



Play POWER POINTS Win \$1,000

The Dallas Post

50¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Vol. 106 No. 47

Dallas, Pennsylvania

November 22 thru 28, 1995

Help, compassion abound at Thanksgiving

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - A family of three whose father is dying of cancer, a family of eight with an autistic child and virtually no furniture in their housing project apartment and a handicapped single mother with three children will have much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

They are three of 11 area families will who receive food for a month from the employees of a

company based in the Back Mountain.

For the past four years, employees of ALLTEL Corp., formerly Systematics, have hit the bargains and two-fer supermarket sales so they could share Thanksgiving with their less fortunate neighbors in Luzerne, Wyoming and Lackawanna counties.

Through their annual Feed a Friend campaign (not to be confused with the program run by the Commission on Economic Opportunity), they will provide food for a

"I thank God every day for...people like you, who really care."

Aid recipient in letter

month to 11 needy area families recommended by social service agencies.

The collection, which nets approximately \$4,000 in canned goods, staple foods and cash

donations each year, provides half a pickup truck load of groceries per family, according to coordinators William Holena and Bernie Drobish.

Additional monetary donations will be used to "fill in the gaps" in the groceries and buy a ham, a turkey, personal items, milk and perishable foods for each family, Holena said.

The employees really get into it, with each one bringing in at least one bag of groceries for the collection, Drobish said.

"When we first started this project in 1991, we filled our entire lobby with donations," Holena said. "It has now grown to the point that we had to move it into the cafeteria."

"The families sometimes cry when they see all the food," Drobish said. "They expect only a basket and end up with enough food for a month. Last year we included several bottles of soda in a delivery to a family with several



William Holena, left, and Bernie Drobish show off some of the food collected by employees of ALLTEL.

See THANKSGIVING, pg 12

Jones's nominee elected to board

By ANN POEPPERLING
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN - Joseph "Red" Jones shared a piece of advice with fellow school board members as he resigned from the Lake-Lehman School Board Nov. 16: "Please be pro-education," he said.

Jones thanked everyone from his colleagues to teachers, as well as students and voters, for his three terms on the board which he "truly enjoyed," as he prepares to begin his new post as Luzerne County commissioner in January.

Jones then requested the nomination of Gary Miller as his replacement. A resident of Chase Road in Jackson Township, Miller is a 27-year employee of Proctor & Gamble, has been active in the Lake-Lehman band and girls' basketball and has attended school board meetings for the past 10 years, Jones said. Miller's

See JONES, pg 3



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

They're no turkeys

Dallas Elementary School second-graders Matthew Buckman and Maria Gialanella got suited up for the school's Thanksgiving

program last week. More photos from Dallas, Trucksville Nursery School and Little People Day Care School on pages 8-9.

Crash witness's testimony changes

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS - A friend of Richard Williams III, the man charged with rolling over a Harveys Lake fire truck in September, gave a different account of Williams's conduct at a hearing before District Justice James Tupper than he had to the investigating officer when interviewed shortly after the accident.

During testimony Nov. 20, George D. Kocher contradicted statements which he had originally made to the state police officer who investigated the September 2 accident.

Kocher, a D. C. Roberts fire captain, originally told police Williams was drunk the night of the accident, but testified at the hearing that Williams wasn't drunk when he stopped at Kocher's house and helped Kocher and a relative work on a truck.

"I can't say he was intoxicated

See TESTIMONY, pg. 10

Nestor the hound has a winning smile

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

SHAVERTOWN - A pet photo taken on the spur of the moment has made Nestor the basset hound famous.

Named cutest pet in the SPCA's recent pet photo contest, Nestor, 3, is owned by Tammy and Ed Lemelin. He's named for Nestor, the long-eared donkey in a popular kids' Christmas story.

"We never tried anything like this before," Tammy said. "The only reason I entered his photo is because one of my friends works for Rygiel Studios, who co-sponsored the contest with the SPCA." The sweet-faced hound with

"Nothing bothers Nestor. He'll do anything."

