

Cyber sex charges going to trial

BY TIMOTHY J. RAUB
Post Staff

KINGSTON TWP. — Former syndicated columnist Jeffrey O'Brien has waived his right to a preliminary hearing before District Justice James Tupper, and will face criminal charges in Luzerne County Court filed against him for engaging in talks over the internet of a sexual nature with a 17-year-old Back Mountain girl.

O'Brien will face charges of obscene and other sexual materials and performances, unlawful contact or communication with a minor and corruption of minors in Luzerne County Court of

Common Pleas.

According to a police affidavit, the girl contacted O'Brien via e-mail after reading his column in the Times Leader, to discuss possible careers in writing. After about a month, the e-mail and instant messages turned from a professional nature to conversations about sex, according to instant message and e-mail logs given to police by the girl's mother.

O'Brien, 56, of Somerset County, wrote a syndicated column for several newspapers, including the Times Leader.

O'Brien is represented by Attorney Frank W. Nocito of Kingston.

Sarah Podelhl named to dean's list at Temple

Sarah Podelhl, a second year student at Temple University's Pharmacy School was named to the Dean's List for the 2002 fall semester with a GPA of 3.67. She is a member of Lamda Kappa Sigma sorority. Her parents are Ned and Betsy Podelhl of Dallas.



POST PHOTO/TIMOTHY J. RAUB

Fire totals school district truck

Dallas fire and ambulance crews were called to the Wycallis Elementary School on January 11 for a vehicle fire.

A school district maintenance vehicle caught fire upon ignition in the engine, said Dallas School District Superintendent Gilbert Griffiths.

Fire crews extinguished the flames, and secured the vehicle.

Wycallis students were evacuated from the section of the building closest to the vehicle, said Griffiths.

Griffiths said the vehicle, a 1986 Dodge dump truck, was towed by flatbed truck and totaled.

No injuries were reported in the fire.



POST PHOTO/TIMOTHY J. RAUB

Vito and Maria Recchia, where they can usually be found, behind the counter at Mimmo's Pizza in the Dallas Shopping Center.

Pizza shop has been a labor of love for Recchias

BY TIMOTHY J. RAUB
Post Staff

DALLAS — Mimmo's Pizza, in the Dallas Shopping Center, has not been just another pizza and hoagie shop over the last 20 years.

It has been a daily way of life for many Back Mountain residents.

From post-high-school-dance crowds to daily lunch patrons, Mimmo's has served them all.

"The customers are what makes it fun," said co-owner Maria Recchia. "It is nice to see a lot of the students that have moved on when they come in for some pizza."

Recchia never thought she would be working in the pizza business, but that changed when she married Vito Recchia in 1986.

Vito had owned the shop since 1981, and was no stranger to the pizza business. Upon arriv-

"The friendships really make it all worth it."

Maria Recchia
Co-owner, Mimmo's Pizza

ing in America from Italy when he was 15, Vito Recchia started making pizzas in a shop owned by his brothers in Altoona.

Vito later moved to the Back Mountain, and opened the Dallas Mimmo's.

Maria said vacation time is hard to schedule with a family business, and long hours can take their toll, but the labor of love that she and her husband share is something that she would never change.

"The Back Mountain has grown and changed so much in the last 20 years," said Maria. "We work from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. every night except Sunday,

so we don't get to go out with friends much, but the feedback we get from people is really nice."

Comments on the quality of the pizza are as abundant as the mozzarella, and have become a family joke between Vito and his brother, who owns Dino's Pizza in the Wyoming Valley Mall.

"Many people come in and tell us how much our pizza tastes like Dino's," said Maria. "It is funny, because my husband's brother owns Dino's and not many people know that."

But the most significant development over the past 20 years of operation comes from the relationships that the Recchia's have built with members of the community.

"They have really become like family," said Maria Recchia. "They have watched our children grow, and invite us to events with their families. The friendships really make it all worth it."

L-L Elementary wrestlers earn awards

Award certificates were given to Lake-Lehman Elementary wrestlers who carry a "B" or above average for the marking period.

