, last May. The \$19 million school system budget passed in April, however, included the \$80,000 reduction made.

"I have been looking for education

### Correction policy

If it is the policy of this newspaper to correct all significant errors that are brought to the editor's attention. If you believe that we have made such an error, please write Tom Caravan, editor-in-chief, 1291 Susquehanna Ave., Union, 07083.

### Shootin' hoops



Photo by Barbara Kukala  
Casey Brown and Michael Kenny, both 14, hone their basketball skills at the Mountaineer Recreation Center.

### Flood prevention project gets underway

By Mark Goldwert  
Staff Writer

Work on the Railway River desilting and culvert restoration project has gotten started in Springfield. The flow of the river has been disrupted, until now, by the accumulation of silt beneath the Route 78 bridge. The problem has been growing over the last 25 years and an initiative to request funding from the State Department of Transportation was headed by Assemblymen Joel M. Weingarten and Kevin O'Toole.

"This is one of the projects that we've been working to get done over the last year as a response to the chronic flooding which has bothered residents who live along the Railway River," explained Weingarten. "We're very pleased that we were able to procure approximately \$500,000 in this effort from the Department of Transportation because the area in question, which is where the pipe goes underneath Route 78, has led to problems for residents all along that component of the Railway River."

Congressman Bob Franks personally came down and

toured the site," said Springfield Committee member Ray Hirschfeld. "He also had a major impact in getting this done. We really appreciate the emphasis he and the assemblymen put on this project."

"This is in conjunction with bridge placement and repair efforts we have also been working on," said Weingarten. "All of these projects, one in conjunction with the next, should lead to significant improvements for residents all along the Railway River. Hopefully, from an environmental standpoint, it will improve the quality of life for everyone."

Upon completion of the desilting and culvert restoration, Springfield, Millburn and Union residents are expected to see a significant improvement in the flow of the Railway River. Flooding should be a problem of the past and downstream residents should experience no negative effects as a result of the project.

"Our engineer tells us there has to be more done than just desilting," Hirschfeld explained. "There are going to be other drainage issues, but the desilting process at least gets the process started."

### Local reps join panel discussion

(Continued from Page 1)

Johnson and the other CMAA employees.

Springfield's substitute superintendent, Gary Friggalland, said he got the notice two days before Mountaineer Chief School Administrator Gerald Schaller said he had not seen it.

"I was on vacation for two weeks when the notice was sent and I read it when I returned," he said. "It was too late to send a copy of my remarks to the tax office."

"I never saw the notice," said Schaller. "I made a mistake in the way the notice was handled by the Business Administration Office of the Borough of Kullback."

Schaller said the task force may have a stated purpose as to why the dissolution was necessary. He said after the June 30, 1997 transfer, Friggalland and Kullback were away as of press time.

"It seems it has been eight years since the reorganization," said Friggalland. "We're making great strides in making Springfield a full kindergarten through 12th grade school system."

Schaller and Stowell said the post-dissolution relationship between Mountaineer and Berkeley Heights has been harmonious.

"The transition has gone well," said Schaller. "Our administration, staff and teachers have been working with the high school on curriculum articulation."

There are currently 86 regional school districts in the state like the one formerly in Union County.

Staff Writer Tom Ann Abowitz also contributed to this story.

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# COMMUNITY FORUM

## Health commission should stay as is

We join those who oppose the moves by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders to take over the operations of the Union County Regional Environmental Health Commission.

UCREHC is responsible for investigating environmental health problems and enforcing air- and noise-pollution laws and garbage disposal laws in Union County. Basically everything in the state County Environmental Health Act.

UCREHC, which formed in 1985, is being taken over and replaced by the newly formed, taxpayer-funded Office of Environmental Health. Freeholders passed the ordinance July 23 authorizing this, a move which would translate to an increase in county taxes.

Currently, several communities are considering following the lead of Summit, Cranford and Fanwood, all of which have passed resolutions asking the freeholders to continue the same services that UCREHC currently provides without county tax increases or additional fees. The resolutions further encourage the freeholders to sit down with UCREHC commissioners to discuss the takeover.

