

Lake-Lehman graduates Class of 1990

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

"Your class motto 'We are at the end of the road and now it's time for reality' is a very appropriate one," commencement speaker Joann Ralphs told Lake-Lehman graduates at ceremonies last Friday night. "It's the first time you will be on your own to make choices, and you alone will be responsible for success in your lives."

Mrs. Ralphs, a 1971 graduate of Lake-Lehman and daughter of retiring high school principal John Zaleskas, is a pharmaceutical lawyer with a firm in California.

"Make the most of every minute of each day and make your goal happiness and success," she said. "Remember, advances don't always come as you expect them. People sometimes become lethargic and accept what they have. The world gives you nothing free, nothing is handed to you. Henry Ford once

said 'What you think you can be, you can and what you think you can't be, will be true.'" Ralphs continued.

Student council vice president Megan Kozemchak told her classmates not to forget their parents, the ones who gave them the incentive to go after their dreams.

Class vice president Denise Thompson greeted parents and friends and welcomed them to the commencement program.

Valedictorian Molly White told her classmates, "After tonight Lake-Lehman will become a thing of the past, people will forget and others will take our place, but after tonight you will still be you. You will be in control of everything you do."

"We have our youth and energy so let's go somewhere and do something. Tonight, for us the gates of the world are thrown wide open."

Salutatorian Nicole Gardner told her classmates, "This is our last

day to be students of Lake-Lehman High School. Our future is in our grasp, but let's look back at what we had and the times we had together. The foundations our teachers helped lay in our lives will stretch across the miles until we meet again."

Principal John Zaleskas, addressing his last class of seniors, said they reminded him of what kids were when their parents were students. "They are friendly, sincere and have a wonderful attitude," he said.

Assistant Principal Robert O. Roberts told the class it always made him sad to say farewell to a class, but he said, "Tonight I am sad about three things. I am sad that I have to say good-bye to Mr. Zaleskas, who for 19 years has been a friend and a mentor. I will miss him. I have to say farewell to my last senior class, I will miss each and everyone of you, even

though you made me lose more hair, and last, I am saying goodbye to senior high school to become principal of the junior high."

School board president Jeffrey Fritzen awarded the diplomas to all but Jennifer Presper, who was presented her diploma by her father, board member Dr. John Presper.

Department chairperson of pupil personnel Sylvia Bator presented awards to Heather Harrison, business education; Chrystal Newell, home economics; Charles Hartz, Robert Neyhard, industrial technology; Megan Kozemchak, John Lincoski, citizenship; Christopher Daniels, James Nicholas Award; Molly White, valedictorian award; and Nicole Gardner, salutatorian award.

Faculty member Walter Sorber presented the Del Giberson Memorial Scholarship to Heather Salko.



ORATION BRINGS TEARS - Valedictorian Molly White's remarks brought tears to the eyes of several of the graduates during Lake-Lehman's commencement program last Friday night. (Photo by C.M. Denmon)



BACK TO GRADUATE - Lake-Lehman High School senior Chris Smith leaves the stage after receiving his diploma last Friday at graduation. Smith returned home from St. Gabriel's detention center Thursday after State Superior Court handed down a decision allowing Smith to participate in the ceremony, reversing the local court's ruling Smith could not. (Photo by C.M. Denmon)

For Smith, the world really has changed

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

"It's the end of the world as we know it" is more than the class song to Christopher Smith, senior who graduated from Lake-Lehman High School Friday night.

To him the end of the world as he knew it at Lake-Lehman came May 24 when he had to leave his classmates to enter St. Gabriel's Detention Center in Philadelphia to serve a sentence for the shooting death of Richard Hillman last year.

A local court ruling had mandated that Smith could not take part in graduation ceremonies, but Thursday a State Superior Court decision overturned the previous ruling and allowed Smith to return Friday to attend graduation ceremonies with his class, of which he was

president. Smith walked in the procession with his classmates and when his name was called and he walked across the stage on crutches, the room became noticeably silent. He returned to his seat and stood with the others in his row as the last diplomas were presented and the students stood for the benediction.

There were no strong evidences of pleasure or displeasure as Smith proceeded in the recessional with his classmates and was immediately surrounded by his family and some friends.

