

ORAL HISTORY

MRS. LOUIS (SARAH) SHAFFER

NOVEMBER 10, 1995

CNB: We're here on November 10, 1995, on a sunny to gray day in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and I'm joined here today for lunch by Sarah Falenfeld Shaffer and Betsy Bell Condron. We're here to talk about Sarah's life and that of her husband, Lou, who was a long time member of the Wilkes Board of Trustees and chairman of the Board during the time of the flood. We're going to want to go into recollections of that, but in the meantime, Sarah, why don't you start out with telling of your own family--where you were born, where your parents came from, number of siblings--all that kind of information.

SS: I was born in the Miners Mills section of Wilkes-Barre. My mother was a year old when she came over from Austria. Her father had already been residing here in the same section of Wilkes-Barre. My mother, of course, was educated in the public school systems here. My father was fourteen when he came over from I guess from the part of Germany that used to be fought over by Poland and Germany and he knew he had to face going into the Army. He couldn't stand the life over there. His father was a very religious man and he owned a lot of land. As a matter of fact, the name Falenfeld is valleys and fields in German and his father owned a great deal of property and he wanted him to be trained to go into the rabbinate. He didn't want that either, so he decided to come to America. When he arrived in America he decided to go to Peckville, above Scranton. There were friends of the family from the same town in Europe and he was very well educated and he used to teach the young children. He used to teach them Hebrew before he did anything else and he used to train them for Bar Mitzvah and when he was sixteen he and two other men that he knew in that area decided to go into business. He met my mother at a dance at the Jewish Community Center in Scranton and they decided to marry. They lived in the Alton section of Scranton for about a year till my brother Arnold, the oldest in the family was born. My grandfather who resided in Miners Mills or part of Hudson, decided he wanted his daughter to move back here to live near him. So my father opened a clothing business on his own in the Miners Mills section. He was in business for about 50 years there. And after my brother Arnold was born, Frieda, Henry and I followed and then my sister Ethel Cutler, then Harriet Gray, then my brother, Bernard, and then David was the youngest in the family. We lived a wonderful life in the Miners Mills section. I remember growing up with wonderful friends, the Mayoicks, the Barnetts, and it was just great. I went to Plains High School since there wasn't a high school in that section. I would have had to go to either Coughlin or to Plains. I decided to go to Plains because it was about a 3/4 hour walk, but my father used to drive us to school in the morning. He had one of the first automobiles in the valley, a Haines automobile. After that I went to Beaver College.

BBC: Ooh, did you?

CNB: I didn't know that.

BBC: I didn't know that either.

CNB: We're very close to Betty Lamdon, the President there. We're very good friends.

SS: And that's it.

CNB: And now where did you meet Lou?

SS: I met Lou, now let me see. He saw me before I even knew him. He said he was driving through Miners Mills and we had a big porch in the front of the house and he saw me sitting on the front porch reading and wanted to know who I was and the person he was driving with told him and he said later he thinks he remembered meeting me at the Jewish Community Center, but I don't remember meeting him at all at that time. I was very active in the Jewish Community Center in the early years of theatrical with Nate Kus who used to be the director. Do you know Nate?

BBC: Oh, I love Nate.

SS: Ahh uhh. And I don't remember where I met Lou.

BBC: Your happy years growing up in Miners Mills, what do you remember? Was Miners Mills fairly ethnically mixed?

SS: Oh, yes, there were mainly Irish and my father was very friendly with the priest at the Sacred Heart Church, . . . Blessed Sacrament Church on Main Street and my father was very well learned and one of those people who liked to discuss worldly affairs. He and Father Lynch became very close friends, they used to meet and talk and most of my friends were Irish and attended that church. I used to go on Christmas Eve to Midnight Mass with the girls to the church. We used to have a small synagogue in Miners Mills that was established by my grandfather, my mother's father, in fact I have pictures of it. Some of the historic pictures of it are in the Historical Society exhibit.

BBC: Oh! Oh! Great.

SS: of the congregation. My father's name was on the cornerstone and it has just been dismantled. I have been trying

BBC: What happened to that cornerstone?

SS: desperately to buy that cornerstone or to try to get that cornerstone, with the council it seems everyone that was charged had died and no one knew where it is and where it is at the present time.

CNB: Did that congregation eventually merge with one of the larger ones?

