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Inside Story

SPORTS

Wagner, Ziomek may not make headlines, but teams depend on them. Sports page.

Free throw contest Saturday for ages 10-14. Sports page.

COMMUNITY



Women's Club bakes cookies for the elderly. Page 6.

Seat belts save lives, police will remind motorists. Page 3.



Dallas Kiwanis collects gifts for children. Page 12.

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CALLING THE PLAYS - Frank Bartolone of Wilkes-Barre used one 10 "Playmakers" Sunday at the Grand Slam Sports Bar at Grotto Pizza. Bartolone competed against other players at the bar, and against players at 750 other locations around the nation and Canada.

Playing against the pros

Aspiring NFL coaches match wits with the real thing at Grand Slam Sports Bar

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Correspondent

So you want to be a football coach, eh? You think you can match wits with the best of them. You wouldn't be caught dead throwing a screen pass on third down and three. You think the Giants should call you before they name the successor to Ray Handley.

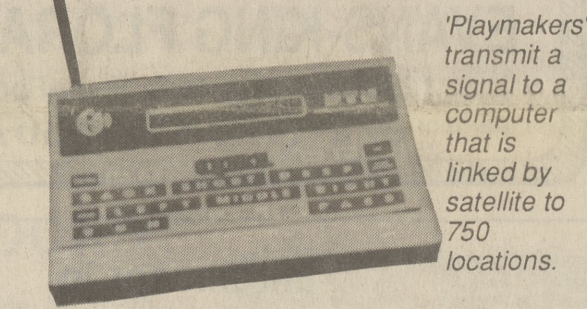
Here's your chance to put up, or shut up. Grotto Pizza's Grand Slam Sports Bar at Harvey's Lake will compete with thousands of "Monday morning quarterbacks" throughout the USA and Canada in the Eighth Annual QB1 Competition during Super Bowl XXXVII on January 31. QB1 is a National Football League game of skill developed by NTN Communications, Inc. of Carlsbad, California and is played during live televised football games.

In QB1, which was developed by former NFL greats Don Shula, Bill Walsh and Hank Stram, players anticipate what play the quarterback will call and enter their choice in a hand-held "Playmaker" before the snap. The players receive points for each time they are correct.

According to Liz Kocher, one of the managers at Grotto Pizza, the system has been met with great enthusiasm.

"We've been playing it all through the playoffs," said Kocher. "Everyone seems to love it. It's pretty simple to play. You really don't need to know a lot about football to have fun playing it. We had nearly 80 people here for last weekend's playoff games."

The players will not only compete with other customers in the Sports Bar, they will match their scores with people from 750 locations in the USA



'Playmakers' transmit a signal to a computer that is linked by satellite to 750 locations.

and Canada. High scores earn prizes nationally, but due to Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board regulations, local winners will have only their pride to show for their skill.

Football is not the only source of entertainment from the system. Players can test their skills in hockey, baseball and basketball. There is also a trivia game with sports trivia, general trivia, puzzle games (similar to Concentration) and adult trivia.

"We run the trivia about 11 to 14 times per day," Kocher said. "It runs about every 45 minutes. Everyone can enjoy those games. People can come in groups and really have a good time. There is no charge for playing any of the games but you must be 21 years of age or older to play at the bar or in the lounge."

Currently there are 10 playmakers at the Grotto, but Kocher is optimistic they will expand in the near future.

In the meantime, most notably for the Super Bowl, Kocher is hoping to get players to form teams, allowing more people to play.

Reservations are now being accepted for Super Bowl Sunday and can be made by calling Bob Yetter, Ken Matchett or Kocher at 675-1264.

Cracking down

Lehman Township goes after past due sewer customers

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Five Lehman Township Municipal Authority customers face sheriff's sale of their properties if they don't pay their delinquent sewer bills.

According to LTMA secretary-treasurer Albert Babetski, some accounts have been delinquent since 1987.

