



# The Dallas Post

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## Dallas students near top in national math contest

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - U.S. students in general may not compare favorably to the rest of the developed world in math and science, but one team at Dallas High School is on its way to the top.

Armed with sharpened pencils, calculators and their wits, they turn some of the toughest mathematical problems into answers while climbing their way up the national rank in two math competitions.

*"It's fun to compete and see where you stand in comparison to other students."*

Dave Williams  
Dallas senior

Senior math students are currently ranked second in the nation of all participating schools in one contest. Schools of all sizes, shapes and socio-economic levels are taking part.

There are four tests in all that will be

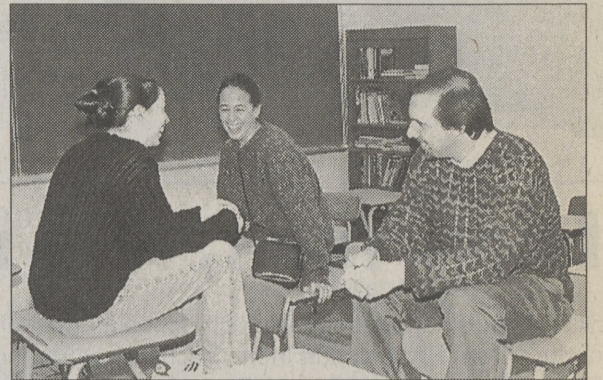
completed by mid-April. Two are national and two are local. Dallas is in the midst of four sections required by Mathfax, the first national test, and has earned 143 points out of a possible 150 so far. This is the first year Dallas has

taken part in the national competitions.

Last year, four Dallas juniors finished in the top 10 at the Wilkes University Luzerne County Teachers of Mathematics contest. Brian Blase and Chad Newell tied for first, Jeff Faneck came in third and Dave Williams earned ninth place.

"They are excellent students

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Math supervisor Scott Saba shares a laugh with students Segun Millington, left, and Kristyn Race.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

## CRUNCH TIME

Lake-Lehman senior Mike Casey put his stick bridge to the test at last weekend's Technology Student Association Region 4 Competition held at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in

Lehman last weekend. About 75 students from northeastern PA school districts participated in seven events, including structural engineering. More photos on page 2.

## Grant, helping hands sprucing up trail

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - As Jennifer Klapat rakes leaves and moves rocks, Mike Furson digs out an old tree stump with his trusty shovel. It's not the most glamorous of jobs, but they enjoy their work. They know that each stone that is thrown aside and every stump that is moved gets the community one step closer to having a walking/running/biking trail.

Klapat, 18; Furson, 17; Larry Coyle, 18, and Ken Hunter are employees of the PA Conservation Corps (PCC). Under the supervision of Pete Nialetz, crew leader, the four are working to clear, level and construct the first 2.2 miles of the

Back Mountain Trail.

The Anthracite Scenic Trails (ASTA) Association applied for a state grant that would assign a crew to work on the trail. ASTA's request was accepted and the crew members began work in February.

The PCC is administered by the Department of Labor and Industry and funded by PennDOT.

Nialetz, who has been with the Corps for four years, said there were 120 applications for 50 crews statewide. "ASTA had all of their 'i's' dotted and their 't's' crossed, so they got it," he said. The grant is only available for non-profit groups or municipalities, not businesses.

There is more involved with the Corps than just labor. The Corps is designed to teach young adults (17-

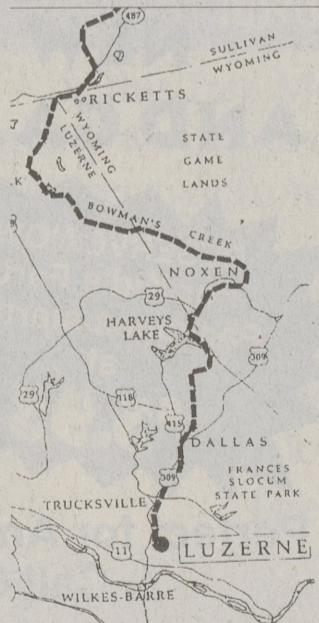
25) job and life skills they will need to do well in the working world.

More than 11,000 young people statewide have served as corps members. All are unemployed when they apply, most are economically disadvantaged and many have less than a high school education.

Corps members are offered a one-year term of service, with the possibility of extending it by one more year. The pay is minimum wage to start, but each worker can get a 10 percent raise after six months on the job. Those who complete a full year of service are eligible for a \$1,000 cash bonus.

