

Dukas

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King's College newspaper, *The Crown*. And he is only a junior. Who says that today's kids aren't doing enough with their lives?

When Dukas graduated from Dallas High School in 1996, he began an accounting major at King's, his father's alma mater. He had worked briefly on the high school paper, and took advanced communications, but did not concentrate on writing until college.

At King's, he was encouraged by Associate Professor of English John Ennis, a Dallas resident and father of Jared's friend Connor, to pursue writing. "I saw a talent there," recalls Ennis. "He had good ideas and he could express them well." Ennis remembers the first time Dukas handed in a paper, Ennis thought, "Wow!" He encouraged Dukas to write for *The Crown*, and to take more English courses.

"He really was the one who pushed me," says Dukas. As a freshman, he wrote articles for *The Crown*, and as a sophomore, he wrote stories and became the features editor. The additional English courses translated into the dual major of English and accounting, with an equal emphasis on both.

"Writing is very important for any field of study," notes Dukas. "I think it helps me with accounting. There is a large emphasis on communication." He emphasizes that accountants prepare annual reports, create presentations, and are often called upon to communicate complex information to others with no accounting background.

Dukas enjoys his accounting classes, and uses business topics in other courses. In advanced business writing, a class taught by Associate Professor of English Jim Wallace, Dukas and two other students are producing a substantial proposal for Big Brothers/Big Sisters on attracting more volunteers. "Most of us can only handle words or numbers — he can do both," says Dr. Wallace. In addition, Dr. Wallace believes that Dukas "has to be the most polite and respectful student on campus."

Jared joins two other students as keys to production of *The Crown*. Junior Patrice Kopec and senior Brian Compton serve as co-editors-in-chief. "All three of us have something to offer. We all work well together," says Dukas.

Kopec, a dual major in English and Spanish, relies on Dukas's accounting background to add to the paper. "He's always looking for ways to make our paper look better." She also admires his ability to utilize both facets of his education. "I think it's great that he combines both aspects," says

"I think it helps me with accounting. There is a large emphasis on communication."

Jared Dukas
Crown editor, Dallas

Kopec.

Next year, Dukas plans to apply for the position of co-editor-in-chief with Kopec. One benefit of *The Crown* is that the student editors divide scholarship moneys as reimbursement for their hard work.

The Crown is published approximately every two weeks, and the student staff works 25-35 hours to produce each issue. As managing editor, Dukas helps organize and develop the look and content of *The Crown*. In addition, he is often called upon to write an issue's editorial, and will write the paper's Annual Report.

Dukas also enjoys producing feature stories for *The Crown*. "I like to show the human aspect — what makes people tick," he says. He has written stories about an accounting teacher's extensive teaching career, new female faculty members in the business department, and a student ranked among the top 15 national archers.

Dr. Laurie Sterling first taught Dukas during a creative writing class at King's and has been continually impressed by his dedication and writing ability. "He likes to write," says Sterling. "I think it's a love of language." Dukas has chosen to concentrate on the writing track of the English major.

Dr. Sterling also applauds Dukas's combination of accounting and English majors. "His willingness to do both speaks of his motivation," she notes. "Only the most exceptional students can balance both."

Dukas lives at home with his parents, James and Barbara, and brother Josh, a Dallas High senior, and sister Caitlin, a seventh grader. "He's an excellent student," says his father. "And an excellent person," quickly adds his mother. Jared was an Eagle Scout with Troop 281 in Dallas, and thanks the Scouts because "the Boy Scouts is an organization that stresses teamwork, values, and morals."

In a fall editorial, Dukas wrote: "These are your four years — four years that will force you to take on responsibility, build character, and to prepare for the workforce."

He is definitely taking his own advice.

Company cleanup aids employees, environment

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

DALLAS - Inspired by its founder, Energy Converters (Encon), of Dallas, spent five years and a sizable amount of money on a cleanup project designed to enhance the grounds surrounding its facility and improve conditions for its workers.

"Before the work was done, it was hard to see the stream running through our property because that area was inundated with trees, bushes and weeds," said Rose Marie Cicarelli, who has worked at Encon for 23 years.

The overgrowth was cleared and debris was removed from the stream. A pond was built that is now home to a flock of ducks. Several Encon employees regularly chip in to buy food for their feathered friends. "We all do a little something to keep it nice," said Cicarelli.

The improvements were inspired by the company's founder, Hanford Eckman, who died March 22. "This was Hanford's idea; he took great pride in our facility," said John Lloyd, who is Eckman's son-in-law and general manager at Encon.

