

Darci Davis shares adventure in Far East

By SARA J. LUNDBERG
Managing Editor

Some people will go almost anywhere for what they believe. Darci Davis is one of those people. Darci, of Newberry Estates in Dallas, recently returned from a three week trip with a missionary group to Hong Kong, China, and the Philippines.

Darci traveled with LIGHT Internationals, a Christian group at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. The group performed in Manila at various churches, and mixed with the crowds that gathered to talk about the gospel.

She was with a group of 15 people who lived and worked with missionaries in Manila. They traveled with an interpreter and were often invited into peoples homes for dinner and conversation. The experience was a first hand view of others religious beliefs and lifestyles.

"The people in Manila were very friendly, and received us very well.



Darci Davis

They took the gospel tracts we offered, and tried to give us something in return. It is a hospitable culture," said Darci.

In the communist country of China and in Hong Kong, Darci's group presented themselves as a tourist group and not as missionar-

ies. They were not permitted to do concerts there, but instead went out into public places to present their message to those willing to listen.

"I believe some people in China were suspicious of us because our rooms were bugged. But most people there were very curious and considered us friends" she said.

Darci traveled to Kenya and Uganda last year also with LIGHT Internationals. They visited tribal villages, and were almost trampled by the village children who were so eager to get closer to them. Next year she plans a missionary trip to Brazil with the group, but is undecided what long range missionary work she may undertake in the future.

"The trip made me appreciate even more the freedom most people take for granted in America," she said.

Darci graduated from Dallas High School in 1986 and is a Church Ministry Counseling major at Liberty University. Her trip was funded by the Fellowship Evangelical Free Church in Dallas.



CONFIRMATION CLASS—Pictured are some of the young people who received confirmation during the recent service

22 receive confirmation at Shavertown United Methodist Church service

At a recent celebrative service, "The Festival of Faith," held at the Shavertown United Methodist Church, 22 youth received confirmation and a group of adults were received into Church membership.

The Rev. Charles F. Gommer, Jr., Wilkes-Barre District Superintendent, delivered the sermon. The Rev. Anita J. Ambrose, Executive Director of the Wyoming Council of Churches, served as liturgist, along with Pastors James A. Wert and

Harriet L. Santos. The Rev. W. James Pall, Protestant Chaplain at State Correctional Institution, at Dallas, gave the final blessing.

Following the reception a balloon release and reception were held on the Church lawn.

Pictured are the Confirmation Class and some of the leaders of the Service: front row, from left, Rev. Charles F. Gommer, Jr., District Superintendent; Rev. Harriet

L. Santos; Holly Randolph, Heather Adams, Jennifer Yarnall, Katie Cerase, Rev. Anita J. Ambrose, Rev. James A. Wert. Row 2, Katie Bennett, Heather Sult, Michelle Stahl, Kristin Wasilewski, Cathy Long, Nicole Gardner. Row 3: John Owens, Richard Banks, Joseph Wallace, Jr., Jason Hall, Jason Getz, Erin Johnson, Amy Shelley. Row 4: Matthew Sleightholm, Todd Paczewski, Tudor Jones, Andrew Johnson, Tracy Stahl.

McLaughlin promoted to senior airman

Kevin M. McLaughlin, son of William A. and Claire McLaughlin of RD 1, Harveys Lake, has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of senior airman.

McLaughlin is an administration specialist at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., with the 833rd Air Division.

His wife, Cynthia, is the daughter of Ralph L. and Nellie M. Rood of RD 2, Harveys Lake.

He is a 1983 graduate of Lake-Lehman High School, Lehman.

Children's theatre this weekend at Music Box

One of the most extensive children's theatre programs presented in existence in Northeastern Pennsylvania is produced by the Music Box Players. The 1988 season boasts an ambitious series of 5 full length plays, and "The Frog Princess" is the third in the series. Thus far over 3000 children have seen productions of "Sleeping Beauty" and "The Emperor's New Clothes" and like these two plays, "The Frog Princess" is a musical.

In the far off kingdom of Wuz the King and Queen are faced with a problem: finding suitable princesses for their two twin sons Englebert and Humperdink. The one who finds the most "perfect" princess becomes King and his princess the Queen. The fun begins when the sons shoot arrows out of the kingdom. One lands on a practically perfect princess and the other lands on a frog princess. Who becomes King and Queen and how it happens is the fun that author Kevin Costley has written in to his original script. During the course of one hour, eight songs and a few dances, audiences will be drawn into the world of swamp, castles and wizard's towers.

"The Frog Princess" has another

attraction - the story is narrated by an onstage bird puppet named Copernicus. Copernicus has narrated other Music Box children's shows and returns by popular demand.

The cast for "The Frog Princess" include Debbie Caccese, Michael Gallagher, E.T. Goman, Ron Mackiewicz, Jeremy Czarniak, Ruthann Zamber, Kevin Costley as Copernicus and Karen Mackiewicz as The Frog Princess. The original music is by Ted Anderson and the lyrics are by Kevin Costley who also is serving as director. The scenery is by Mike Gallagher and costumes by Paul F. Favani.

Once again, as in the past, McDonald's will provide Fun Meals for all performances. The Fun Meal consists of a hamburger, French fries and soft drink.

The Music Box Players will present this show on Friday, July 8 at 6 p.m.; Saturday, July 9 at 12, 3 and 6 p.m. and Sunday, July 10 at 1 and 4 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 (for both the fun meal and show). For further information and reservations, call the theatre box office at 283-2195. The Music Box Players perform at The Music Box Dinner Playhouse, located at 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville.

Dr. Brassard named top instructor

Dr. Deborah Brassard, assistant professor of English at Penn State Wilkes-Barre, received the campus' highest teaching honor with the presentation of the 1988 Hayfield Award at recent ceremonies.

The Hayfield Award is given by the Student Government Association "to the faculty member selected by the SGA as the outstanding instructor for the academic year. The award is based on a combination of teaching excellence and contribution to the general welfare of students at the campus."

Dr. Brassard has been on the faculty at Penn State Wilkes-Barre since 1984, having previously taught at Purdue University, where she received her Ph.D., in English literature language in 1984. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Boston University, a Master's degree from Boston College, both in English literature and language.

Dr. Brassard is certified by the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, and offers workshops in self-hypnosis for students and faculty, and directs a group hypnosis program directed at improving student's study skills and exam performance. For the past two summers, she has also conducted a program for learning disabled stu-

dents at College Misericordia entitled "Using Hypnosis to Improve Writing Skills for the Traditional and Learning Disabled Student."

She is a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, the Modern Language Association, the American Association of University Professors, the New England Society of Clinical Hypnosis, Nor-

theastern Pennsylvania Writing Council, and the Pennsylvania Association of Developmental Educators.

She served as a chairperson of the successful 1988 Hayfield Poetry Festival held at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in April.

A native of New Hampshire, she resides in Shavertown.



Dr. Deborah Brassard

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