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SPORTS

DMS cross country wraps up winning year. Pg 11.



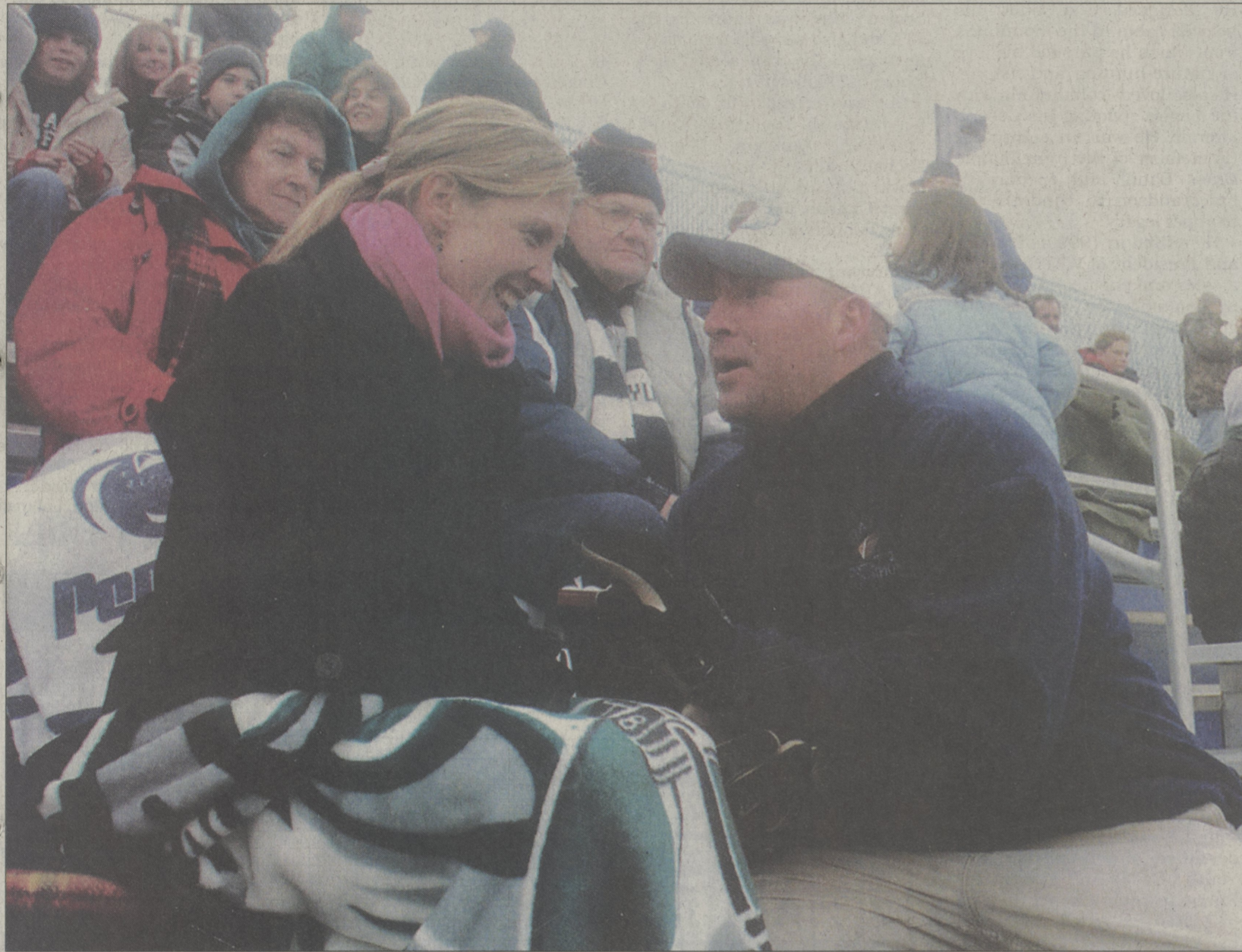
SCHOOL

Top sellers at Lake-Lehman Middle Level. Pg 12.



STEPPIN' OUT

Tributary flows into Contra Dance. Calendar, pg 16.



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

It's a tie!

It was a match made in... the stands at Mountaineer Stadium. When the clock ran out at halftime of the Old Shoe Game, Dan Natitus, an assistant coach for the Dallas High football team, didn't head for the locker room. Instead, he sprinted into the bleachers, where he whipped out a diamond ring and proposed to Martha Wallace, who he had been dating for six months.

"She didn't expect it at all," Natitus said. He was happy the Mountaineers were comfortably ahead at that point in the game, or he would have had to explain his absence to head coach Ted Jackson. "I was just a little nervous about the reaction if we were losing."

The groom-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Dallas, and his future bride, from Shavertown, graduated the same year from Bishop O'Reilly. He says there won't be any arguments about who to root for, since they're both Penn State and Eagles fans.

The wedding is planned for August, 2003. More Old Shoe scenes on pages 4 and 9.



Autistic boy's family tires of runaround

After being moved from school to school, they keep him home

By ERIN YOUNGMAN Post Staff

LAKE TWP. — On the day a reporter visited with 11-year-old Cody Walsh and his family, Cody was full of questions. "What's your name? Are you married? Is your son bad?"