When the majority of citizens and political leaders are exploring ways to downsize government and decrease its far-reaching control, it is counterproductive to increase the government-controlled operations.

Should the Board of Chosen Freeholders take over the operations of UCREHC, it will be at the residents' expense. Why should we, as taxpayers, have to begin paying for services which, until now, have been provided free of charge? Only those wishing to further line the coffers and increase the power of the county would think this move is a good idea.

Furthermore, UCREHC Chairman Andrew Snyder has complained that the freeholders have not kept him informed about the takeover, and have not replied to numerous requests for information. When asked, County Manager Michael Lapolla did not want to comment on the subject. If this takeover is in the best interest of the county's taxpayers and the freeholders' plans are above board, why the lack of communication?

The only ones with anything to gain from this entire scenario are the freeholders, in what seems to be a quest to increase their control, and we remind them that they have been elected to attend to the needs of the taxpayers and not themselves.

## Don't pass the buck

Essential services that most citizens take for granted may soon disappear from Mountainside, and we urge residents to take action and prevent this dangerous and costly occurrence.

Emergency services are the sort of thing to which most of us give little thought; we simply assume the life-saving vehicle with flashing sirens, flashing lights, and knowledgeable staff will arrive on the scene if we are ever so unfortunate as to need it. If any of us ever do give thought to being involved in an accident or finding ourselves helpless in some life-threatening situation, we rarely consider the possibility that our cries for aid might go unheard.

With the lack of community support for Mountainside's volunteer first aid squad and Fire Department, borough residents currently face this horrifying possibility. Several situations have already occurred which demonstrate that the absence of Mountainside's emergency services will be a detriment to the community. Several weeks ago, an automobile accident on Route 22 in the borough required emergency assistance, but calls for help went unanswered because of the understaffed rescue squad. Ambulances from Springfield and Summit finally arrived, but only after a long delay in which they realized Mountainside was unable to respond. Another situation requiring the Fire Department also went unattended recently when fire alarms sounded repeatedly at a borough residence. Had a fire actually been blazing, the home might have burned to the ground before rescue vehicles and fire trucks arrived.

The rescue squad and Fire Department in Mountainside exist as volunteer units, and without community support, the services will cease to function. No one wants to see tax rates rise to pay the salaries of emergency personnel, yet not enough people are willing to donate their time to ensure this does not happen. We urge Mountainside residents to take responsibility for vital services rather than pass the buck. The rescue squad and Fire Department need you.

**"In the pursuit of the truth, it is necessary to be fair and persistent but also important to be civil."**

**Tim Russert**  
journalist  
1996



**MAKING HER POINT**  
Elizabeth Schettino of Springfield shows off her reading skills to teacher Paula Bennett and fellow classmate Giulia Perini. The children are taking part in Keah University's Summer Reading and Math Clinic.

## County still needs solutions for air noise

### As I See It

By Norman Rauscher  
Correspondent

If I had enough that airplanes fly so low over households in this part of Union County that pilots can peer into your bedroom, but the noise that accompanies the flights is tantamount to living under a boiler factory.

Some of us have lived with this noise for several decades and nothing seems to have been done except to hold meetings and ponder the situation. Time and time again we hear and read that new flight patterns are being considered, but when they are implemented the situation becomes worse. Promises are made but the problem is never solved.

One group thinks planes should take off and then head out to sea instead of over Union County; another to give some relief to noise-riddled residents. Another group maintains that the noise is very brief and residents should grin and bear it. That's easy to say for those who don't have to experience the noise morning, noon and night.

It should be pointed out that Union County has been cursed by having three large airports relatively close to each other: Trenton, Newark Airport, JFK and L'Amleung plus a few private airports such as Morristown and Raritan. At every airport, planes continue to generate loud noises. What

have been taken care of years ago. There are some people still living in the Elizabeth area who remember all the well-remembered series of airplane crashes that happened there in the early 1950s. Killing several dozen airplane passengers, crew members and people on the ground and demolishing several houses. In the first seven months of 1950, there were four or five fatal crashes. Some were related to mid-air collisions or low flying too low, but were caused by engine failure. Several sections of Elizabeth, Union and Hillsdale lived in terror for several months waiting for another plane to drop.