For the first marking period those who received an award were: Kyle Caffrey, 4th grade; Jeffrey Carter, 1st grade; Walter Dropko, 1st grade; Vincent Edwards, 1st grade; Shamus Field, 6th grade; Gregory Josuweit, 4th grade; Timothy Labar, 3rd grade; Devon Morris, 3rd grade; Hunter Murphy, 2nd grade; Ryan Murphy, 3rd grade; Timothy Pearson, 3rd grade; Brandon Peloso, 3rd grade; Bobby Peloso, 6th grade; Justin Peloso, 1st grade; Donald Searfoss, 4th grade; Adam Shefler; Steven Sherwood, 3rd grade; Vincenzo Sicurella, 2nd grade; Shane Stark, 4th grade; Kieran Sutton, 1st grade; Nathan Walsh, 6th grade; Nathaniel Wilson, 3rd grade; Jake Winters, 3rd grade; Joshua Winters, 1st grade; Justin Winters, 1st grade.

Children's Ass'n to sell candy bars

Members of the Wyoming Valley Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors are currently coordinating the annual Sweet Treat Project to benefit the Wyoming Valley Children's Association, a local United Way agency which provides therapeutic programs and services to children with disabilities. Sweet Treat chairman Bruce Weinstein announced that the fund raiser will run through March 14, and will feature the sale of various Gertrude Hawk chocolate bars at local restaurants, businesses and clubs. The project is sponsored by SOVA Data and Voice Network Services, Plains.

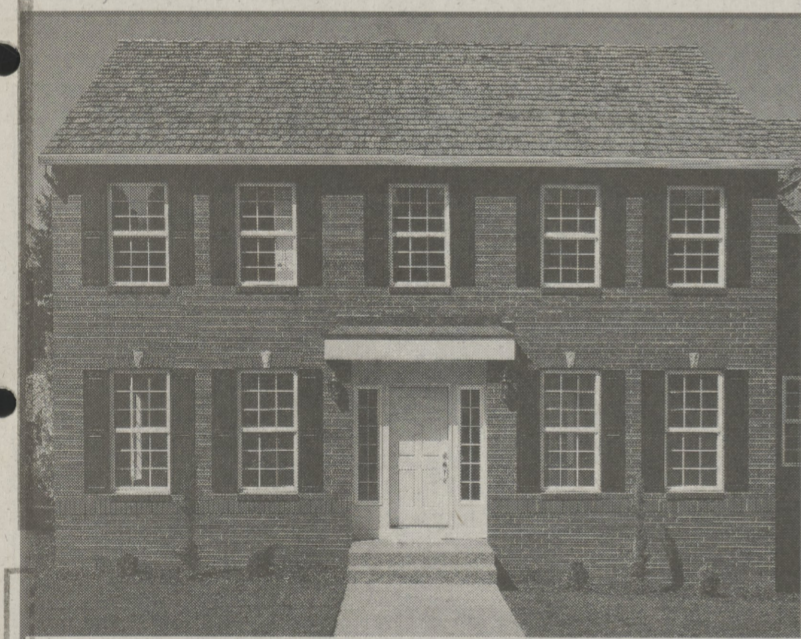
Anyone wishing to join the Sweet Treat project can call the Children's Association at 829-2453.

Tell our advertisers you saw them in The Dallas Post. They'll appreciate it, and so will we.

BUILDING? REMODELING?

The plumbing, heating, and air conditioning systems are "the HEART of your home." Guarantee long-term satisfaction and performance by consulting "THE PROFESSIONALS" at C.W. Schultz during the planning stages.

C. W. SCHULTZ & SON INC.
The Service Experts Since 1921
PLUMBING • HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING
WATER TREATMENT • SEWER & DRAIN CLEANING
C. W. SCHULTZ & SON INC.
216 Parrish Street, Wilkes-Barre Phone: 822-8158 • FAX: 824-8509