Cody has autism and every day his mom, Deanna, sets the kitchen table with books, crayons and learning materials and spends four to six hours teaching Cody math, social studies, English, science and penmanship. After four consecutive years of being switched to different districts, Cody's par-

ents have decided to home school him. On this day, Cody was looking at a book about animals. "We were reading about leopards," said Deanna, "and he wanted to know if they are nice."

Cody's situation is not wholly uncommon. Autistic children in the Back Mountain and in other areas in the valley, don't have a school or even a district to call their own. Cody started out in the Lake-Lehman School District, his "home" district, which acts as his agent. But since Lake-Lehman didn't then, and doesn't now have an autistic classroom, the following year, when an autistic room opened up in Tunkhannock, he went there. The next year he was switched to Wycallis Elementary in the Dallas School District. In 2002-2003, it was recommended that he go to Wyoming Area.

"I felt like it was too much change for Cody. The first

See AUTISM, pg 3

It's official! Kids can jump into Dallas pool

By ERIN YOUNGMAN Post Staff

DALLAS TWP. - Administrators, board members, students and parents alike seemed to breathe a collective sigh of relief Monday, as they gathered around the pool for the Dallas School District natatorium ribbon cutting ceremony.

"I'm elated; it turned out better than we expected. The scoreboard is in and all of the lights; it's all done," said school board president Ernest Ashbridge about his surprise the area was so complete for the event.

The ceremony marked the end of the middle school pool construction saga that saw its completion date moved repeatedly between the months of June and

"The students and staff are excited about the opportunities that the community has provided us with."

Anthony Martinelli Dallas Middle School Principal

October.

The ever changing dates disrupted planned fall 2002 swim programs and added additional inconvenience, costs and time to use pool space at College Misericordia. Academic classes began

See POOL, pg 8

Speeders beware, citations way up in Jackson Township

By CARRIE MATHENY Post Correspondent

JACKSON TWP. — You should think twice before speeding through Jackson Township. Police Chief Jerry Leedock announced at Monday night's board of supervisors meeting that 164 citations had been issued for traffic violations in October.

According to a survey for Jackson Township's comprehensive plan, residents' primary complaint was speeding. To get drivers to slow down the township

has put out three officers at the same time.

The extra police protection has seemed to work. From January to June 2001 there were 752 complaints and 209 citations issued for traffic violations. Last month alone there were 400 complaints and 164 citations.

The average speed was 50 miles per hour in a 35 mph zone.

"Residents like to know where their tax dollars are going," said supervisor, Al Fox. "I think last months numbers show that we are listening."

The areas with the biggest speeding problem were Huntsville Road, with 88 traffic stops; Chase Road, with 71; Route 29, with 40; Newhart Road, with 33; and Hillside Avenue, with 24.

Most of the speeding is on state roads so Chief Leedock has asked state police for help enforcing the speed limit. Currently they are required to patrol the township's perimeter three times a day during the shift changes at the prison.

During the meeting, solicitor Jeffrey Malak told the board that he has sent a letter to the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Au-

thority stating the township's interest in considering possible membership in the near future as requested at October's meeting.

George Morgan attended a September 18 meeting of 20 non-charter members of the Authority. These members use their services, but have no say in the Authority's decisions.

When the Authority was established in 1962 most of the communities that are non-charter members didn't have sewers.

See JACKSON, pg 8

Art world in miniature opens for international exhibit here

By ERIN YOUNGMAN Post Staff

SHAVERTOWN — "As long as there's been art, there's been miniatures," said Jim Rogowski, President of Cider Painters of America.

The international miniature artists organization that has been meeting in Shavertown for 19 years begins its annual exhibition at the Waterlily Gallery on Sunday, November 10. In addition to local and national works, visitors will be able to view and purchase submissions from around the world.

"At one time, miniatures were used as marriage proposals," explained Rogowski. He said the small portraits that measure no more than three by five inches, and often less, have a history that can be traced back to

ancient Egypt, ancient Greece and more recently the Depression.

The group's name stems from a tradition that originated during the Depression. Organizations that are still prominent today, such as the Bourbon Society, Scotch and Water Colorists, and Whiskey Painters of America, were named for their propensity for drinking and painting.

The Cider Painters of America name came out of the Depression era tradition; however, because the group didn't want to be identified with alcohol, they chose the name Cider to represent both autumn and Pennsylvania.

"The group started with 10 local artists and has grown to 200 members," said Rogowski. There are

See CIDER PAINTERS, pg 3



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Jane Bartorillo won the funniest award for her clown costume.

Kids bring seniors a Halloween treat

By ERIN YOUNGMAN Post Staff

DALLAS TWP. — There were plenty more treats than tricks at the Meadows Manor, Thursday, when about 15 children from the Little Meadows Daycare stopped by for an old fashioned Halloween costume party. Including residents, about 50 witches, flappers, princesses, and ghouls of all sorts and ages attended.

"It's always fun to have kids around," said resident Joan Booth about the costumed visitors.

"They said they're having more fun this year than last because of the kids," said Activities Coordinator Sandy Handel.

Different age groups of children from The Little Meadows Daycare come to the Meadows Manor once a month to do crafts and puzzles, Handel said. This is the first time, however,

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