As quickly as the wave of crashes began, they stopped. Several blue panel commissions were formed to investigate the cause of accidents, and recommendations were put forth by the dozen. Nothing ever came of the recommendations but an important by-product did. Some new rules and regulations went into effect to make flying over residential communities a little safer for those in the air and on the ground.

Unfortunately, just as many airplanes can fly over your window at one time and when we go flying that number, red lights and bells go on and it's time to take stock

of a deteriorating situation where people's lives are at stake.

So one can convince me that this problem of overburdened skies in a relatively small area could not have been solved a long time ago. If new flight patterns will inconvenience some, so be it. Presuming it's inconceivable to them to be critically injured at any time.

I'm certain the combined efforts of Congressman Bob Franks, Senator Robert Torricelli, Senator Frank Lautenberg and Gov. Christine Whitman could solve the dangerous situation at the satisfaction of all if they put their collective minds together. We need a proposal aimed at saving lives before a tragedy befalls and parts of Union County are laid to waste because we look this danger too lightly or didn't care until it was too late.

Let's realize that airplanes are now a way of life for many. More and more will be built and they will fill in more of much space. We can expand the number of airports to meet the need, but we realize that the amount of space available and that space is becoming smaller and smaller and more dangerous.

Norman Rauscher is a former newspaper publisher and a frequent columnist for this newspaper.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Pool is looking better than ever

To the Editor:  
I would like to take a moment to thank Springfield Pool Manager Pat Farley and his staff for a job well done this summer. The pool is 100 percent better than it has been in years. Pool members are now able to enjoy AA and Crafts, Billiards, and numerous other activities on a daily basis. These activities are held in place in the four previous years of our membership. The pool will be surrounded in area also cleaner than I have ever seen. These results do not happen by accident. Pat and his staff are consistently at work, running activities, cleaning, lifeguarding, etc.

Our family was thinking about not joining the pool because we were not pleased with how it was run. Our opinion has completely changed regarding this. I sincerely hope that Pat Farley continues to manage the pool for years to come and not someone else who gets the job simply as a political favor.

Michael Green  
Springfield

### Sick of the New Jersey punchline

To the Editor:  
Hillary Clinton now switches from "a Republican conspiracy" to "the Reaganist" Arkansas.

Maybe there won't be New Jersey to kick around any more. Bill Vitale for that.

Joseph C. Chappo  
Mountainside

### Settlements should fund research

To the Editor:  
I am frustrated and I have to tell someone. I have emphysema. It is a lung disease that is usually, but not always, caused by smoking. There is a genetic factor involved as well. If you pinch your nose closed and try to breathe through a ping-pong ball, then try to walk 50 steps out and back you will know what it feels like as I struggle through the day.

This disease is terrible. But no matter what I keep going, for I really love life. Still, I feel almost invisible. So many of you don't look at me for one reason or another. Some don't want to be bothered that smoking can do this. You would have to think of quitting yourself. Some think those of us with lung disease got what we deserved. Some just cannot bear to see me struggling to breathe.

I found and joined an organization on the Internet, called EFFORTS of Emphysema Foundation For Our Right To Survive. It is a non-profit organization formed of people who have emphysema and those who support them.

EFFORTS is trying to get by by research going in the area of emphysema and related lung disease.

While working with EFFORTS, I am finding that as a group we are invisible. Our members cannot request and talk to us about anything except our disease. We are unable to ask that any tobacco settlement allocates money for research in lung disease. All we have to do is research all of our responses from the elected representatives are either words that don't even acknowledge the request.

I am now asking for support from all my friends and neighbors who have emphysema or a settlement is provided. Please encourage our senators to put part of any settlement money into research for lung disease. After all, we are the ones who make a settlement possible at all.