Tammy Lemelin
Cute dog's owner

the soulful eyes posed perfectly for his award-winning photo, she added.

"Nothing bothers Nestor," she said. "He'll do anything."

Nestor shares his home with two other bassetts, Norma and Fox.

Norma is an SPCA dog with a story: when she was nine months old she was left at the shelter by two workers at the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Fair, who had brought

her up from Florida.

"Norma was in the first kennel," Tammy said. "We couldn't resist her."

She fits in well with the family and already has Nestor wrapped around her paw.

Fox, the family's latest addition, is an older dog who enjoys Nestor's and Norma's company, Tammy said. They all sleep together in the bedroom, making a warm, snoring heap of dog.

Nestor won several gift certificates from area pet supply stores, which Tammy plans to use to buy him a special blue collar and a basset bowl, specially designed to keep beautiful long ears from dangling in dinner.



NESTOR

Santa Claus challenged in 4-part Christmas story

Can an elf unseat Santa Claus in the semi-millennial election for Santa?

Would the other elves even consider voting for someone other than the familiar red-suited old father figure?

Every 500 years, Santa has to stand for reelection, according to rules he set himself. But this year, for the first time in history, Santa has some opposition. Snark, a smart and cunning elf, has chal-

lenged for the job.

And he's saying what the elves want to hear!

Will Santa lose his job to one of his elves?

Could the citizens of the North Pole actually vote for someone else?

Find out in the special four-part Christmas series for kids of all ages, "Snark for Santa," starting Nov. 29 only in *The Dallas Post*.

Victims of alleged child molester crowd court

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS - Five young girls were upset at not having their day in court November 16, but their families told them it was for the best.

The girls, all in their early teens, are the alleged victims of accused child molester Ernest William Chapman, 41, formerly of Dallas Township, who waived his right to a preliminary hearing before District Justice James Tupper November 16 on 68 child sex charges.

Represented by public defender Jonathan Blum, Chapman is charged with several counts of the felony charges of rape, statutory rape, statutory assault,

making threats, aggravated indecent assault of a child younger than 16 years old, indecent assault without consent, aggravated indecent assault while making threats and using force, and the misdemeanor charges of endangering the welfare of children, corruption of minors, indecent assault without consent, indecent assault of a child younger than 16 years old, aggravated indecent assault of a child younger than 13 years old and indecent assault while the victim is unaware of it.

At least five of his victims were prepared to testify against him at his preliminary hearing. Accompanied by prosecuting attorney Ingrid Cronin and detective Deborah van Horn of the Luzerne

"Don't worry, honey, he won't leave that jail."

County District Attorney's office, their parents, friends and relatives, they filled Tupper's courtroom to capacity.

Later they were ushered into a waiting room behind the magistrate's bench, where Van Horn told them told Chapman had waived his hearing. Their loud sobs were clearly audible at the back of the courtroom.

Chapman, brought in handcuffs and shackles from the Luzerne County Prison by Dallas

Township police chief Carl Miers, sat in an office, then at the back of the courtroom until a police officer allowed him to stand in an alcove where he was less visible.

"I just want to kill him," sobbed one of the victims.

"I want to look at him," cried another. "Just let me look at him."

Her family turned her around to face Chapman, standing in the alcove. He stared steadily back at her glare, his face showing no emotion.

"Don't worry, honey, he won't leave that jail," one of the girls' relatives said. "You'll get to testify against him in court. And if he pleads guilty and there's no trial,

See CHILD MOLESTER, pg 2

- **Triple threat**
The Suda siblings have made their mark on Dallas athletics. Pg 13.
- **A terrific toy**
you can make this holiday season. Plans, and a column, too. Pg 5.

INDEX

20 Pages	2 Sections
Calendar.....	17
Classified.....	18-19
Crossword.....	17
Editorials.....	4
Obituaries.....	18
School.....	15-16
Sports.....	13-14

CALL 675-5211 FOR HOME DELIVERY, NEWS OR ADVERTISING

The Dallas Post

MAILING LABEL - Please enclose this label with any address changes, and mail to The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612-0366