

Music, dance join for Lehman Indoor Guard

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Colorful silk banners whipped and swirled in the air April 9 as fourteen members of the Lake-Lehman Indoor Guard drilled for an upcoming competition.

An offshoot of the "traditional" color guard, Indoor Guard combines precision movements with silks and dance routines to music, according to advisor Mrs. Maureen Roberts.

"Students from our band's color guard join with others in grades 7-12 who have tried out for Indoor Guard during the winter season," Mrs. Roberts said. "Most of the Indoor guard members come from the marching band. I'd really like to see more non-music students involved."

"Indoor Guard requires well-developed senses of rhythm and timing, as well as body coordination, lots of stamina and a good memory. Students learn self-confidence, poise and how to handle an audience and TV cameras at very close range," she continued.

Each year the team's instructor, Todd Marocci of West Chester selects a theme and music and devises routines combining dance and precision movements.

This year's theme is friendship, using music from the movie "Robin Hood." Silks and rustic costumes resemble those worn by Robin Hood's "merry men," with matching silks and flags.

At a recent practice, students rehearsed their dance movements and expertly tossed silks and banners as Marocci counted cadence.

Eyes glued to her banner, ninth-grader Jennifer Stark patiently practiced flipping and tossing it into the air as part of a complicated routine. "It's hard, but it's worth it," she said.

Seniors Tammie Yetter and

"We all have to work together as a team. You have to want to do your best for the others as well as for yourself."

Tammie Yetter
Indoor Guard member

Sherry Bowman fine-tuned a routine, synchronizing their movements to Marocci's cadence.

"I've been with Indoor Guard for three years," said Sherry. "It takes a lot of dedication and we have to stay in shape all year around."

"We all have to work together as a team. You have to want to do your best for the others as well as for yourself," Tammie agreed. "It's a lot of fun, going to so many new places and making new friends."

"But sometimes it's nerve-racking," laughed Tammy Kopko, a junior.

"Indoor Guard takes a lot of dedication and self-discipline," commented Mrs. Diane Brown of Harveys Lake, whose daughter Heather, a tenth-grader, has been in the program for three years.

"It's a big responsibility for the kids, to have to follow schedules and take care of their own equipment while at competition. I think it's a great activity."

Although the school district helps out with some of the costs of the group's activities, Indoor Guard members, their parents and friends from the band raise funds to help make up the difference. They also pool talents to make all of the costumes, banners and silks.

Lake-Lehman High School has sponsored Indoor Guard for 15 years; Mrs. Roberts has been advisor for the past three years.

Since January, the Lake-



UNFURLING THE FLAGS - Members of Lake-Lehman's indoor color guard practice in the school gym. (Post Photo/Grace R. Dove)

Lehman Indoor Guard has won first place trophies at competitions at Salisbury and Cumberland Valley high schools and a second place competing at Southern Lehigh High School.

The squad is currently practicing for a competition April 25 at Dallas High School sponsored by Tsunami Blue, an independent open class indoor guard whose members come from many area high schools.

No other area school district has an Indoor Guard, says Mrs. Roberts, so most competitions are at least 1-1/2 to 2 hours away.

The many nights spent practicing in the gym, long hours traveling by bus to competition and nights of sleeping on gym floors require great dedication from students and parents alike. But dedication is not in short supply at Lake-Lehman High School.

"I'll still be here helping out after my daughter graduates," Mrs. Brown concluded. "Many grandparents are still members of the band parents organization. It's their dedication, love and support for the kids that help make our programs successful."

Entries for Fine Arts Fiesta will be accepted on April 25

Preparations are being made for the Fine Arts Fiesta Annual Juried Adult and Student Exhibitions for the 37th Wilkes-Barre Fine Arts Fiesta, "Voices and Visions" to be held on Public Square, Thursday through Sunday, May 14, 15, 16, and 17.

There are six specific categories in which to enter. They are painting, sculpture/construction, watercolor, graphics, crafts and photography. There is in the adult exhibition a \$200 best of show, \$75, first place; \$50 in cash or gift certificate, second place and \$25 in cash or gift certificate, third place for each category, if judged so, and two honorable mentions in each category, if judged so, two purchase prizes and many sponsored awards. In the student exhibition there is a \$100 sponsored bond; three \$25 gift certificates or cash, and an overall first place \$75, second place \$50 and third place \$25 and many art supply sponsored awards.

The entry fee for adults is \$6 for the first entry, and \$3 for each additional (maximum of five). Fees are payable to the Fine Arts Fiesta.

Delivery for all art work will be accepted April 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. only at 41 South Main Street, Midtown Village, Wilkes-Barre. Entry forms can be filled out at this location during delivery of art work.

Entry forms for the adult and student shows can be requested by mail with a self-stamped envelope by writing: Fine Art Fiesta Juried Exhibition, P.O. Box 2053, Wilkes-Barre, 18703. Adult entry forms can be picked up at the following locations: Marquis Art and Frame, S. Main St., W-B.; The Art Hatchery, Route 309., W-B; Main Street Galleries, Pierce St., Kingston; Sue Hand Imagery, Dallas; Shamrock Framers, Prospect St., Nanticoke; Hazleton Art League, Broad St., Hazleton; Wyoming Valley Art League, Kingston; Marywood College Art Dept., Scranton; Dick Blick, W-B Township Blvd., W-B; Scorpio Studios, Hunlock Creek and Bucknell Art Dept., Bucknell University.

Entry forms for the student exhibition can be requested by writing the same post office or your art teacher at your school.



A baby with her bunny - Sixteen-month-old Bethany Stevens stands with the giant chocolate rabbit she won from Gertrude Hawk Chocolates at the Country Club Shopping Center. Behind her are parents Laura and Michael Stevens of West Pittston, and store manager Annmarie Petros. The chocolate rabbit is worth \$206, and weighs 22 pounds, just less than Bethany. (Post Photo/Eric Foster)

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Traffic

(continued from page 1)

ing in supermarket or church parking lots and then taking the bus. Luizzo is also hopeful that the survey will prompt some larger businesses to start carpools.

PennDOT is currently conducting a traffic count to determine how many vehicles roll through the area daily.

A traffic count taken in September of 1991, before the final leg of the Cross Valley Expressway opened, showed that 36,405 vehicles travelled Route 309 daily.

The results from the latest survey will be compiled in mid-May, said Luizzo.

Over the past several months, the Traffic Management Association, made up of municipal officials, police chiefs, businessmen and concerned citizens, has made a variety of suggestions for road improvements on Route 309 and adjoining.

PennDOT has earmarked \$2.5 million for road improvements in the Back Mountain over the next two years.

Some of the major suggestions for road improvements are for traffic lights on Route 309 at Franklin Street in Shavertown, Center Hill Road by Picketts Charge in Dallas, and Main Street near Offset Paperback, and widening Carverton Road to accommodate a right turn lane at Route 309.

Borton Lawson Engineering of Hanover Township is currently examining the proposals to determine their feasibility and their cost so they can be ranked in priority for funding.

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