John W. Resposito  
Springfield

### Mountainside needs volunteers

To the Editor:  
Due to lack of volunteers we are losing our Rescue Squad. It is time to act. I will consider this an emergency situation and must put into place actions that will protect our citizens, businesses, industries and guests.

On Aug. 31 at 8 p.m., Mountainside and Borough Council will hold an emergency meeting with all fire emergency service providers: Police, Volunteer Fire Department, and Volunteer Rescue Squad, to formulate a plan to protect our community.

Without an immediate response for a Volunteer Rescue Squad members, and until those members are trained, Mountainside will be forced to employ a paid ambulance service to perform this necessary function. This has a needless financial impact.

• It will cost taxpayers.  
• A paid service will not be able to respond as fast as our rescue squad has done in the past. Paid services can take up to 20 minutes to arrive at our houses.  
• There will be no emergency transportation. Residents will have to come out on their own and pay for this service.

At the special meeting, we will also discuss the desirability of membership of the Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department is also getting very low on membership and unless successful and major recruitment effort occurs we may be forced to look into a joint venture with another town. We would also have to pay for this service.

• Both solutions will cost taxpayers. What can you do? Call Borough Hall today at (908) 332-2000 or volunteer. Call now, not tomorrow, for next week's emergency or next week will be too late.

I have appealed for volunteers for the past four years with little or no results. We are now at the end. Come forward now or expect higher taxes in the future.

Mayor Bob Vigniano  
Mountainside

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# We're asking What have your activities been this summer?

 <p><b>John Izmirlian</b> "I've been doing a lot of fishing, a little golf. I took the kids to Disneyland, but I've also been spending too much time in line at the DMV."</p>	 <p><b>Jesse Adams</b> "I went down to Wildwood. That's been about it."</p>	 <p><b>Jolie Mandelbaum</b> "Mostly I've been working and going down the shore."</p>	 <p><b>Kevin Merkel</b> "I've been going into the city a lot. Mostly just walking around and sweating."</p>
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## Police nab hit-and-run driver near collision site

**Springfield**  
Budd Lake driver did not very far after being involved in a hit-and-run accident on Morris Avenue Aug. 8. The Springfield Police Department apprehended the man on Church Mall at about 7:13 p.m. three blocks away from the collision at the Maple Avenue intersection.

The chain of events began with a Volkswagen Passat and a Dodge Aries waiting for the intersection light to change. On northbound Maple Avenue at about 7:00 p.m. the Passat in the left lane, proceeded straight through the crossing. The Aries driver, however, proceeded to make a left lane Morris Avenue from the center lane.

Both cars collided in the intersection but the Aries continued west on Morris Avenue. The Passat motorist told the Springfield Police patrolman, who relayed the description of the latter vehicle to a lieutenant on patrol.

The lieutenant spotted the Dodge and pulled it over at Church Mall. A subsequent car search discovered a quantity of drug paraphernalia.

The Dodge driver, identified as Wayne James Hesta, 29, was arrested

**POLICE BLOTTER**

and charged with leaving the scene of an accident plus possessing a controlled substance and paraphernalia. Neither driver was injured in the crash.

• Leaving local parking lot for six minutes Aug. 12. The driver of a Chevrolet mistakenly thought the Saturn ahead of her had merged and rear-ended it at about 2:47 p.m. Similar circumstances prevailed between a Cadillac and another Saturn at about 6 p.m. and between a Jeep and a Pontiac at about 7:25 p.m. No injuries were reported and all vehicles were left drivable.

• The driver of a Ford truck with a landscape trailer encountered another motorist reading a map ahead of him on eastbound Morris Avenue Aug. 12. The driver moved from the right hand lane into the left — and into a Volvo 200 approaching Mountain Ave. at about 8:18 p.m.

• A Huntington Valley, Pa., man reported that his car's rear view window was shattered while parked in a Route 22 East lot Aug. 11. An IBM Think Pad laptop computer and \$224 in cash were taken at about 10:28 a.m.