THIS IS WHERE WE DRAW THE LINE

No Closing Cost Home Equity Credit Line

4.75 %* APR
Current Variable Rate

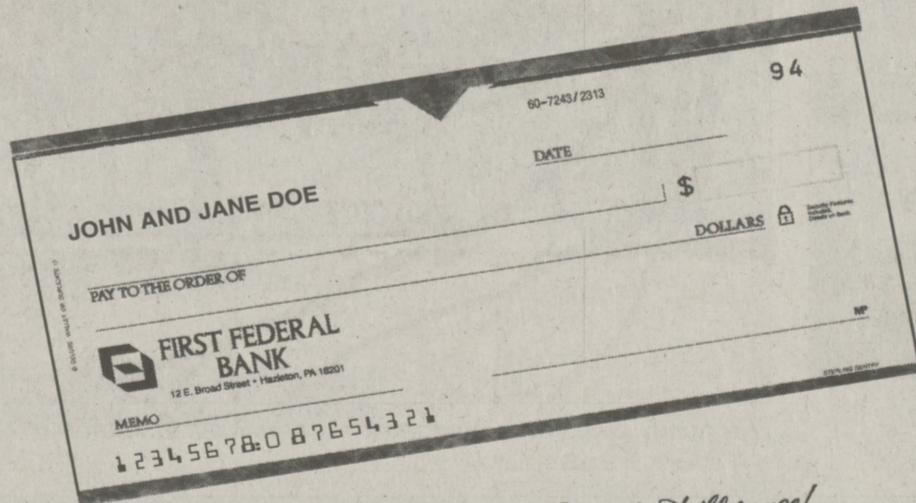
With FNCB's Home Equity Line of Credit you can borrow on the increased value of your home to get the money you need. Pay off existing credit card bills, buy a new car, take a vacation, make home improvements ... you can even pay for college.

For more information or to apply stop by any FNCB community office or call 1-877-TRY-FNCB today!

FNCB
COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME
1-877-TRY-FNCB / www.fnbc.com

*Annual percentage rate will be equal to the National Prime Rate and will vary as the Prime Rate changes. Payments must be automatically deducted from a First National Community Bank deposit account each month. Maximum interest rate will not exceed 18%. Property insurance is required. Title insurance may be required with lines of credit over \$100,000. This offer does not apply to refinancing of First National Community Bank loans or credit lines and the minimum loan amount is \$5,000.00. Offer may be discontinued without notice.

Free Checking.



Open a totally free First Federal Bank Personal Checking Account and here's what you will get:

- Pay no monthly fee
- No minimum balance requirement
- Write all the checks you want
- Free On Line and Telephone Banking
- Free ATM transactions at First Federal Bank ATM's

Expect a Difference!

FIRST FEDERAL BANK

Member FDIC

1stfederalbank.com • 800-582-6307



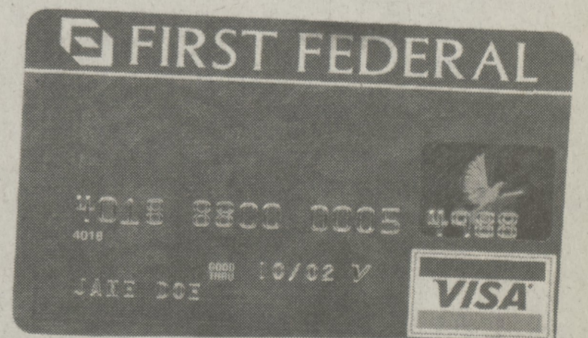
• HAZLETON • POTTSVILLE • FRACKVILLE • SHENANDOAH • BRODHEADSVILLE • CONYNGHAM • DRUMS • FREELAND • WEATHERLY
• MOUNTAINTOP • SCOTT TOWNSHIP • BLOOMSBURG • DANVILLE • LEHIGHTON • SHAVERTOWN • SCHUYLKILL HAVEN • ASHLAND • MT. CARMEL

Free Visa Check Card.

First Federal Bank's Visa Check Card looks like a credit card but works like a check. And there is no fee.

- Use your First Federal Bank Visa Check Card at stores, restaurants, gas stations-anywhere anytime you see the Visa logo.
 - Use your Visa Check Card to get cash from ATM's around the globe.
 - Purchases and transactions are deducted from your First Federal free Personal Checking account.
 - Add overdraft protection and a revolving line of credit to enhance your purchasing power.*
- Here's what you'll get:

Win Some Cash—Every time you use your First Federal Visa Check Card from now until February 28th, 2002 you will be automatically entered into a cash drawing of \$100 per office. Random drawing to be held 3/1/02. Alternative entries accepted*. No purchase or transaction required.



Expect a Difference!

FIRST FEDERAL BANK

Member FDIC

1stfederalbank.com • 800-582-6307



*Subject to credit approval. No purchase or transaction necessary. For alternative entries, mail a 3" x5" card with your name, address, and phone number to First Federal Bank, Marketing Department, 12 E. Broad St., Hazleton, Pa. 18201. Entries must be received by 2/28/02 to be eligible for the 19 random drawings of \$100 each.