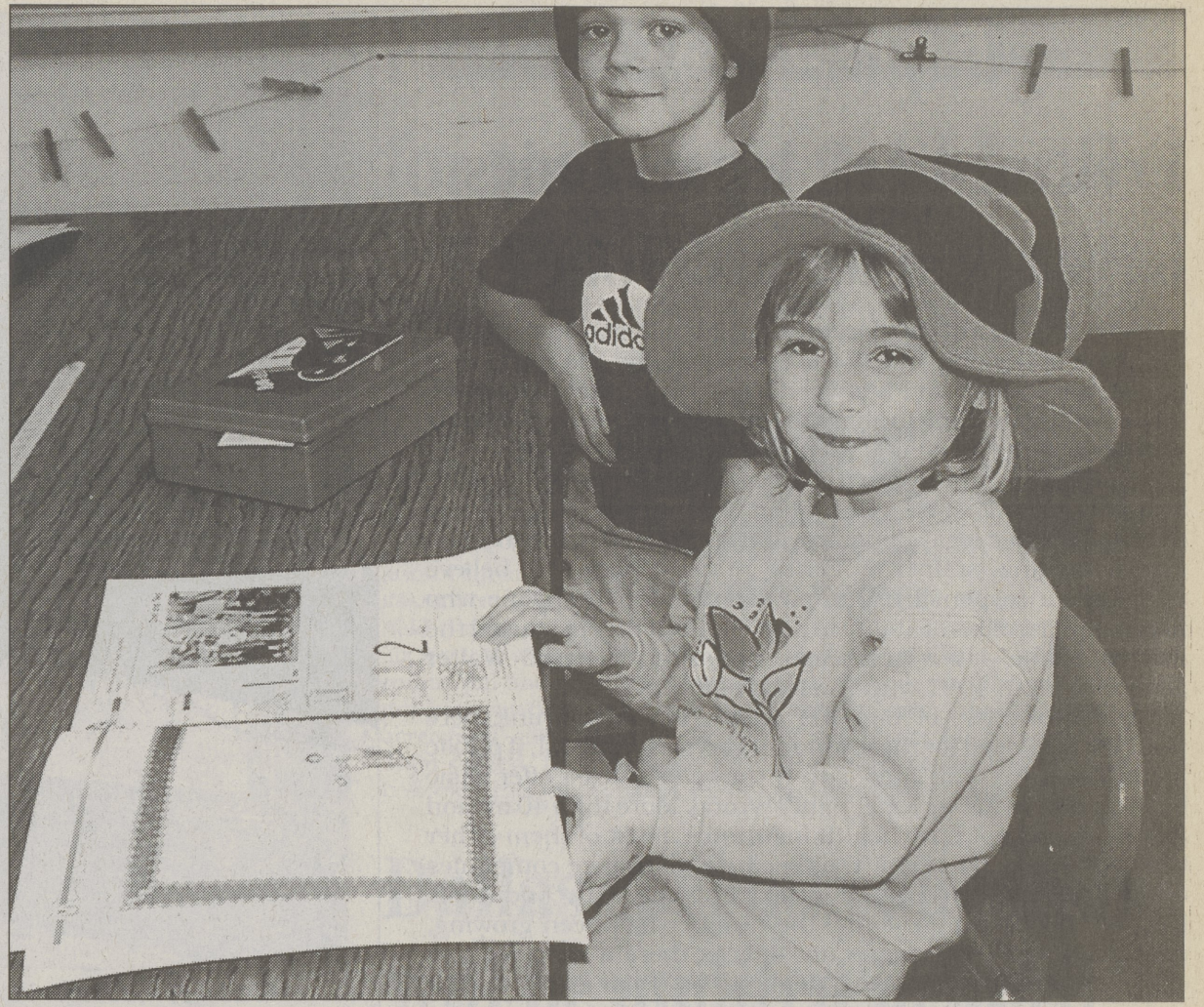
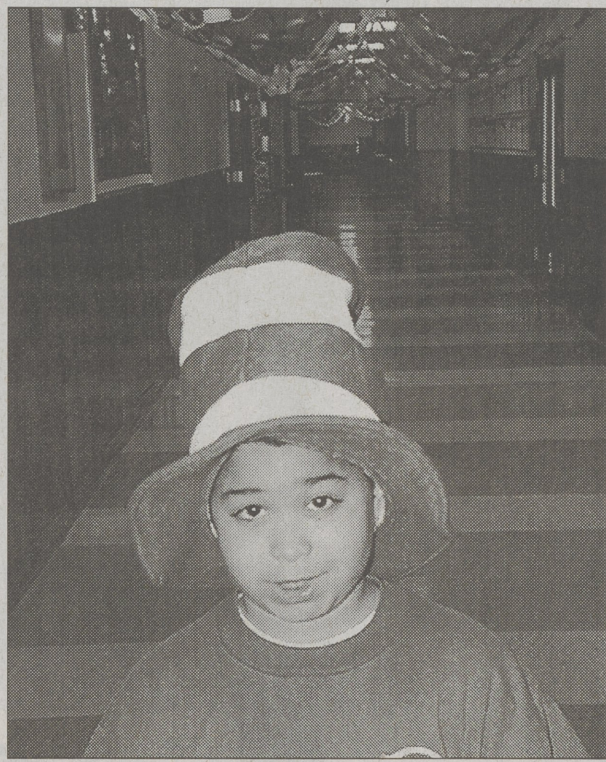


