

**READY TO TAKE OFF** – Emergency personnel and the Dallas ambulance crew preparee to fly Dallas resident Melissa Ann Slaby to Community Medical Center in Scranton after a car accident February 24.

# Accidents send seven to hospitals

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

Three accidents this past weekend sent seven people to area hospitals and kept Back Mountain emergency services personnel busy.

Melissa Ann Slaby, 16, Dallas, was taken by helicopter to Community Medical Center in Scranton February 24 after her 1992 Buick Cutlass Supreme struck a utility pole on Main Street in Dallas, near Franklin Street, shortly after 6:30 p.m..

Police said Slaby lost control of her car after driving through a frozen water puddle in the southbound lane, traveling 279 feet and striking a utility pole on the berm of the roadway.

She was freed from the vehicle by a crew from the Dallas Fire and Ambulance and Medic-1, who stabilized her before transporting her by helicopter to Community Medical Center.

She is listed in guarded condition in the trauma unit, according to a hospital spokesperson.

Her father told police she has a concussion, a laceration above her eye, an injury to her cheek bone, a fractured arm and an injury to her pelvic area:

Police said Slaby was wearing a seatbelt.

Main Street resident Calvin Sutton told police that the impact service from the house and damaging some aluminum siding.

Patrolman James Martin and Dallas Township patrolman Doug Higgins are investigating the acci-

Route 118 was closed for nearly two hours February 25 after a collision between a 1981 Toyota Celica operated by Ted Pulver, 22, of Wilkes-Barre and a 1990 Fort F-150 pickup truck operated by Andrew Weber, Jr., 47, of Sweet Valley, shortly before 7 p.m..

Police said the Toyota, traveling west on Rte. 118, was attempting to turn left into the driveway of the Mountain Fresh Supermarket when the pickup truck struck it, spinning the Toyota around and causing it to slide another 120 feet in the eastbound

The pickup truck hit the curb of the supermarket's driveway sideways, flipped onto its roof and rolled down an embankment, police said.

No one involved in the accident was wearing seat belts, police said.

Pulver and two passengers, Michael Hughes, 21, of Wilkes-Barre, and Bethann Warke, 17, of Wilkes-Barre, were taken by helicopter to Geisinger Hospital in Danville, where a hospital spokesperson said they are listed in critical condition in the intensive care

A third passenger in Pulver's used the utility pole to snap at vehicle, Jaqueline Hergan, 17, of trooper Joseph M. Plant investithe top, pulling Sutton's electrical Wilkes-Barre, was taken by the

Lake Silkeworth ambulance to Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, where she is listed in fair condi-

Weber was taken to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, then transferred to Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, where he is listed in serious condition in the surgical intensive care unit.

Pulver was driving with a suspended operator's license and citations are pending against him, according to Lake Township police chief John Masloski.

Masloski and patrolman John Young, assisted by police from Lehman and Ross townships, Harveys Lake and the Pennsylvania State Police Wyoming Barracks, are investigating the acci-

Demunds Road in Franklin Township was closed for more than an hour February 26 after a car hit a tree and flipped onto its roof shortly before noon.

Police said that Carol J. Rhines, 52, Dallas, lost control of her car and went over an embankment of the west side of the road, hitting a tree and flipping onto its roof.

She was taken by the Franklin-Northmoreland ambulance to Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. where she is listed in critical condition in the surgical intensive care unit, according to a hospital spokesperson.

Pennsylvania State Police gated the accident.

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#### Two officers

(continued from page 1)

sent an officer into the school before, we had to find someone to do his work back at the office. The federal grant will pay for someone who will visit the schools and work out of the office."

Being available as a DARE officer will be only one of the new patrolman's many duties, Balavage said. Other duties could involve public education, primary enforcement-patrols, traffic duty and investigations - and aggressive crime prevention.

The new officer will also be available to discuss local problems, such as drugs, gangs and criminals who prey on senior citizens, with area organizations.