SS: No, no. Most of the people eventually moved out of Miners Mills. There were about a dozen Jewish families living right in Miners Mills and there were numerous ones living in Plains and Hudson and Parsons. The Brills, I think the Max Rosenn family lived in Plains at that time and they just moved away. The children married and moved out of town and they sold the building to some club.

BBC: So what you're saying then is that your family and then perhaps those of others that lived in your background then in the temple, the Jewish people weren't coming here then. There wasn't any mining background then?

SS: No, no none whatsoever. They were mainly merchants. The Valters, Mr. Valter was a watchmaker, he had a little shop. The Jacobs had a grocery store.

BBC: Ah hah

SS: And then there was, oh I don't remember the name .. there was another family had a clothing store, but they were all merchants, the Jewish families

CNB: They were merchants right in the area?

SS: Right in the area. The one street -- the main street really and they used to deal maybe with (tape fades off) two doors from the railroad station and all of the immigrants (tape fades) and my father and a group of friends used to meet them and try to house them and _____ mine workers and used to have good jobs in the mines and my father used to take them to the courthouse when they wanted to become citizens and

CNB: I suppose he kept his European languages alive.

SS: Well my father spoke German fluently and wrote German and he was educated in the German schools. He spoke Polish because it was on the Polish border, and he spoke Yiddish, which was the language of the Jewish people. He used to write letters for them. He used to read letters for them that they received. They weren't very well educated

CNB: And his own business was what?

SS: Was clothing

CNB: Clothing

SS: Clothing, men's and women's.

CNB: And the name of the store was?

SS: Falenfeld's. It's now run by a shoe company called . . . it's right on Main Street in Miners Mills, ah

CNB: It's a big shoe place, it's where Paul O'Hop gets his shoes

BBC: Oh, okay!

CNB: They sell all the name brands

SS: Yes all the name brands.

CNB: Well that's interesting.

BBC: You know I never knew the background of your wonderful Fashion Youth Center.

SS: Oh, yes, we had training _____

BBC: It was a natural for you when your children when they were older to ...

SS: As a matter of fact, the way that happened Louis was responsible for it because he represented Bob Eyerman and Henry Fine who owned the shopping center and they were intent on getting a children's store in that area and Lou didn't mention it to me, but once he said Henry Fine and Ed Eyerman want to get a tenant for a store. Would you be interested, with your sisters, in opening a very small place in the Gateway Shopping Center. And we started that store and started with 3 employees helping and ended up with 45 in help.

BBC: It was just unbelievable. It was the only place to go.

SS: The only reason we gave it up was because my sister Ethel passed away and I just couldn't walk into the place.

BBC: It was so much a part of your lives and the lives of all of us growing up.

SS: We used to shop together and we used to market together in New York City.

CNB: What chunk of time was that store ..?

SS: We were in business 28 years.

CNB: And all the time you were raising your three girls.

SS: Yes, I had full-time live-in help and Marjorie was six or seven at that time. She was going to Franklin Street School and then later we decided we'd send her to Day School.

CNB: Let's get to Lou. Tell us Lou's wife's story, where he began and how he got over here.

SS: Lou began in Wilkes-Barre. His father worked for Sperling Tobacco Co. and Mr. Sperling was his brother-in-law. My mother-in-law and Mr. Sperling's wife were twin sisters.

BBC: Oh, I didn't know that.

SS: Lou came from a family of three boys. He was born in Russia. He came over at the age of four.

CNB: His family came straight to Wilkes-Barre.

SS: Yes because his father came earlier and had a job with his brother-in-law, Harry Sperling, in the Sperling Tobacco business, because their business in Europe was tobacco. They were always in the tobacco business and he was employed by Mr. Sperling. Mr. Sperling had seven daughters and Lou's mother had three sons and they were twins.

BBC: Isn't that interesting?

SS: Lou grew up in Wilkes-Barre and was educated in the public schools.

BBC: Where was their home?

SS: Up on Welles Street. He worked himself through college. He used to deliver groceries as a young boy to earn money after school.

CNB: Where did he go to college?

SS: Lou went to the University of Pennsylvania and graduated. When he went to law school he went to NYU Law School because he was able to work during the day and went to school at night, or vice versa. He used to work as a retail clerk on Saturday in Gimbel's in New York and he worked himself through law school too.