"Hanford started this company from scratch. He bought the land, built the facility and hired the staff. The next logical extension, in his mind, was to improve the grounds," said Lloyd.

Hanford Eckman was committed to his company and to his community. "We spend eight hours a day at Encon and we should take care of it like our homes," he once told Cicarelli.

Eckman's loyalty to his community extended beyond improving appearances at Encon. He established a policy to support local business whenever it was



Energy Converters will receive a "Pride of Place" award from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce for environmental improvements made around its plant in Dallas.

"We spend eight hours a day at Encon and we should take care of it like our homes."

Hanford Eckman
speaking to Rose Marie Cicarelli before his death

possible. "He used to say 'if we can get something we need locally then let's do it,'" said Cicarelli, who is in charge of vendor accounts at Encon.

"Hanford was always that way. He loved Dallas because he got

his start here," she said.

Efforts to distinguish Encon among area employers are paying dividends. The Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce recently recognized the company as an outstanding local business by

awarding it a "Pride of Place" prize.

John Lloyd thinks the honor is a tribute to the company's commitment to making things better. "We wanted this to be a great place for our employees to work," he said.

New 4-H horse club meets

Riding Proud held its first 4-H meeting on March 18. It is a brand new horse club with 14 horse lovin' members. This meeting we chose a name and elected officers. Our officers are Kristen Czualina, president; Rachael Pugh, vice president; Lauren Rinker, secretary; Carrie Thyren, treasurer; Caitlin Delehanty, reporter; and Ashley Yanchick, social chairman. We also voted on dues, which turned out to be a \$1 per month. Riding Proud meets the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Dallas Municipal Building. If you are interested in joining or want more information, please contact Heather Foust or Brenda Pugh at Champion Equestrian Center, 674-6662.

Public hearings April 15 on NUI rate hike

State Rep. Phyllis Mundy is urging people who get their water from National Utilities to come to one of two public hearings to be held in Dallas Township April 15.

"These hearings are not just about the 57 percent rate increase that National Utilities is seeking. This is a chance for any customer to have a say about

problems or questions involving service," Mundy said. The public hearings, being sponsored by the state Consumer Advocate's Office, will be held at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. April 15 in the Dallas Twp. Municipal Building.

Mundy plans to attend one of the hearings. Those who are unable to be present may submit comments to the Office of Con-

sumer Advocate, 555 Walnut St., Fifth Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923. Residents also may call 717-783-5048 or send e-mail to paoca@ptd.net.

Written comments should mention that the company involved is National Utilities, and e-mail also should include the sender's address and phone number.

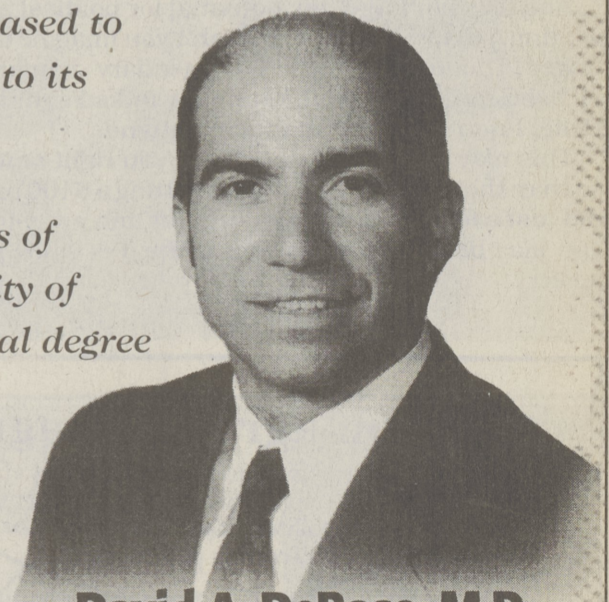
Introducing Our Newest M.D.

Northeastern Eye Institute is pleased to welcome David A. DeRose, M.D. to its expanding network of eyecare professionals.

Dr. DeRose holds a bachelors of science degree from the University of Rochester and earned his medical degree from Hahnemann University in Philadelphia. He completed his internship in ophthalmology at Hahnemann University Hospital and a cornea and glaucoma fellowship at

Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh. Dr. DeRose specializes in treating glaucoma, diseases of the cornea, cataract surgery and the latest refractive surgery procedures (PRK and LASIK).

Dr. DeRose is currently seeing patients at Northeastern Eye Institute's Wilkes-Barre and Shavertown offices.



David A. DeRose, M.D.

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