"Two more officers are not too many," he said. "We need to intervene with youth to prevent crimes. Devoting one officer's total work time to helping resolve community problems and making the police department more visible in a human way is one of the best ways of aggressively preventing crime. The public, particularly the youth, need to know they can trust and respect the people in

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course starting

"Two more officers are not too many. We need to intervene with youth to prevent crimes."

**James Balavage** Kingston Twp. police chief

Although the township doesn't have a high crime rate, it has the largest population (6,763), the most full-time police officers (eight) and the most police vehicles (six) in the Back Mountain, according to a recent police study.

It is the third largest in area (13.6 square miles), population density (497.3 persons per square mile) and in total road miles (58.21).

The township spends \$374,859 per year on police protection, which works out to \$55.43 per

According to the 1995 budget, the township's income from police-related activities was \$31,000: \$3,000 for copies of accident re-

ports, \$500 from fines from Luzerne County court, \$24,000 in vehicle code violations and \$4,000 in ordinance violations.

The department received grants of \$3,000 for special police services and public education and a \$26,000 two-year county grant for public education on drug awareness and crime prevention at the Meadowcrest low-income housing complex.

"The people are entitled to the best police services that the township can afford to give them, Balavage said. "The supervisors have acknowledged that we need additional manpower by budgeting for an additional policeman and getting federal funding for a second officer."

The township's civil service commision has already tested applicants for the job, who will be interviewed, then be given physical and psychological exams and a physical agility test.

Balavage and townshop manager Jeff Box hope to have the two new officers start work by the beginning of April.

# Divorces sought

The following complaints for divorce were recorded at the Luzerne County Couirthouse between Feb. 10 - 16.

John D. Chiampi, 184C Huntsville Rd., Dallas against Denice A. Chiampi, 184-C Huntsville Rd., Dallas. Steve Derhammer, RR 3, Lot

150 Valley View, Dallas, against Laura Derhammer, RR3, Lot 150, Valley View Dallas.

Jennifer Kazmierski, 4055 Blytheburn Rd., Mountaintop against Dean Kazmierski, RD 2, Box, 45, Harveys Lake.

Jacqueline M. Biscontini, 129 Elmcrest Dr., Dallas against Richard J. Biscontini, 129 Elmcrest Dr., Dallas.

Susan B. Tonkin, RR 3, Box 9, Valley View, Dallas against Edward Tonkin, RR 3, Box 9 Valley View, Dallas.

Craig S. Allen, 40 Sterling Ave., Dallas against Patricia R. Allen, 40 Sterling Ave., Dallas.

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Aric E. Gingo of Shavertown, recently graduated from Marywood College with a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts.



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# **Building permits**

Dallas Borough Zoning Officer Milton Lutsey issued three building permits for the period of Jan. 20 - Feb. 21:

• Thomas McCormack, 231 Main Street for an addition to garage; second floor home addition, estimated to cost \$40,000;

 Mary and Richard Hoyes, 90 Parrish Street, for an addition to rear of home, estimated to cost \$27,000:

• Charles N. James, 50 Maple Drive, Box 543, for a new modular home, 216 Huntsville, Dallas, PA 18612, estimated to cost \$75,000.



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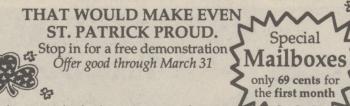
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### The Dallas Post

Published Wednesdays 675-5211

FAX: 675-3650

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612 Shipping Address: 45 Main Road, Dallas PA 18612 Office hours: Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Coverage area: The Dallas Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including Dallas, Kingston, Lehman and Jackson townships, Dallas Borough, Harveys Lake and the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything. If you have news about your family, town or organization, please send it to us and we'll try to get it in. Photographs are

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The Dallas Post (USPS 147-720)

Published weekly by Bartsen Media, Inc. \$18 per year in Luzerne and Wyoming counties (PA); \$20 elsewhere in PA, NY or NJ; \$22 all other states. Second-class postage paid at Dallas PA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612.

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