Dr. Seuss, coming and going

Joining in the fun at Dallas Elementary, Alex Wilhelm, a second grader showed two views of a "Cat Hat." At right, Alexe Rice checked out some reading material

POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



Throwing off the shackles of an office job to throw pottery

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - Skip Sensbach is a happy man. And some might say a daring one. While his wife, Kirsten, was pregnant with their first child, Sensbach quit his job as community project coordinator in College Misericordia's college relations office this July to teach rock climbing and sell his pottery.

After working at Misericordia for more than three years he decided he needed a change. Plus, he and his wife knew they did not want to put their new son, Ethan, into day care if possible. The decision to quit the "secure" job for uncharted waters was an easy one.

"Misericordia was fine. I was getting burnt out on graphic design and was getting bored staring at a computer. I was ready for a move," said Sensbach, 31. "I need variety. I just do things when I want to do them. I'd rather fail on my own than sit around and wait for someone to make decisions for me," said Sensbach.

"I'm very fortunate to have a supportive wife. She's always been supportive of my wacky ideas," he said as he bounced Ethan on one knee in the family's living room.

*"How lucky can I be?
How many people
are able to do what
they absolutely
love?"*

Skip Sensbach
Dallas

Kirsten Sensbach is a physical therapist at John Heinz Institute in Wilkes-Barre. She stays with the baby when Sensbach teaches rock climbing in and around New Jersey one to three days a week. He grew up in New Jersey and met his wife while both were attending Kean University there. The Sensbachs moved to the Back Mountain five years ago.

In addition to teaching intrepid folks how to hoist themselves up and around cliff formations, Sensbach recently opened Green Dog Pottery at the Bay Window Shops in Shavertown. A special open house reception will be held Thursday, March 4 from 4-8 p.m. at The Bay Window Shops to celebrate the opening. All are welcome to stop in for refreshments and to meet the artist.

He has been throwing pottery for three years after learning the craft from the late Cindy Parrs of

Orange. Sensbach jokingly describes his interest in pottery as an obsession. After his wife bought him a pottery wheel the obsession progressed.

He joined a co-op with Parrs and sold some of his pieces in Benton and in Connecticut galleries.

"It's really relaxing. I do it in the evenings at my own pace. It's an outlet for creativity and brings in some extra income," explained Sensbach.

The studio is set on one side of the large basement room divided by stairs. His work space is very clean and organized, with pieces in various phases of completion lining shelves. Large bowls with ivy leaves around the rim catch the eye, while unassuming teapots stand with simple sophistication.