CNB: During his time in Philadelphia and New York City was there ever any question in his mind that he would come back to Wilkes-Barre?

SS: He always wanted to come back to Wilkes-Barre. He had a very great offer from the American Tobacco Company to join their legal team and he said when he worked for the American Tobacco Company part-time in their office he used to witness that they would keep an employee for 15-20 years and when he would reach the top plateau they would fire them and the underlings would then be raised to higher places. He said he just couldn't see himself being part of a team like that. So he came back to Wilkes-Barre and started to practice law.

CNB: Now you don't remember precisely when you first met, but were you going together when he went off to Penn?

SS: No, I didn't know him until he was practicing law. Lou was almost 9 years older than I was.

CNB: So when he saw you sitting on the porch, he was already a lawyer.

SS: (Laughter). He wanted to meet me. Charlie said, "Well, she's reading a book so I'm not going to stop and introduce you now."

CNB: Well, he had a good eye. Say something about his law practice. What direction that took. I know he practiced until the day he died.

SS: Yes. I drove him to the office because he wasn't feeling well. He died in his office chair. He had Florence waiting for him.

CNB: But tell me the nature of his law practice.

SS: You mean what type of law did he practice? He practiced every type of law. He disliked divorce. He did a lot of corporate work and estate work.

BBC: That's why he was such a help to me. (I want that on the tape.) At Wilkes University when we first got our Planned Giving program started. He was the guiding light.

SS: Every minute of his spare time he used to give to organizations to solicit for the United Fund. It wasn't the United Fund at that time ..

BBC: The Community Chest

SS: The Community Chest. He later became chairman and became involved in the legal profession and the Law Library Association and he was never interested in politics because he said he couldn't talk from both sides of his mouth. He had to tell it like it is.

CNB: Can you reflect Sarah on what in his background that you know about made this community service work important to him? Many people have successful careers and they don't spend time on that . But Gene Roth, in my experience, is one of those who--we were here in this office last night till nine o'clock working on Wilkes's business and had had a full day and had to be back to work at 6 o'clock this morning. But that's the way he is. And my sense is that Lou was the same way. Where, in his case, did that ethic come from?

SS: The ethic toward charitable organizations?

CNB: The ethic to be so supportive of

SS: He said he always repeated to me, "I want to leave this world a little better than I found it." He said there are so many people that need help. He used to do so much pro bono work. And I never realized how much he did until after he died and people wrote and came to see me to tell me what he did for them without charge. He had so much energy, he just couldn't wait to do more. He was always doing something and his day was filled from breakfast meetings to sometimes 3 and 4 lunch meetings. He would go from one to the other. Then dinner he would have in a hurry. He said after all I have to make a living. He would have clients in his office from 7 p.m. and work till sometimes 11 at night. He'd be up at six in the morning and in his office by 8.am. But he always stopped everyday at the Jewish Community Center for a workout and a shower. He'd shower in the morning and then come home after his shower at the Jewish Community Center and have dinner at 6:30 p.m. and by 7 o'clock he had to be back in the office.

CNB: Did you ever take vacations?

SS: We did when the children were growing up he wanted them to see certain things. He loved theatre. We used to spend a weekend in New York and go to matinees and an evening show on Saturday then we'd come back on Sunday evening. We'd leave Saturday morning and stay at a hotel overnight and drive home the next day. He loved the theatre, he loved everything cultural, lectures.

BBC: Were there brothers or sisters--you may have said?

CNB: Two brothers

SS: He had two brothers, one owned the Shaffer Tobacco Company, which was on Northampton Street and his brother Joseph was an accountant. He was with Leventhal and Crickstein and he left them later and practiced for himself.

BBC: When you and Lou were married where did you live first?

SS: We lived first on Charles Street in a four-family apartment house, it's still there, the red brick place. Then after Ruthie was born we decided she needed a room of her own so we were able to rent a house on Sambourne Street, right behind my mother who lived on Franklin. Our backyards, we used to have double backyards and we lived there until we found this house to buy. He did not want to move to Kingston. All our friends were building and buying in Kingston. But he said, I like to walk to the office. I love to walk across the River Common and walk up to his office. His office was originally in the Bennett Building and then he moved to the Miners Bank and then it became the United Penn Bank.

CNB: and now it's the Mellon Bank.

SS: Now the Mellon Bank.

BBC: He was there. Why do I think of him as being in the Brooks Building?

