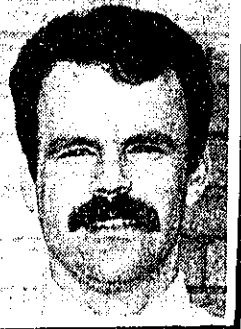


**PEDALING AROUND**

**Olympics in black & white**

By Mike Ellasohn



Every four years, when the Winter Olympics are underway, I regret I don't own a color television set. The white snow, blue sky and silvery blue ice - it all comes out in shades of gray with a black and white TV. Making it even worse as opposed to past Winter Olympics, when I was living elsewhere where reception was better, reception this time isn't very good with the rabbit ear antenna I have. On Channel 12, it looks like it is snowing all the time, even during the indoor events.

But, I will persevere. The Winter Olympics are a truly exciting event to watch, more so than the Summer Olympics, although I watch them with equally devoted fervor.

One thing I can't stand is Jim McKay's compulsion to name a female "darling of the Olympics" each time to gush over, usually a figure skater during the winter games (Dorothy Hamill four years ago) and a gymnast during the summer games (Nadia Comaneci in 1976).

Speaking of female figure skaters, I recall the discussion four years ago of Monroe Evening News staff and spouses at lunch one day.

As I recall, there had been a poll taken, perhaps by ABC, to determine who was the viewing audience's favorite expert commentator. The winner was Dick But-ton, the figure skating expert.

The women in our lunch group, I was surprised to learn, couldn't stand him because they considered him a male chauvinist pig. When he referred to Dorothy Hamill as a "fine young filly," they were ready to... (fill in the blank). And when he interviewed her after she had won her gold medal, about all he could think of to say was how pretty she looked.

Being totally unathletic, I can't help but think what a thrill it must be to participate in the Olympics.

Of those who do make it to

the games, there are three categories. There are those who know they have no chance of winning, so are there to participate and have a good time.

There are the winners, who rightfully deserve most of the attention.

And there are the almost winners, who train for years and are among the very best in the world at what they do. But there can only be one winner. What a disappointment it must be for those who almost win in what is for most, their one chance.

There are also those who train hard for years for their moment of glory and then don't get to compete, which apparently will happen this year.

Should the United States boycott the Summer Games in Moscow because of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan?

It certainly doesn't seem fair to the athletes who have trained so hard for so many years to deprive them of their chance to compete in the Olympics. It is also unfair to deprive farmers of a large portion of their market after they have worked so hard to grow their crops.

It isn't fair to the athletes, but I think the boycott is a necessary evil.

What galls me is the International Olympic Committee's objection to President Carter's call for a boycott or moving of the games because it felt he was trying to inject politics into the games.

Yet at the same time, the IOC was refusing to let athletes from the Republic of China (Taiwan) compete unless they did so under a different flag, name and anthem than used in their country.

That was at the insistence of the People's Republic of China (Communist China), which wouldn't compete if the Chinese from Taiwan competed under the latter nation's flag.

If the IOC was truly non-political, it would have said each nation sets its own standards and any other nation that doesn't like it should stay home.

The United States, by the way, supported Communist China's position in the dispute.

The Chinese from Taiwan decided to go home, rather than bow to the IOC.

What they should have done is march into the stadium under the banner and flag chosen by the IOC, then thrown them to the ground and pull out their own banner and flag, which they had hidden under their coats.



**BRASS QUARTET, from Cass City High School, composed of, from left, J.D. Zmierski, Laurie Enos, Karen Wallace and Melanie Particka, won a first division rating at the solo and ensemble festival Saturday. Laurie also won a top rating for a baritone solo.**



**ALSO RECEIVING first division ratings from Cass City, were, from left, Leigh Wilson, baritone solo. Bob Piaskowski and Ray Kloc, tuba duet plus tuba solo for each, and Lonnie Wilson, clarinet solo.**

**Eight have top ratings in school band festival**

Eight Cass City High School band students received first division ratings in the district solo and ensemble festival Saturday at North Branch.

Receiving the top rating in brass quartet were Karen Wallace, French horn; Melanie Particka, trumpet; J.D. Zmierski, trombone, and Laurie Enos, cornet. Miss Enos received a second such rating for her baritone solo.

