

# THE DALLAS POST

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## In hit-run fatality

# Police searching for gold late-model auto

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

Investigation by Pennsylvania State Police into the death of Walter Karasek, 16, of Dallas, the victim of a hit and run accident Saturday night on Route 415, Dallas, reveals the young man was struck and killed by a late-model vehicle, ranging from gold to champagne beige. That information has been reported by Sgt. Anthony Matson, traffic sergeant of Pennsylvania State Police, Troop P, Wyoming.

Matson explained that paint on the clothing of the victim appeared to be gold, blending into a champagne or beige. He said the clothing taken from the victim was damp and would be allowed to air dry, then turned over to the state police lab where testing of the paint samples would determine the exact color of the vehicle that struck Karasek.

Sgt. Matson stated that marks on the victim's body indicated he was struck from behind and that considerable damage had to be done to the front of the vehicle.

State police have appealed to all local police departments, area garages and car dealers to watch for vehicles matching the above description and to be especially aware of requests for parts such as

headlights, bumpers, trim and similar items, particularly those used to repair the front of a vehicle.

Karasek, of 149 Pinecrest Avenue, Dallas, was walking north on the East berm on Route 415 when he was struck by the vehicle approximately 80 feet south of Dallas Photo Shop, according to Sgt. Matson.

Two young women also were walking north on Route 415 when they heard a thud and the victim's body slid past them on the highway. According to reports, one of the women remained with the victim while the second one went to call for help.

According to Sgt. Matson, the two witnesses, who chose to remain anonymous for fear of intimidation, said the victim was not thrown from the car. Matson also said that reports that Karasek was either beaten, stabbed or thrown from a car are erroneous and that there is no truth whatsoever to such rumors.

Karasek was taken by ambulance to the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital where he died at 2:28 a.m. Sunday during surgery, according to Luzerne County Coroner Dr. George E. Hudock, Jr.

District Attorney Robert Gillespie, in a statement Monday, said his office would not become involved in the hit-and-run accident until an arrest is made, unless a request is made by police officials for direction in interrogation.

Karasek was born in Kingston, the son of Leo and Anastasia Salata Karasek, now residents of Dallas. He was a member of the junior class, West Side Vo-Tech School, Pringle. He also was employed as a chef at Mark II Restaurant from where he was returning home at the time of the accident. Karasek was a member of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas. He was a former news carrier for The Dallas Post, a publication of Pennaprint, Inc.

In addition to his parents, Karasek is survived by brothers, Leonard and Robert, at home; sisters, Debbie Karasek, Harveys Lake; Mary Karasek, Swoyersville; and paternal grandmother, Mrs. Alice Karasek, Swoyersville.

Private funeral service will be held from the Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Highway, Dallas, with Mass of Christian Burial in Gate of Heaven Church. There will be no calling hours. Memorial contributions may be made to Dallas Fire and Ambulance, Inc., Main Street, Dallas.

Persons who may have any information about the accident or the vehicle involved in the hit-and-run are requested to call the state police at Wyoming at 693-2442, or Dallas Borough Police at 675-0161. All calls will be kept confidential, Sgt. Matson said.

According to state police, the hit-and-run driver could face at least homicide by a vehicle which is a



WALTER KARASEK  
Killed by hit-run driver

first degree misdemeanor with a maximum five-year jail sentence and or a maximum fine of \$10,000, or accidents involving death or injury, involving fleeing from the scene of an accident, a third-degree misdemeanor with a maximum of a one-year jail sentence and or a maximum fine of \$2,500.

Pennsylvania State Police and Dallas Borough Police Chief Edward Lyons are continuing the investigation.

## Hospital has name change

The Board of Directors of the NPW Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre officially approved to change the name of the facility to Geisinger-Wyoming Valley Medical Center effective December 10, 1985, according to an announcement by Stuart Heydt, M.D., Medical Center President. While the name itself may be new, Dr. Heydt stressed that the Medical Center will still be the same open medical staff, community hospital that it has been for the past five years.

"Geisinger-Wyoming Valley Medical Center is a community hospital here to serve the health care needs of the people of the Greater Wyoming Valley and Western Pocono region," he reported.

"Our success has been predicated on the quality and dedication of our hospital and medical staff," continued Dr. Heydt.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

### Shopping days

Ben Smith, a first grader at the Dallas Township Elementary School, receives some assistance from Joleen Suda, a volunteer at the school. Ben was doing some of his Christmas shopping at Santa's Shopping Days held last week at the Township School.

## Kingston Twp. officials push for use of Vascar

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

Kingston Township manager Fred Potzer stated last Friday that township officials are seeking the support of area State Representative and State Senators R. Musto and Charles Lemmond for continuing the use of Vascar by local townships and boroughs.

Kingston Township, according to Potzer, initiated the use of Vascar in 1978. A radar-like device used in the apprehension of speeding motorists, it is a box-like piece of equipment mounted in police patrol cars.