• A Department of Public Works crew was maintaining Smithfield Avenue Playground Aug. 10 when they found a girl's bicycle on the premises. The bike, a pink Ross model, is being stored at Police Headquarters.

• A telephone company worker from Texas reported his Jeep broken into and various work equipment taken while parked on a Route 22 West hotel lot at about 7 a.m. Aug. 10. Items taken include three hard hats, two work boots, two tape measures, a safety vest and a cable locator.

• A Minnesota driver who was staying at the same hotel said someone smashed his 1998 Infiniti's rear sun-visor and took \$266 cash at about 10:20 a.m. that day. Another 1998 Infiniti had its passenger side window broken while parked on Ashwood Road at about 9:15 a.m. and \$420 in cash and accessories taken.

**Mountainside**

• Mountainside Police responded to North Chestnut Street in Westfield at Aug. 15 after a report of a motor vehicle accident which had occurred in Mountainside. Officer Andrew Hubel

arrived on the scene at approximately 10 p.m. and observed the driver, Arlene Plank, 42, to be intoxicated. The Railway resident was arrested.

• A Newark man was stopped on Aug. 15 for driving with a cracked windshield. He was arrested after a DMV check by Cpl. Andrew Sullivan revealed the car's license plates to be fictitious and the driver, Edwin Cabrera, 26, to be unlicensed.

• On Aug. 12 a Plainfield man was arrested at the Plainfield Police Headquarters. Sgt. Allan Robinson arrested Mark Clark, 41, for outstanding warrants from Mountainside and Scotch Plains.

• Mountainside Police arrested a Newark man on Aug. 12 following a motor vehicle violation on Route 22 West. Cpl. Andrew Sullivan arrested Luis Roberts, 36, after a DMV inquiry revealed his registration to be suspended.

• An East Orange man was stopped on Route 22 West for failing to have his automobile inspected. Officer Michael Jackson arrested Daryl Powell, 28, after a check revealed Powell to be a suspended driver.



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## Firefighters alarmed by four brush fires

**Springfield**  
The Springfield Fire Department responded four brush fires Aug. 9-15. The earliest call came from a Route 22 business at about 2:20 p.m. Aug. 9. Another brush fire was found along Interstate 78 East at about 7:33 p.m. Aug. 12.

A similar call, but involving grass, came from a Cayuga Court property at about 9:15 a.m. Friday. Firefighters paid a separate visit to Cayuga Court for a brush fire at about 8:34 a.m. Saturday.

The increase in brush fires is largely weather-related. Prior to Monday's rains, August's rainfall amounted to 0.150 inches. The dry condition is fertile ground for a spark or an unattended fire to begin to start a fire.

• Saturday's other call also came in the two hours. An engine crew

**FIRE BLOTTER**

answered police with a resident's lock out at Garden Oval at about 12:17 a.m.

• An activated fire alarm from a Morris Avenue business kicked off a long day for Springfield's brave firefighters at about 6:57 a.m. A car fire on Taylor Court was extinguished at about 9:15 a.m. and a gas odor was investigated at a Mountain Avenue apartment complex at about 3:33 p.m.

• Three of the responses that day were for medical emergencies. The calls included visits to the First Aid Squad Building at about 4:43 p.m. and at the Municipal Pool at about 6:07 p.m.

• A person walked into Fire Headquarters on Caldwell Place with a medical problem at about 10:25 a.m. Thursday. It would be one of two medical assistance calls that day.

• An engine crew answered an activated alarm call from a Mountain Avenue apartment complex at about 8:22 a.m. and all units went on a similar call at a Morris Avenue business at about 10:49 a.m. Thursday's jog closed with a carbon monoxide detector sounding from a Greentown Road house at about 10:10 p.m.

• An alert fire engine was responded to a truck fire on West at about 8:27 a.m. Thursday followed by a medical assistance call on Caldwell along Morris Avenue at about 4:36 p.m.

• Another Mountain Avenue apartment complex fire alarm activated itself at about 8:16 p.m. and a motor vehicle accident "spun" had to be absorbed at Morris and Battlefield avenues at about 8:50 p.m.