"We have sent these customers past due notices, reported them to a national credit bureau agency and filed property liens against them in the Luzerne County Courthouse," Babetski said.

"Because there appears to be no

effort on their part to reduce their delinquencies, the Authority solicitor, Joseph J. Van Jura, has been directed to proceed with sheriff sale action against their properties."

Babetski said that the following property owners face possible sheriff's sale. Balances are as of December 31, 1992: Gary Evans, Briarcrest Drive for \$1,004.84; Richard Ruger for \$791.46; Raymond F. Walter for \$584.28; Gregg and Gary Evans of Idetown Road for \$1,970.79, and Wendy Martin of 42nd Street for \$1,557.39.

Total charges reflect the past See CRACKING DOWN, pg 12

Middle School principal struck child, parents say

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

The parents of a Dallas Middle School student who claim their son was struck by principal Anthony Martinelli say they will press charges against the principal.

According to Howard and Debbie Jones of Dallas Township, their son, William Roper, 13, had leaned across a lunch table in the cafeteria to accept a slice of pizza from a friend when Martinelli came up behind him, placed his left arm and hand across the boy's chest and pushed him back down into his seat.

Jones filed a report stating that the boy sustained bruises and abrasions across the right side of his chest with the Dallas Township police department on the date of the incident, Friday, January 8.

Mrs. Jones said that her son had been examined by a doctor and that she had photographed his injuries. "We are pressing harassment charges," she said.

The Joneses appeared at the January 11 school board meeting, where they asked that Martinelli be suspended without pay for three days. The board and solicitor Ben

Jones declined to take action until the case is resolved by legal means, saying that doing so would be unfair to Martinelli until he has been given the opportunity to respond to the charge.

"We are aware of the incident, but don't know how the bruises got there," commented superintendent Gerald Wycallis. "Before any further action is taken, we will see what happens when the complaint is resolved in court."

Jones said that under the Public School Code, the school board cannot take action against Martinelli until he has the opportunity to defend himself in court.

Wycallis said that the district's policy on teachers' making physical contact with students follows the state law, which says teachers take the place of parents during school.

The law also allows parents to notify the district in writing that no one is allowed to touch their children for any reason.

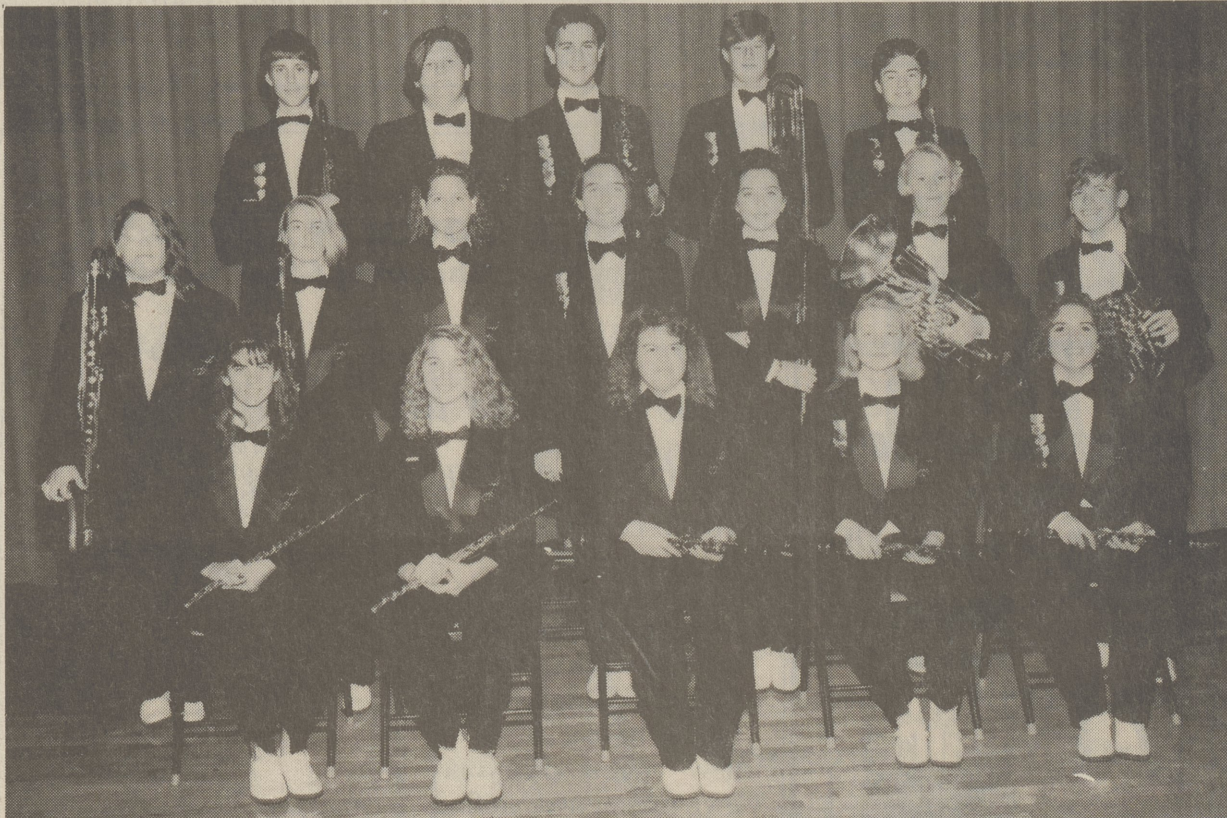
"Teachers must use non-physical alternatives as much as possible," in the course of their work, Wycallis said.