While his classmates were awakening Saturday to the realization of the world as they knew it had come to an end, Smith was on his way back to St. Gabriel's to finish serving his sentence.

Police report

DALLAS TOWNSHIP OVER \$8000 IN ITEMS TAKEN FROM HOME

David Warren Daris, Dallas reported to Dallas Township Police, June 6 that someone entered his home and took items valued at \$8,250. Six guns, stereo components, a color television set and a portable VCR were taken.

FLUTE MISSING

Mike Pawlik, music teacher at Dallas Middle School, told police June 5 that an Arley silver flute valued at \$400 belonging to a student was missing.

COPS CHALLENGE FALSE ARREST

Police Chief Carl Miers stated that an appeal for a new trial was granted to Miers and Officer Jeremy Torr on charges of false arrest filed by Michael Groff, who came to the township to repossess a car for a bank in Philadelphia.

Groff attempted to repossess the car and the owner reported to police that the car was stolen. Officer Torr stopped Groff from repossessing the car, since he had no identification or papers to show he was authorized by the bank.

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP BEER, GUN REPORTED STOLEN FROM HOME

On June 4 Charles Shafer, Trucksville, told police that someone entered his house through a sliding glass door. It is unknown whether the door was locked but there were no signs of forced entry. Taken were two cans of beer from the refrigerator in the garage area and a semi-pistol with a loaded magazine.

DALLAS BOROUGH VAN VANDALIZED

Police said that Carla Finn whose residence is next to Back Mountain Bowl, Memorial Highway, Dallas, reported that six lights on a van parked at her home were broken.

CARS VANDALIZED

John Murphy, Lehman Avenue, Dallas, reported June 2 that sometime during the night two cars parked on his property were damaged. Murphy told police they discovered the damage in the morning.

ARRESTED WITH FORGED PRESCRIPTION

Police Chief John Fowler arrested Craig Cook of Morrisville, June 5, for trying to use a forged prescription to obtain a drug for himself. Cook was arraigned before District Magistrate Earl Gregory and committed to Luzerne County Prison in lieu of \$5,000 bail.

HARVEYS LAKE ARRESTED FOR RIDING STOLEN CYCLE

A Nanticoke man has been arrested and charged with receiving stolen property by Harveys Lake police. Police say that 19-year-old Robert Kryzwicki was charged after he and another man were stopped by Assistant Police Chief Ronald Spock for riding a motorcycle with no license, helmet or eye protection on May 30.

It was later reported that the motorcycle was stolen and Spock sent out warrants for Kryzwicki and his companion, 20-year-old Crank Woychio of Nanticoke. Kryzwicki was arrested by authorities on Monday. He is housed in the Luzerne County Jail in lieu of \$5,000 bail. Woychio is still at large.

Fire still under investigation

The cause of a fire that destroyed a Trucksville home is still under investigation, according to Trucksville Fire Chief Gerald Kapral.

The blaze occurred during the early morning hours last Thursday at the home of Glenn Sorber.

Kapral said that the building and its contents were destroyed in the fire which had the left side

of the home engulfed in flames when firemen arrived.

Firemen from Trucksville, Shavertown, Jackson Township and Franklin Township helped battle the blaze. Also assisting at the scene were Kingston Township Police, Dallas Township Police and Kingston Township Ambulance and Rescue.

Boating drunk charged

Charges are pending against a Dallas man after he was found to be operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol, according to the state Fish Commission.

Sgt. Ken Messerle, region supervisor for the Fish Commission, reported that the arrest occurred on Saturday evening at Harveys Lake.

According to the commission, Larry Dauksis, 44, was observed exceeding the slow-no wake speed within 100 feet of the shore. Water Conservation Officer Claude Niefert stopped the boat and became

aware that Dauksis had been drinking. The officer administered sobriety tests to Dauksis, who failed the tests.

Dauksis refused a blood alcohol test, as a result he will lose his boating privileges for one year, according to Messerle.

Dauksis could face charges that will include: speed violations and operating a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol, which carries a penalty of a fine of \$250 to \$5,000 and/or 90 days in jail or both.

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