• Some calls, like two on Aug. 11, can strike close to home. The headquarters is located in the Municipal Building, which is not immune to calls. Fire alarms went off in the Town Hall part of the building at about 8:18 a.m. and in the firehouse site at about 7:56 p.m.

• An accident on West got fire fighters' attention at about 2:12 p.m. that day, which was rounded off by two First Responder medical assistances calls.

• The second Town Hall fire alarm call in two days came in at about 10:29 a.m. Aug. 10. It was preceded by an all-hands response to a Watson School alarm at about 9:44 a.m. and followed by two medical service calls.

• The Watson School also had its fire alarm go off at about 3:32 p.m. Aug. 9.

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SPORTS

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LOCAL SPORTS
HIGHLIGHTS

Springfield Recreation fall soccer registration is taking place at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center... Games will be played on Saturday and Sunday afternoons during September, October and November.

There will be teams for boys and girls with youngsters in grades 1-4 eligible to participate in a non-competitive league consisting of teams from five towns. More information may be obtained by calling the recreation department at 908-912-2238.

SportsMARTS Fall Pitcher's and Catcher's Camp will be held Saturdays Sept. 20 and 27 at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains.

Elizabeth High School head baseball coach Ray Korn will join Paul Radzicki and his staff. The camp is open to youngsters ages 8-12 and 13-18.

The year-round program includes:
- Fit to Pitch Classes: non-private and small group instruction.
- Fit to Hit Classes: semi-private hitting classes.

- Fall Prospect Camp
- Satellite Fall Camps. Satellite Summer Camps: we bring the camp to your league.

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- Coaches Training
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More information may be obtained by calling Radzicki at 908-686-6051.

The SportsMARTS Fit to Pitch, Fit to Hit address is: 1215 Victor Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. Fax: 908-964-3378.

The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJIAA) and the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association (NJSCA) has announced the scheduling of a Men's and Women's Volleyball Coaches Clinic to be held Sunday, Aug. 30 at St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen.

The clinic will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with registration commencing at 8:30.

This clinic is designed to meet the needs of varsity coaches, assistant coaches and recreational coaches.

NJIT volleyball coach Dave DeNure will be one of the clinic speakers.

Pre-registration fees range from \$25-\$55 and are on-line from \$25-\$65 depending on NJSCA membership status.

More information about the Men's and Women's Volleyball Coaches Clinic may be obtained by calling the NJIAA office in Robbinville at 608-259-2776.

Applications are now being accepted for candidates wishing to become high school soccer referees in the School and College Officials Association (SCCOA) for the 1998 season.

Candidates must be physically fit and a minimum of 18 years of age to referee.

Successful candidates will be eligible to referee NJIAA games, which will then qualify them to referee high school varsity soccer matches.

Interested candidates may obtain information by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to David R. Klein, 37 Bryant Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003-5401.

Applications are due by Sept. 4, 1998.

Sportplex is now taking registration for its first indoor fall softball season.

More information may be obtained by calling Sportplex at 201-264-1314.

One of the frustrating things for even veteran fans to deal with each summer is what they can't get used to—the U.S. Open.

But this summer, there will be a nice alternative for net fans in the area—a major USTA event will be held at the historic Orange Lawn Tennis Club in South Orange during the second week in September.

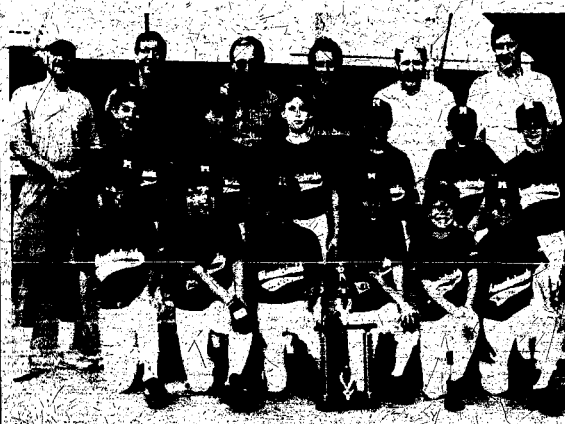
During the week of Sept. 7-13, the National Championships for both the 75 and 80 age categories in the men's division will take place at Orange Lawn.