SS: No he was never there. No the Rosenn office was there.

CNB: Was he in practice by himself or was he with a group of lawyers?

SS: Lou practiced by himself. And later when my brother started to practice law he was an associate. He was very friendly with Abe Salsburg and there were so many people in the Bennett Building that he was friendly with. He hated to leave that building because that's where he started.

CNB: Now as I recall you were very active and have been very active in Temple Israel. Were either of you Conservative Jews?

SS: I was brought up in New York Orthodox, down here in Ohav Zedek and they originally were located on South Pennsylvania Avenue and then when they built the new building . . . we worshipped in Miners Mills when we lived there. We always got in a rabbi for the High Holiday.

CNB: Your house is so close to Temple Israel, I wondered if there was just some geographical convenience that determined

SS: When Lou and I were married there were 4 rabbis at the wedding because Lou was on the Board of the Temple Israel and B'Nai B'rith at the same time and Art Silverblatt's father who was very active in the B'Nai B'Rith used to say to Lou when a question would come up "What would they do at Temple Israel?"

CNB: In my perspective as someone who grew up in Los Angeles in a very strong Jewish community, there was not nearly the comfortable moving back and forth from temples as there is here. Where families worship one week in one and another week in another temple, the wife will stay with one and the husband with another and they support each other. I never saw that before. I think it is a very much Wilkes-Barre kind of ...it works with Protestants and Catholics as well in ways I haven't seen before. We obviously want to talk about Wilkes and how Lou Shaffer came to get involved with the college and

SS: I don't know. I don't know who approached him to become involved. It may have been Gilford McClintock, it may have been Paul Bedford, it could have been any of those people he became involved with and once he became involved he was just caught up in Wilkes. He thought it was such a great idea to have a college here and he worked, I can't tell you how hard he worked, and when it came to a fund drive, one time he had four different packets of solicitations in his pocket. I said it's a wonder that people stop and talk to you when they see you approaching they know you're going to ask them for a contribution. They'll cross the street and he did lose clients, he felt certain people could afford to support certain things and he used to insist they give something and a couple of them said no. You're my lawyer, you're not going to tell me what to do. I'm going to give the contributions that I want. Some of them were not very generous. He was so generous and he couldn't understand it to have resources and not give them and make them work for you to help others less fortunate.

CNB: As I said at the beginning of this interview my first knowledge of Lou Shaffer was to hear him referred to as the chairman who helped get us through the flood, so tell us. Obviously your home was

SS: Our entire first floor was destroyed with all the furnishings. Everything was ruined. He found time for Wilkes and used to spend more time at Wilkes I think than at home. I took care of the house and he

CNB: he took care of Wilkes.

BBC: You might describe for those who will look at this oral history in years ahead that your house in the midst of the campus. And what is the address?

SS: 255 South River

BBC: And it is low. It is a beautiful, beautiful house, but the waters of the 1972 flood must have. How far up did the waters go?

SS: We had 8 1/2 feet of water on the first floor. Fortunately the ceilings are very high, 11 1/2 feet and fortunately it didn't reach the second floor, but the first floor was devastated and the basement which was a playroom for the children.

CNB: Now that structure, was that structure not an old carriage house?

SS: It was the carriage house for the Atherton home on West River Street and it was originally a stable and later James Rutter, the artist used it as a studio. And after James Rutter it Mrs. Murray bought it and converted it to a home. Mrs. Murray from the Murray Smith Furniture Company then the Hubbingers had it and sold it to us.

CNB: Do you have a sense of when that structure was first built as a stable?

SS: The historical society might have a. ... it's considered one of the historical buildings of the area. I think 1800 and

CNB: After the Civil War?

SS: I think so, or maybe before. All of the stones were brought over by the Athertons from England. They wanted a certain kind of stone and our house is the same stone as what is now Waller North.

CNB: Although Waller is a modern building compared to your building. The Waller building was built in 1920s from the stone from the old Atherton

BBC: Your stables I think

SS: I think 1861 was it? I received a plaque from the Historical Society to put on my door, which I never did.

CNB: We never did either, ours is inside our front door on a table waiting.

SS: It's still in the original package.

CNB: What does it say?

SS: It just has the 1861 I think

CNB: Ours says circa 1920, I think it's too imprecise for us to be pleased with it. One can tell exactly when ours was built

SS: I did want to have my own plaque made but never got around to it. I like the one at Hillard House.