PCC also offers programs based

See TRAIL, pg 5



The hoped-for final Back Mountain Trail route.

## Harveys Lake kitten licks all comers in NYC show

By MEIRA ZUCKER  
Post Correspondent

**HARVEYS LAKE** - Silowette Halle of Harveys Lake should be reclining on velvet cushions, while delicately eating fresh anchovies out of a crystal dish. She, at the tender age of five months, is already a celebrity prize winner. Halle has just been crowned Best Kitten at the Cats International Cat Show at Madison Square Garden.

Albert Sweitzer and Greg Johnson, both of Harveys Lake, aren't letting the fame go to her head.

Halle goes to Baltimore in two weeks, then Pittsburgh, then two shows in New York, and then New Jersey. Such is the busy life of this star-quality tortoiseshell Persian kitten. "We'll show her from Portland, Maine to the Carolinas," says Sweitzer.

"Our goal is for her to become a Grand Champion," adds Johnson, "and right now it looks very promising."

"We've gone to this show for three years," reports Sweitzer, "and we've taken her father and her sister." The cat show, which

See KITTEN, pg 8



POST PHOTO/MEIRA ZUCKER

Albert Sweitzer of Harveys Lake holds Silowette Halle, his Persian kitten that won Best Kitten at the Cats International show in New York. Halle won by a unanimous vote of the eight judges.

## 'Extras' raise price of new school to \$8 million

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - Dallas School Board members awarded seven bids to contractors involved in all aspects of building the Gerald J. Wycallis Elementary School at Monday night's meeting. Four of the bids were on alternate or extra option items available for the school.

The alternate bids raise the present cost of the school from \$7.6 million to \$8 million. The board accepted a maximum construction cost of \$9.9 million from Quad Three Group. This cost includes all fees involved with the construction of the school, including architect fees, bids and financing.

Joel Sims of Quad Three Group said the alternates prepare the school for items it will need in the future.

The alternate bids include a playground, Tarazzo floors, sound system equipment and a security

system. The board approved a playground area that will be constructed by Daniel J. Lynch Inc. and cost \$270,000. It will consist of gym equipment made of heavy plastic with a steel frame that will be surrounded by soft and asphalt surface areas.

The Tarazzo, a flooring praised for its durability, was bid by Enjems for \$83,736.

T.J. Cannon Inc. bid on the sound system equipment and security system for \$15,000.

The board also awarded \$1.8 million in bids to contractors prepared to renovate the Dallas Elementary School. Renovations include roof replacement, a gymnasium addition, bathroom accessibility for all students, air conditioning in computer rooms, attic ventilation, a new sound system and site work. There will also be renovations to the music, art, gifted and remedial reading rooms.

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## Planner vote against tower

**KINGSTON TWP.** - At their monthly March meeting, the planning commission recommended against putting a 150-ft. cellular tower at the former Kingston Township municipal building site by denying Cellular One's application for a conditional use.

The commission unanimously agreed that the tower would denigrate the esthetic environment and be a safety hazard. The commission stated that the tower could be a potential hazard if it fell, as it could hit Rt. 309 or the former municipal building.

The Board of Supervisors can either accept or reject the commission's recommendation. The tower will be on the agenda at their regular meeting March 11 at 8 p.m. in the new municipal building on E. Center St.

The commission discussed proposed conditions with Cellular One representatives. The conditions included no artificial lighting except what is FAA required, structures shall be constructed to camouflage the tower if possible or paint it a neutral color, every year the tower owner must

provide written verification that there have been no changes in operating characteristics, and approval of the tower will lapse if it is not used for a continuous six months. In such cases, the tower must be removed by its owner. Finally, the tower owner should provide available space to future users.

Charles Worth, Cellular One, said painting the tower was the only option for this particular structure.

Fifteen people attended the meeting to voice their concerns about the tower. Pat McMann presented the commission with a petition signed by 57 people who are opposed to building the tower.

Jeff Box, township manager, said many names on the petition were sent letters in June informing them of a public hearing regarding the tower. This hearing was held before the township entered into an agreement with Cellular One. Box said only four people showed up to the hearing.

The commission did approve Cellular One's preliminary and final plan.

### ■ Helping out

Karen Belli works with The Arc and Deutsche Institute. Pg 3.

### ■ States bound

Matt Schweitzer and Stephanie Potisek will compete for swimming medals. Pg 9.

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