District Band competition offers open concerts

The 1993 District 9 Band will be held at Lake-Lehman High School on January 13-16. The band is comprised of 163 high school musicians who were selected by auditions held this past November at Honesdale High School. The guest conductor for this year's band will be Lt. Col. Alan Bonner.

Lt. Col. Bonner is the commander and conductor of the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. and will be leading the USAF Band during the Inaugural Parade.

The host director for the festival is Edward A. Richards, director of bands at Lake-Lehman. The band will present two public concerts. The first on Friday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m. and the second and final concert on Saturday, 2 p.m. Both concerts will be at the Lake-Lehman Senior High School Auditorium and all seating will be reserved. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students. To reserve tickets for the concert call 675-2165 and ask for the band office.



DISTRICT BAND MEMBERS - Row 1, Jennifer Booth, flute; Megan Mosier, flute; Ronda Evans, clarinet; Sarah Sorber, clarinet; Tammy Kopko, clarinet. Row 2, Shelly Chvotkin, brass clarinet; Johanna Miller, alto clarinet; Jennifer Patalonis, tenor saxophone; Meaghan Ruddy, tenor saxophone; Amy Gabriel, clarinet; ChristyJo Welter, baritone; Chris Brown, French horn. Row 3: James Riggins, clarinet; Jay McCarroll, tympani; Robbie Trescavage, alto saxophone; Jason Poplaski, trombone; J.C. Link, trumpet. Absent from photo: Chris Price, trumpet.

'Safety blitz' goal to slow speeders

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Four Back Mountain police departments plan to blitz the highways in an attempt to improve the safety of Routes 309 and 415 by deterring speeders.

That's a safety blitz, not a bombing blitz.

Funded by state and federal grants of up to \$10,000 per police department, the "safety blitz" will be coordinated between police in Kingston and Dallas townships, Dallas Borough and Harveys Lake.

The 18-month safety program will pay for equipment and extra manpower to improve the safety of the Route 309-415 highway corridor by deterring speeders, encouraging the use of seat belts and cracking down on suspected drunken drivers, according to Faith Ann Liuzzo of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Grants of approximately \$7,000 apiece have been approved for Dallas Township and Harveys Lake.

See SAFETY BLITZ, pg 12