Springfield Minutemen standouts



The Springfield Minutemen ages 9-10 All-Star baseball team had an outstanding summer campaign, reaching the semifinals of its own tournament... The Springfield Invitational and qualifying for the league playoffs. Kneeling, from left, are Randy Hering, Zach Silverman, Jesse Galinkik, Ryan O'Reilly and Patrick Cicelli. Standing, from left, are Kenneth Suarez, David Steinman, Paul Belliveau, Stephen Suarez, Gregg Stefanelli, Steven Tellamant and Brandon Stern-Charles. Coaches, from left, are Scott Steinman, Mark Galinkin and John O'Reilly.

Mountainside All-Stars excel



The Mountainside age 9 All-Star baseball team finished first in its division in the North Jersey League. Mountainside's overall record was an outstanding 18-4 and mark in league play an impressive 15-1. Mountainside also finished third in last month's Roselle Park Tournament. Kneeling from left are Thomas Amalle, Joe D'Antonio, Steven Schut, Brian Wyratt, Greg Chilson and Andrew Hoydich. Standing, from left, are Matt Zimmerman, Andrew Jakubowski, Reid Kelley, Rob Barnard, Frank Vitale and Anthony Corsi. Coaches, from left, are Toni Corsi, Joe D'Antonio, Frank Chilson, Andy Hoydich, Bill Schut and John Amalle. A team coach not in picture is Matt Wyratt.

Dayton football
Sept. 18 at Bound Brook, 7:00
Sept. 26 at Manville, 7:00
Oct. 3 Roselle Park, 1:00
Oct. 10, New Providence, 1:00
Oct. 17 North Plainfield, 1:00
Oct. 24 Gov. Livingston, 1:00
Oct. 31 Johnson, 1:00
Nov. 7 at Roselle, 2:00
Nov. 26 at Barclay, 10:30

Governor Livingston
Sept. 19 Newark, 1:00
Sept. 26 at Hillside, 1:00
Oct. 3 Roselle, 1:00
Oct. 10 Johnson, 1:00
Oct. 17 at Ridge, 1:00
Oct. 24 at Dayton, 1:00
Oct. 30 at Unnaculaia, 7:30
Nov. 7 Manville, 2:00
Nov. 26 New Providence, 2:00

Summit football
Sept. 19 at Parsippany Hills, 1:30
Sept. 26 Hanover Park, 1:30
Oct. 2 at Dover, 7:30
Oct. 10 Mendham, 1:30
Oct. 17 Mount Olive, 1:30
Oct. 24 at West Essex, 1:30
Oct. 31 Parsippany, 1:30
Nov. 7 Morris Hills, 2:00
Nov. 25 at Woodcliff, 7:00

Mountainsiders lift AAU baseball team
Cantagallos help win state title

By Joe Ragazzino
Staff Writer
Mark and Eric Cantagallo initially were skeptical. Although the Mountainside twins were key contributors to the Governor Livingston High School baseball team's success this past spring, they didn't know if they were good enough to play AAU ball, specifically for Team Aegis, based in Oceanport.

After three grueling weekends of scrimmages and drills that were part of the tryout process, the brothers found out the answer much to their delight. "We didn't know if we would even make the team," said Eric. "And when we made it, it was exciting. We were really happy."

Throughout the regular season, the team prepared for the AAU 15-and-under state tournament by battling older AAU teams. It worked wonders, as Team Aegis captured the title and qualified for the National tournament in Sarasota, Fla.

In the state tournament, Team Aegis beat Spring Lake 13-2, Jersey Shore 13-2 and Jersey Shore again 6-5 before topping the Jersey Rip tide 7-5 for the crown.

In the second game against Jersey Shore, Mark and Eric Cantagallo had two hits each.