CNB: What do you recall some of the issues facing Wilkes following the flood that Lou had to deal with? What did he do in those hours he spent at Wilkes in those weeks and months after June 1972?

SS: He met with people on the restoration of the buildings, which ones should come down and which ones should be restored, and I don't recall all of the meetings that he had. He had to raise funds to try to restore these buildings.

CNB: Was he in on the efforts to secure federal funds?

SS: I think so, I know they worked very hard on that. Trying to get money from wherever they could to bring things back to normal.

CNB: One of the key people in all of this development of the college, of course, was Eugene Farley. What is your sense of Dr. Farley, personally, and of his relationship with Lou.

SS: I thought he was a fine gentleman, Dr. Farley was and he and Lou got along very, very well. I admired him as much as Lou did. He was a fine gentleman and I loved his wife.

CNB: Tell us about Eleanor. Did she have a sense of humor?

SS: Oh yes, she was a lovely person. Very nice and talented. She was a talented musician she loved to play to entertain the faculty and the board

CNB: You were recalling earlier the holiday parties when

SS: When Helen used to sing and they had a chorus and we used to join in the Christmas carols and Eleanor used to play the piano.

CNB: and you remember her accompanying Helen Ralston at those parties, which I think must have been a great part of the festivities. What do you remember about Dr. Farley's personality?

SS: (some hesitation)

CNB: everyone starts off recalling that he was a big man

SS: Yes, he was tall and his personality -- he was a very, very kind person and I did hear criticisms when he stepped down as the President. Who was it?

CNB: Dr. Michelini?

SS: Dr. Michelini. Because he didn't want to let go of those reins. He wanted to rule like Michelini and Lou was very supportive of Michelini and felt it was wrong of Dr. Farley not to give him the freedom to decide certain things for himself. And Lou resented that, he felt it wasn't right. He said that as long as he was no longer president he should allow the president to exercise his views.

CNB: Well one of the things that contributed to that was that Dr. Farley was actually kept on the Board or at least attended Board meetings and that must have been a difficult issue for Lou as chairman to cope.

SS: It was. He felt sorry for Michelini because Michelini was really a good, able person and he just couldn't let go

CNB: Often is true of dominant leaders.

SS: His hands were tied in a lot of instances. Lou tried to support him.

BBC: Peggy Corbett was just mentioning how much she adored and revered Lou Shaffer. Peggy being the President's secretary. She also said that Lou Shaffer was the only Board chairman that served for four years rather than the three years after the time we became Wilkes College. I guess we had Charlie Waller for such a long time and maybe others before that.

CNB: Well Gil McClintock was chairman for perpetuity. The only way he left was death.

SS: Gil had been in a long time. He was the one who got him into Wilkes.

BBC: Well the terms of the chairs now are ?

CNB: They're three years.

BBC: So that's what Peggy meant, he served an extra year.

CNB: Very interesting.

SS: Well, that's the only observation I have made through Lou on Dr. Farley.

CNB: What are your recollections of Gil McClintock?

SS: I didn't know Gil very well. Lou spent a lot of time with him, he was a bachelor. I spent time with him for dinner, but I never discussed anything of . . .

BBC: How about the Bedfords?

SS: The Bedfords? I didn't know her too well, she stayed at home a lot. She didn't go out too much. But he was, I liked him. A very fine man.

CNB: Who were the dominant partners of Lou's that were on the Board in the 70s helping the college. Do you remember some of the people who would have been key to his

SS: Charlie Miner was and Don Carpenter and there was a Mrs. Deiner. I like her, a very fine lady. I can't recall any of the others off hand. He had a lot of friends on the Board.

CNB: What are some of the changes in Wilkes that we went through that you remember his being involved in? Either physical changes or program changes?

SS: I don't recall any particular changes.

CNB: Of course the flood forced them to make some physical changes, to take some of them down. We were in the middle of building the Stark Learning Center when the flood hit.

