

The Back Mountain's  Newspaper Since 1889

# The Dallas Post

50¢

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

Vol. 108 No. 45

Dallas, Pennsylvania

November 5 thru November 11, 1997

## Parents plan protest to drug-test plan

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - The next meeting of the Dallas School Board may be a lively one, with parents planning to argue against a proposed drug testing policy that board members firmly support.

At its meeting Monday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m., the board plans to

*"Most of the kids who would sell drugs wouldn't be dumb enough to bring them to school."*

Laurie Popson  
Dallas freshman

hold a second reading on two proposed drug policies for the high school and vote on them. The first allows the district to

use dogs to sniff out drugs in lockers and students' cars. The other allows the district to require that all athletes submit to

random drug testing. The district may only legally test PIAA athletes.

Some parents of athletes think it's discriminatory to single them out. Bonnie Saba, whose 16-year-old son plays football, basketball and baseball at the high school, has no problem with the testing as long

See DRUG TEST, pg 8

## Local comm center could stay open for non-emergencies

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - The Back Mountain Communications Center (BMCC) and the municipalities it serves are struggling to define their role after a state court judge turned down their appeal to remain a primary 911 call site.

The BMCC board met last week to discuss their options after Commonwealth Court judge Warren G. Morgan ruled against a lawsuit requesting the \$1.25 per phone line charge currently going to the countywide system instead be paid to the local center.

Jeff Box, BMCC board treasurer, said the meeting was somber as board members discussed what to do next. "We discussed whether or not to appeal. There was no final decision on that," he said.

"There are too many questions

*"We were let down by the judge's decision. The Back Mountain has a good comm center."*

Jack Dodson  
Back Mountain Firemen's Association

yet unanswered in terms of level of service, future costs if any and frequency," said Box of why the board will meet once more with the county.

Box said the board will look into whether communities can and will fund and maintain the comm center that has been in service since 1986.

Maintaining the comm center

See COMM CENTER, pg 3



Dallas players surrounded head coach Ted Jackson as Melissa Saxon, president of Dallas Rotary, presented the Old Shoe trophy at the conclusion of Saturday's game. The

Mountaineers beat Lake-Lehman 20-12 in a hard-fought 50th Old Shoe game. Both teams now head into district playoffs. More photos, highlights, playoff preview on page 9.

## School district workers could be sporting new duds

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - Dallas School District custodians, housekeepers and maintenance staff might be given a spiffy new look. At the regular school board meeting Monday night, the board discussed uniform service for the staff.

"Uniforms will make the district staff stand out a bit so people know who to get help from if they

ever needed it," said Mark Kraynak, supervisor of buildings and grounds, who is in charge of the project.

Staff would be given a blue uniform with a district logo on the front. The district is in the process of determining if a uniform service or a uniform allowance would be the best option.

"It would cost \$2,500 for five uniforms per employee," said Gil Griffiths, superintendent, if the district went with a service. "If the

workers work for six months and quits, we can trade in their uniform for a new set."

Maureen Banks, board member, said she agrees with the proposal. "I like the idea of the logo. If you walk up there (at the schools), you don't know who's who," she said. "Especially at sporting events."

In other business, the board had Richard Williams, architect from Kinsman Construction, give an evaluation of the Dallas El-

ementary playground. The playground was built in 1987 by the PTO and other volunteers.

Williams listed a variety of items that need to be addressed on the playground. He mentioned joints on the circular slide, a protruding bolt and a step that needs to be replaced near the rope bridge.

The board asked Williams if anything could be done to stop splinters from the Southern Yel-

See SCHOOL BOARD, pg 8

## Volunteers bring cheer, help to veterans at medical center

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - With smiling eyes and kind words Diane Bowman greets a fellow veteran and cancer survivor whom she hasn't seen in a while. The dashing fellow in his Phantom of the Opera costume is ready for Halloween.

"I'm glad to see you, I've been praying to see you," she said reaching for his hand. They chat for a few moments and the bond they share through experience is quite evident.

They are not at the Veterans of America Hospital (VA) in Wilkes-Barre because they are receiving

medical care or because they are getting paid to be there. "We're all here because we want to be here," said Bowman of Dallas.

They are volunteers who spend a little time each week to help make the lives of veterans a lot better. "Nurses and doctors are too busy and don't have the time to stop and talk, but we do," said Bowman who served the Navy for two and a half years during the Vietnam War.

Most of the volunteers at the VA have specific reasons for being there. Raymond Smith of Shavertown served the Air Force for 24 years, four of them during the

See VOLUNTEERS, pg 8



Chelsea Scharding-Taras, a volunteer, and Paul from Dunmore, a veteran, take a break from a party at the VA Medical Center.

## Baseball field may be added to township land

By JESSICA APPOLO  
Post Staff

**JACKSON TWP.** - Jackson Township may get a new baseball field if the township's request for a state grant proves successful.

Supervisors chairman Walter Glogowski explained the township's intention to apply for a recreation parks grant to help finance a baseball field to share space with the current soccer field, which is located behind the municipal building.

Construction of the field is estimated to cost \$19,500, and when finished it would enable the community to host baseball and soccer at the "multi-purpose" field. The grant could supply half of the projected cost and would require the township to supply the other half. "The entire application process takes about 11 to 16 months and is one of many proposed community projects in line for allotted fund monies," said Glogowski.

A member of Back Mountain Baseball Inc. attended Monday night's meeting to offer support and volunteer services to help complete the grant application.

Glogowski urged supporters to gather written recommendations from businesses and organizations in favor of the proposal.

A spokesman appeared on behalf of the Back Mountain Soccer organization to request a breakdown of estimated costs and construction plans in order to help organize donations for needed materials and funds for the project.

In an ongoing issue, John Phillips questioned the long standing lawsuits with American Asphalt. Two suits currently exist, both about zoned blasting areas near residential communities. The first lawsuit was heard last week, and a decision is anticipated. The second lawsuit still pending a preliminary injunction.

Thomas Jenkins appeared on his own behalf in defense of his right to replace a pool liner without applying for a building permit. Jenkins received notice of a violation of zoning ordinances and was urged to comply with the fee schedule and permit application for the replacement of the in-

See JACKSON, pg.3

## Veterans' Day services at Legion

Daddow-Isaac Post 672, the American Legion will hold memorial services Tuesday, Nov. 11, at the Memorial in Dallas. The members will meet at 10:45 a.m. at the Memorial. Commander Jack Good will have remarks. All are invited.

### Scary parade

Dallas Elementary students — and teachers — dress up and have some fun. Pg 3

### Jr. champions

Dallas wears conference football and soccer crowns. Pg 10.

### INDEX

14 Pages	2 Sections
Calendar.....	14
Classified.....	12-13
Crossword.....	14
Editorials.....	4
Obituaries.....	12
School.....	11
Sports.....	9-10

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