The national tournament consisted of 44 teams, which were grouped in pools for the first round. In its first game, Team Aegis lost to a team from Arkansas 3-2 in 11 innings, but went on to defeat its next two opponents, one from Iowa and the other from Ohio, to win its pool and move on to the next round.

The team was paired against the Jersey Rip tide, which qualified for the national tournament as state runner-up. This time, the Rip tide craved a four-run deficit to post a 9-7 victory.

"It was an emotional game," said Eric Cantagallo. "The first game, they thought they should have won."

Afterwards, Eric was emotionally and physically drained.

"I was beat, especially after catching 11 innings," he recalled.

In the next game, Team Aegis fell in a slugfest to a squad from Chicago 19-18. Although the loss eliminated the team, a third game had to be played. However, Team Aegis was dubbed 12-2 by a squad from Texas.

Winning a national championship would have been nice, but the most important thing for the Cantagallo brothers was the opportunity to face teams from throughout the country. And what the twins learned was that their team belonged on the same field with the best.

"You hear about the reputation of teams in Florida and other states," said Eric Cantagallo. "All the teams are really good, but we found out that they're no different than us."

"Overall, I think I held my own," added Mark Cantagallo, who batted .430 with seven homers, seven doubles and 34 RBIs for GL last spring, an on-to-first team All County honors. "I think I matched up pretty well against the other shortstops."

Mark Cantagallo, who considers himself a natural shortstop, played third base for GL, which enjoyed a successful 21-7 season that included the North Jersey Section 7 Group 2 state title. Playing shortstop helps him range as a third baseman, said Mark, who simultaneously played for the Berkeley Heights Senior American Legion team.

"AAU competition, I thought, was better than Legion competition," Mark Cantagallo said. "Playing AAU ball was a challenge. I also wanted to challenge to win a state championship and get the experience of playing in a national tournament."

"It was fun," Eric said. "The past year was playing with kids from all over the state. It was like an All-Star team. We played with kids that we played against during the high school season."

Mark and Eric Cantagallo, both soon-to-be juniors at GL, heading a strong returning group for the Highlanders. With the experience the brothers obtained this summer, the prospect for a second straight sectional title for the Highlanders looks promising.

"I felt like I got better," Eric said. "I was hoping to try to establish myself as a leader, because a catcher has to be a leader. I also wanted to hit well. Even though I wasn't one of the top hitters on the team, I felt that I improved."

Local bowler competes for Elks
Local Elks Lodges across New Jersey sponsored a Golf, Bowling and Tennis Tournament for young adults ages 14-18. Frank Eichenlaub of Mountainside competed in bowling. This year's contest was held at Seasons Resort in McAfee. Local lodges sponsored both boys and girls from all over New Jersey in the three different sports.

There were over 145 young adults that entered the contest and awards were given out to the first, second, and third-place finishers.

The winners with the best overall scores in each sport also received a \$500 scholarship that will be sent to the school of their choice when they enter college.

The New Jersey Elks then sent the winners of each sport who placed first, second and third in both junior and senior divisions to Pennsylvania to compete in the Area 11 Tournament of Champions. As many as 36 contestants earned the trip to Pennsylvania.

The contest involved people from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C. and New Jersey.

The New Jersey State Elks sponsor this tournament every year during the months of June, July and August.

More information about the tournament may be obtained by calling 908-687-5906.

Springfield youngsters enjoy playing softball



Jettney Feder and Koula Lourosso are ready to catch a ball for the Green team during the James Caldwell school's annual 4th grade softball tournament.

Jordan Fish gets ready to field a ball as Jennifer Saracino and Lauren Bernstein play in the outfield for the Red team. The Green team defeated the Red team 15-14 in the championship game.

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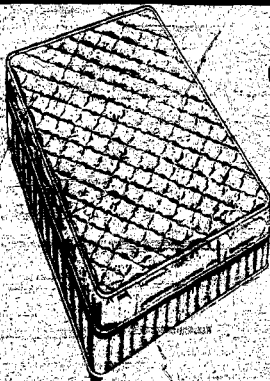
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