- BBC:** You told us earlier I don't think we were taping it about your feelings about living in the midst of this college campus. Did Lou Shaffer share your feelings?
- SS:** Yes, yes he enjoyed the college kids. He liked the idea.
- CNB:** Well you certainly come to a lot of our events. Did he attend the lectures and the concerts the way you did?
- SS:** Yes, yes.
- BBC:** I guess whenever he could squeeze the time in I suppose.
- CNB:** When you think of the role of this Board, I, of course,--it's a very important part of my life here the role the Board plays and I look at the Gene Roths and the Max Rosenns and the Frank Henrys who give so much of their time and wealth to this place. It had to be in part influenced by those earlier Board members and my sense from the very beginning was that Lou Shaffer had been a real leadership figure to the other members of the Board that his own example of sacrifice and hard work was one they had better follow if they were going to be Wilkes Board members. When I first got here there were a few members that we let go because they hadn't been attentive enough. I early learned that one had to take the Wilkes Board membership seriously and be hardworking. So I assumed that he was part of that tradition that certainly is at the heart and strength of this institution.

Tell us about your three daughters. We barely mentioned them and tell us what they are doing right now.

- SS:** Ellen is in Greece right now, they're on a cruise and Ellen is the oldest and she graduated from Brown University, which is in Pennbroke and she is married to a lawyer who was a member of the Federal Reserve Board of New York, before she married him and then he decided to go into private practice and went to Wilmington, Delaware since his expertise was tax and he joined a law firm in Delaware. When Ellen's daughter was three years old she decided she wanted to take a course in law, practice law. She went to a college just ten minutes away from where she lived. She graduated from law school and started her own practice and it was a domestic relations and divorce and child support, child adoption
- CNB:** The kind of thing her father would do.
- SS:** Yes. She's her father all over again. She has always found time for different organizations to work on drives and community chests.
- CNB:** Then comes Ruth.
- SS:** Then came Ruth. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and worked in Washington, DC and worked for H.E.W. (Health, Education and Welfare) for a year where she met Terry. Terry was with a law firm in Baltimore. They lived in Washington about a year after they married and then Lou

decided he needed someone to help him in his practice. He never formed a partnership, although he had many invitations to join the larger law firms. He liked the personal touch and to do things for himself and meet with clients on his own and decided he'd like Terry to come and help. Although he had associates, he had my brother, he had Nate Jacobs who practiced with him a long, long time and that's how they came back here.

CNB: So that was Ruth, and your youngest?

SS: The youngest is Marjorie, a Wilkes graduate and she married a California boy. He taught a few summers here at Wilkes in the Sociology Department and he located in Tyler, Texas.

CNB: And their last name?

SS: Victor. He has tenure. They raised two daughters. One is at the University of Texas, Austin campus. She just started this year. The other one comes up to the Encore Music Camp. She's been up three summers now and is a junior in high school. She's looking at colleges now.

CNB: We just talked to Barbara Farley yesterday at the luncheon and their granddaughter who has been coming to Encore has just been admitted into the Youth Symphony in Rhode Island.

BBC: Oh wonderful!

SS: How nice.

CNB: And they credit a lot of it to her work with Encore. It has been a nice program for the grandchildren.

SS: Oh they love it.

CNB: So how many grandchildren do you have?

SS: Eight. Ruthie has three, Ellen has three and Marjorie has two.

CNB: Well this has been a great pleasure to have this conversation and I really think it makes more vivid the role of your family in this valley as well as Lou's particular role in the Board. Betsy, what have I forgot to ask?

BBC: I think we have covered a lot of things. It has just been such a pleasure to bring him back and remember how helpful he was in my little corner of Wilkes, when I first came, seventeen years ago. And then continued to be right on through. So that's just one person speaking and you magnify the people he helped here at Wilkes and then magnify that in the community and beyond.

CNB: I think I'm accurate in saying the special award that was given by the Board to Lou Shaffer and to Don Carpenter at the same time, which I think was right before or right after I got here.

SS: I remember when he was discussing interviews when they were looking for a president.

CNB: Those awards were developed, I think, with Lou and Don in mind. I think we have given only two or three since and they are a singular honor from Wilkes to people who have made a great difference to this institution.

BBC: I don't know if we did mention the Memorial Scholarship. I do know we talked about it beforehand, but the Scholarship you and your family set up in tribute to Lou has been such a wonderfully successful one for us and all the students who benefited from it.

CNB: Well, let's wish you good luck on your trip out to California when you do your four months in the sun. We're just glad you keep coming back to Wilkes-Barre.

SS: I just want to wish all of my best for Wilkes. I hope it goes from strength to strength.

CNB: Thank you very much.