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Legion honors scholarship recipients

Program at Post 672 targets 2-year schools

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

DALLAS - "Most kids want to be a fireman or a policeman, but he wanted to be a cooker man," said Joyce Wolfe about her son David.

A cooker man, or as grown-ups say, "a chef," is exactly what David Wolfe is going to become. He is a second year food production management student at Luzerne County Community College (LCCC) working toward an associate's degree. He was an outstanding culinary student at West Side Vocational and Technical School for three years and has continued to work hard on the college level.

Last year, David was one of five Back Mountain students who received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Daddow-Isaacs American Legion Post No. 672. This year David and his fellow scholarship winners from last year will each receive \$500 to help further their educations.

"It was a big help, definitely," said David, who used his scholarship for tuition and books last year. This year the money will help pay for his uniform and lab fees.

American Legion Post 672 has given over \$50,000 to Back Mountain students attending two year technical schools over the last 10 years. The money is raised from the Post's annual scholarship golf tournament.

"A lot of scholarships are for four-year programs, not two-year," said Clarence Michael, member of the golf tournament committee. He said this scholarship program tries to fill that gap for local students.

"We have invested our money wisely," said Michael at the recent scholarship presentation. "We had no doubts that you'd all be successful."

Stephanie Card, a Lake-Lehman graduate, was this year's \$1,000 schol-



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

Gitty-up horsy

See SCHOLARSHIPS, pg 8 Riley Rose Frederick climbed aboard the mechanical pony outside of Thomas' Family Market for an afternoon ride.

'Hot Dog Bob' kicked off lot

But he might stick it out to test the penalty

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE - "Hot Dog Bob" has been ordered to take his cart elsewhere in the borough by the Harveys Lake Zoning Board.

At the August 22 zoning board meeting, testimony was heard for the Kaye-Jones appeal regarding Bob Prescott selling hot dogs at Pole 4 at the lake. Damien Kaye, owner of Damien's On The Lake, and Kent Jones, owner of Jones's Potato Pancakes, filed an appeal to the board after Prescott was granted a transient business license and started selling hot dogs on the land between the two restaurants.

"Why are we here?" Jones asked the board. He said he sat in front of the zoning board four years ago regarding a different business that was on the land at Pole 4. He said it was determined at that time the lot did not meet

commercial zoning needs and the decision was upheld by Luzerne County Court and the Pennsylvania Superior Court.

"That was a variance case," said James Lesho, the attorney who replaced Mark McNealis as

See HOT DOG BOB, pg 8



POST PHOTO/M.B. GILLIGAN

Frequent Dallas bicycles riders, Laura Raczowski and Erika McKeown are pictured at Demunds Corners which they consider to be one of the most dangerous intersections to cross on a bicycle.

Bikers take it cautiously on Back Mountain roads

By M.B. GILLIGAN
Post Correspondent

BACK MOUNTAIN - Riding a bicycle in the Back Mountain, whether for fun, exercise or transportation, can be a frustrating experience.

"Drivers are nuts," exclaimed Erika McKeown of Dallas. She and fellow Dallas High School junior Laura Raczowski frequently ride bikes to get from one place to another.

"It is really dangerous because there are no sidewalks," said Erika. "We try to stay off the highway and the main roads but sometimes we can't."

The girls were traveling re-

cently from Trucksville, through Shavertown, to Dallas to visit some friends and to shop at Mr. Z's and at the CVS Pharmacy.

"I use the crosswalk buttons on the highway and that helps," said Laura. "Drivers just don't give us enough time to move, though. They beep at us a lot and that startles me. Maybe they just want us to know that they're there, but that really doesn't help."

Bicycles must travel with the traffic and follow traffic laws. They must stop for stop signs and red lights.

"Even though we have the

See BICYCLES, pg 8

Admitted drug user bounces string of stolen checks

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

TRUCKSVILLE - A Harveys Lake man was arraigned August 22 on 27 counts of theft by deception, nine counts of bad checks and one count of unlawful taking.

Daniel Short confessed to police he stole checks from his uncle, William Short, and his brother, Steven Short. Daniel Short used the checks at a number of Back Mountain businesses, including Lehman Sunoco, BiLo, Grotto Pizza and

Valentine's Jewelry, according to police reports.

William Short contacted police when he noticed a charge on his bank statement that he did not write a check for. He told police he had problems with Daniel Short stealing guns from him in the past and a neighbor had seen Daniel Short on the property recently.

At the Lehman Sunoco, owner Robert Jones informed police several checks has been received from the same man. Some of the checks were from William Short's account and

some from Steven Short's account, which had been closed almost two years ago. Jones was able to give police a description of the man and his vehicle who had written the checks.

During the investigation, Daniel Short turned himself into police. He said he was sorry for what he had done and wanted to do the right thing. He also told police he has a serious drug problem.

Daniel Short admitted using the checks for gas, cigarettes and food. He also said he would

buy items with the checks and then return the items for cash. Police found a check written out to Lehman Sunoco ripped up in the garbage at Daniel Short's residence. He said he had filled the check out but then felt bad. He decided not to write any more checks.

The checks totalled over \$2,000, not including incurred service charges from the banks. He is currently free on \$15,000 bail. He will appear before District Justice James Tupper at 9:30 a.m. on August 30, for his preliminary hearing.

Boy details complaint against Kocis

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

TRUCKSVILLE - A rape charge was dropped against a Dallas Township man who is accused of performing sexual acts with a 15-year-old boy.

After two continuances, Bryan Kocis, 60 Midland Drive, appeared before District Justice James Tupper for a preliminary hearing on August 22. The 39-year-old man is charged with statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, corruption of minors, sexual abuse of children, and unlawful contact or communication with a minor. He had been arrested July 12.

Kocis walked into the courtroom very composed, wearing a navy blue suit and sunglasses. He brought a single yellow piece of paper and a pen, and sat very still beside his attorney All Flora, staring straight ahead with his hands clasped together, placed on his lap.

Sitting on the other side of the room two rows back was Kocis's accuser and his parents, from Lehigh County. The teenaged boy dressed in khaki shorts and a blue shirt looked out of place in such an adult setting. But what he described to the court during his testimony told a story of innocence lost.

The teenager sat in the witness box and began his story when he first met Kocis on the internet in late May. He said it was his first time in a chatroom called Allentown Male to Male. He said Kocis made the initial contact by instant messaging him on the computer under the screen name cobravideoco as the boy was leaving the chatroom.

Kocis asked the boy his age, and the boy told him he was 16. Kocis also asked him to send photos. The teenager said he used his webcam to take the

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