Ray Kloc and Bob Piaskowski received the top rating in tuba duet, plus Piaskowski received another one for tuba solo.

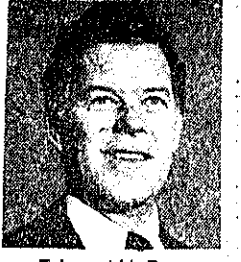
The others receiving first division ratings were Leigh Wilson, baritone solo, and Lonnie Wilson, clarinet solo.

Receiving second division ratings were Crystal Gallaway, Tracy Green, Kay Loomis, Rob Hartwick, Ray Kloc, Marek Kocan, Theresa

LaRoche and Tammy Roach, all solos; Rob Hartwick and Bob Kerbyson, duet; Lonnie Wilson and Tracy Green, duet, and Karen Wallace, Bobbie MacKay, Becky Speirs, Deb Page and Marek Kocan, woodwind quintet.

Receiving third division ratings were Susanna Kappen, Dorn Beddow, Shar Beddow, Chuck Watros, Julie Groth, J.D. Zmierski, all solos; Martha Remsing, Tami Stimpfel and Margaret Remsing, trio, and Chuck Watros and Bob Healy, duet.

Students played either solo or in a small ensemble in front of a judge, who rated them from first division through fifth.



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**Singles club plans dance**

The YMCA Thumb Singles Club of Sandusky will conduct a dance Saturday at Sandusky High School from 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

Music will be by the Noblemen. Refreshments will be served.

It will be guest night and everyone is welcome.

Persons 25 years and older who are single, widowed or divorced can join the club.

**Probe continues in clothes store fire**

Investigation is continuing into the cause of the fire that destroyed the Clothes Caboodle in Kingston last week.

Fire Chief Robert Phillips estimates damage at close to \$80,000.

Sgt. Scott Croton of the state police fire marshal's office in Bridgeport said Tuesday he was planning to return to the site sometime this week to conclude his on-site investigation. He had no idea when he might finish his report. As of now, the cause is still unknown.

The fire started in the middle of the building, area where the furnace hot water heater are located, Phillips said. Kingston firemen were

called to the State Street store about 9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12. The last fire truck didn't go back to the station until 7 a.m. the next day, although some firemen remained on the scene after that.

The fire was difficult to extinguish, according to the fire chief, due to a false ceiling with a crawl space under the roof of the one-story building, carpeting over the old oily floor, and six inches of overhead insulation. The store had recently been remodeled.

During the course of the fire, the insulation fell down, which then became a barrier, making it harder for firemen to get water underneath.

When the fire was finally out, Phillips said, there was three feet of water in the basement, which was later pumped out.

The interior of the store was gutted and much of the floor fell in, but the walls and roof of the building remained intact, according to the fire chief.

The Clothes Caboodle shared a wall with the Auto Haven auto repair facility next door. The fire never got outside of the clothes store although Auto Haven owner Mike King moved seven cars and removed his tools as a precaution.

The Clothes Caboodle is owned by Pat Randall, who had insurance on the structure.

**Owendale elects new clerk**

Newcomer Marie Susalla was the winner Monday in Owendale as she defeated incumbent Clerk Bill Putnam for the Republican nomination for the post, 48-39.

Putnam has been clerk for about 23 years.

Ninety-one voters cast ballots out of about 120 registered.

Also receiving votes in the Republican primary -- meaningless in that they had no opposition -- were: President, Donald Dorsch, 64; treasurer, Lois Blondell, 66; trustees, Walt Howard, 65; Robert Ricker, 59; Martin Blondell, 63, and assessor, Forest Agar, 70.

The only contest in the March 10 general election will be for trustee as Carol Howard, running as an independent, is challenging the three Republican incumbents for one of the three seats available.

**Slow gently**

Sudden movements of the gas pedal increase gasoline consumption. Anticipate situations that might require you to reduce speed so you can slow down gently. Maintaining speeds just under the speed limit helps stretch your time between fill-ups, and you'll hardly notice the increase in travel time.

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