The township has two such devices, one installed in a marked patrol car and one in a plain car.

The concern of township officials is that in the past months, motorists taken before magistrates in other areas of the state after being appre-

hended through the use of Vascar, have been successful in having their cases dismissed.

"Our police department has never abused the use of Vascar," said Potzer. "They have used it primarily to reduce the number of accidents within the township, not as a revenue-making device."

Potzer explained that the cost of purchasing each piece of the equipment was \$1,000, cost of installation \$250, cost to train each person to use the Vascar \$200, and the cost of operation \$2,000, or an approximate total of \$3,450 for each one. There is also an additional cost for calibration of the device every 60 days.

Quite often using the device for a speeding arrest develops into an arrest for drunken driving, and the police go one step further to the intoximeter. According to Potzer, there have been no cases challenging the use of Vascar within King-

(See PUSH, page 10)



### Members sworn in

At a special reorganization meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1985, newly elected and re-elected members of the Lake-Lehman School Board were sworn in and seated. Pictured above, left to right, are: Robert C. Emery, new member; Edward F. Mark, incumbent; Charles J. Nafus, new member; Bing O. Wolfe, incumbent; and Joseph "Red" Jones, incumbent.

## Lehman board votes policy change

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

The Lake-Lehman School Board in its regular meeting, Tuesday, Dec. 10, voted unanimously in favor of a change in policy that will require applicants for positions within the district to provide a statement from the state police whether or not they have a criminal record for child abuse.

This change in policy will be in line with the new state law that will take effect in January, according to Atty. Peter J. Savage, district solicitor.

Director Martin Noon stated that he believed that the committees should be advised by the administration before expenditures are approved. Noon said he did not believe the board should only see the bills when board members approve payment of them. School Director Bing O. Wolfe voiced his

agreement with Noon's statement. Wolfe said he realizes that the board should pay for all services performed but that like Noon, he would like members to have knowledge of the expenditures earlier than when put before the board for approval.

Allen Keiper, board president, said that board members will discuss the matter at a future work session.

The board approved renting the school district's gymnasiums to Penn State Wilkes-Barre Campus for \$500 annually, by an 8-1 vote, with director Robert Emory casting the dissenting vote.

Emory pointed out that for the past two years the Penn State University has been charged \$1,500 for 200 hours annually, averaging \$7.50 per hour. He said that this year the college indicated the number of hours it will use the gyms will be 100 or an average of only \$5.00 per hour.

Dr. M. David Preston, district superintendent, said that Lake-Lehman receives many benefits from Penn State without charge such as the campus soccer field, use of the university's computerized information system, and a faculty committee which is available for gifted students of the district.

Emory made a motion to charge the university \$1,000 to bring the fee in line with previous years, but his motion was defeated by the board members.

Committee chairman for the coming year as announced by Board President Keiper are Joseph "Red" Jones, athletics; Charles Nafus, buildings and property; Bing O. Wolfe, education; Gilbert Tough, finance; Edward Mark, policy; Robert Emory, transportation; and Martin Noon, community relations.

At the Dallas School District meeting held Monday, Dec. 9, board

(See BOAR, page 10)

## Townships eligible for program

Four Back Mountain townships are now eligible to participate in the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program, according to U.S. Senator John Heinz (R.P.A.).

The four townships involved are Franklin Township, Kingston Township, Lake Township, and Lehman Township.

Heinz, a member of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, has been a strong supporter of the UDAG program. Due in part to Heinz' close working relationship with HUD Secretary Samuel Pierce, whose agency administers the program, and in part to provisions authored by Heinz, Pennsylvania received nearly 10 percent of all UDAG awards made in 1984.

UDAGs have been an important element in many economic development projects throughout Pennsylvania. From 1978 to 1984, Pennsylvania won UDAG awards totaling \$251.3 million, which leveraged \$1.24 billion in private investment, and led to the creation of 26,913 jobs and the retention of 4,762 jobs that would otherwise have been lost. As the key to renovation of business districts, to building convention centers or to preserving historic districts, the UDAG program has been an extremely successful public-private partnership for economic growth in Pennsylvania.

The UDAG program was threatened with extinction earlier this year when other Senators opposed it, claiming that their states were not benefiting. Heinz negotiated a deal to save UDAG which altered some of the criteria for the program and expanded the pool of eligible communities.

"Pennsylvania's regional economic development groups will continue to have an edge in securing UDAGs because of their previous experience with the program. The new program will enhance the ability of smaller communities to compete for UDAGs," Heinz said.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

### Big decision

Ian Linsinbiger ponders the 70 cent price tag on an item he considers purchasing as a Christmas gift. Ian, a first grader, was one of many students at the Dallas Township School who participated in Santa's Shopping Days last week. Hope the person on the receiving end of Ian's gift is as pleased as we think Ian will be in giving the gift.

CHRISTMAS EDITION

Christmas  
edition  
Dec. 23

CHRISTMAS EDITION

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