Sensbach said he tries to stick



POST PHOTOS/KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER

Skip Sensbach worked on his pottery wheel, above, and showed off some of his creations, right.



with creating what he likes. "The minute I try to make what I think other people will want I get into trouble," he said. Like all the heart-shaped items he made for Valentine's Day thinking they would sell. Not one left the shelf. "Now I throw whatever I like and what gives me joy when making it."

A detached garage houses Sensbach's kiln, which bakes the pieces at high temperatures. The garage walls are lined with finished pieces, many of which are to be sold. There are durable looking cobalt blue mixing bowls, more decorative bowls and platters with ivy leaves along the edges, cups and even a piggy bank.

Sensbach enjoys the co-op at The Bay Window Shops, which includes other artists, crafts people and a frame shop. He looks forward to the new challenges of parenthood, rock climbing and creating art. "How lucky can I be? How many people are able to do what they absolutely love?" he asked rhetorically.

WYOMING VALLEY'S ONLY CONTEMPORARY CERAMIC STUDIO

READY, PAINT, FIRE!

UNITED PENN PLAZA KINGSTON

4 Easy Steps to Your Pottery Masterpiece

- Choose from variety of pieces (frames, banks, mugs, trivets...)
- Sketch your design (sponging, antiquing, watercoloring...)
- Choose your colors! (over 50 available)
- **Now your Ready, go ahead and Paint, and we'll Fire!**

All ages & experience levels welcome

Anyone can create a masterpiece!

Let Us Host Your Next Party!! CALL 283-3714

COOK'S PHARMACY

- Computerized Prescription Service
- Russell Stover Candies
- Greeting Cards
- PA Lottery Tickets
- Newspapers
- Magazines

159 N. Memorial Hwy., Shavertown, PA

675-1191

COMPUTER WORKSHOPS BY PENN STATE WILKES-BARRE

- ♦ Introduction to Computers
- ♦ Project Management
- ♦ Windows
- ♦ Programming: Visual Basic, C++
- ♦ Word
- ♦ Excel
- ♦ Powerpoint and more!
- ♦ Access

PENNSTATE Wilkes-Barre

Workshops begin March 22. For full brochure call: **CONTINUING EDUCATION 675-9102**

Peking Chef

You Deserve The Best
Wyoming Valley Mall
Dallas Shopping Center

Distinction

Always fresh
Always clean
It is not how much you eat,
It is what you eat that matters.
Always fresh
Always clean
Better ingredients, better food.
Eating right and living well
Only the freshest, only the best

Peking Chef - for those who really want authentic Chinese food
Peking Chef - for those who really want the best.

This Week's Specials

- Fresh Asparagus With Jumbo Shrimp or Chicken Breast
- Steamed Assorted Fresh Vegetables
- Stir-fried Orange Roughy or Haddock

low fat, low salt & low cholesterol

7 Floors Of Fine Furniture

On Display Over 40 Dining Rooms, Over 50 Bedrooms, and Over 60 Living Rooms.

Leather Gallery
LeatherCraft • Distinction
Laurent • Pennsylvania House

Wicker Gallery
Henry Link • Lane Venture

BELL HOME FURNISHINGS

95-97 South Main Street
Wilkes-Barre
Daily: 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Monday & Thursday 'til 8:30 p.m.

Interior Decorating Services Available
90 Days Same As Cash

AUTHORIZED DEALER OF:
Bernhardt • Pennsylvania House • Lexington • Stanley • Rowe • Richardson Brothers • Sumter • Hooker • American Drew
Clayton Marcus • Lane • Master Design • Crawford • Cochrane • Universal • Schnadig • Wambold • Crescent • Najarian
Vaughan • Carsons • Canadel • Riverside • Pulaski • Jetton • Bermex • Jasper • Mobil • Barcalounger • Flexsteel • Harden
BenchCraft • Cambridge • Keller • Key City • Eddie Bauer • Fine Art • Leeazanne • Stiffel • Bedding By Serta