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# THE POST

50¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

## Election winners want Gochoel on board

By ERIN YOUNGMAN  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** — Newly elected Dallas School Board members are not shy about who they want appointed to the newly vacant board position. They say Dennis Gochoel, who finished ahead of three long-time board members to win in the May primary, is the logical choice.

On Tuesday, voters elected three new faces to the board; Gary Mathers, Russell Bigus and Bruce Goeringer, and re-elected Deborah Morgantini and James Richardson.

The day before the election, it was announced at the school board work

session that board member Anthony Barbose had resigned. In an e-mail written by Barbose and read at the meeting, he explained he would be moving to Arizona "for personal reasons."

Barbose had served on the board for six years.

By law, the current school board has to appoint a new member to fill the vacancy by November 30.

The open seat could allow one of three current board members, Ernest Ashbridge, John Litz or Tom Russ, all who lost in the May primary, to be appointed to the position.

All of Tuesday's winners who were interviewed said they felt the voters

*"... the voters indicated in May what they wanted."*

**Russell Bigus**  
Elected Tuesday

had spoken and that Gochoel should have the open seat.

"It would only be fair that Gochoel be offered the opportunity (to be on the board)," said Mathers. "He was the clear winner over the other candidates."

Morgantini, who just won her second term on the board, agreed, saying,

"He was the next person in line who would have made it."

Bigus and Mathers both said they think Gochoel's campaign platform of new ideas would benefit the district.

"The truth is, the voters indicated in May what they wanted," said Bigus, referring to the long-time board members not making it through the primary.

"We need someone who would bring a fresh perspective to the board."

Mathers and Bigus were outspoken about how they feel Gochoel would do in the position. Bigus said he knows Gochoel and that he is confident he would do a great job.

"I would really look forward to

working with him. I'm quite impressed with him," said Mathers.

Gochoel, who is a Republican, but ran on the Democratic ballot, said he is flattered by the suggestion that he should be appointed. Ironically, he lost to Barbose two years ago, by what he said was less than 100 votes.

Gochoel is somewhat unsure about how the appointment process works, but said he would be interested in taking the position if asked. "Do I intend to put in a letter asking for the position? Sure I do," he said.

Election winners James Richardson and Bruce Goeringer, could not be reached for comment.

## Rec group considers taking on old road

By ERIN YOUNGMAN  
Post Staff

**LEHMAN TWP.** — Citing cost issues, the township wants to vacate a 3.5 mile stretch of road that travels through some of the most pristine woodlands in the area. Back Mountain Recreation Inc. is interested in acquiring the property for the creation of a walking trail, but the clock is ticking — the township plans to advertise to vacate the road this month.

Cassie Green Road, located in the southwest corner of the township, travels through acres of conservation district land predominantly owned by Theta Land Corporation and Pennsylvania-American Water Company.

For years the road has not been maintained. Township officials say it is not a thorough-

See ROAD, pg 2

## Weekend emergency response changes

By RONALD BARTIZEK  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** — A new arrangement for emergency services is expected to provide quicker responses on weekends.

Dallas Fire and Ambulance and Kingston Township Ambulance are now sharing duties between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, maintaining paid personnel who can respond immediately to calls.

Each department's volunteers are then available for backup if more personnel are needed or an additional emergency arises while the first crew is occupied.

The chief of Kunkle Fire and Ambulance asked the supervisors at the November 3 meeting how the change affects his department, which is the "second do" according to a township resolution.

"Have we been taken out the picture?" Jack Dodson asked. "I just don't want to have some-

See RESPONSE, pg 8



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

## Universal game, uneven equipment

Back Mountain youth soccer players, their parents and friends collected soccer balls and other needed items November 1 that will be sent to children in poor countries. The drive was organized by the parents of the Back Mountain (U-10) Raptors, an intramural travel soccer team with more on their minds than winning. Forty four balls and other equipment were collected. Mary Ann Dunn displayed examples of soccer balls that might have been made by children in impoverished nations from rags and trash. Story, more photos on page 11.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Ezra Frick showed the page in Ranger Rick magazine where advisory panel comments are published. Ezra, 9, is one of about 30 youth advisors nationwide. His parents, Scott and Marie, shared the couch.

## Dallas boy is advisor to national mag

By CAMILLE FIOTI  
Post Correspondent

**DALLAS** — Ezra Frick is only 9 years old but he knows more about wildlife than a lot of grownups. That is one of the reasons why this spunky, articulate only child of Scott and Marie Frick of Dallas was chosen to be on the advisory panel of Ranger Rick Magazine.

A popular nature magazine for kids, Ranger Rick is published in Washington, D.C. by the National Wildlife Federation and has received many awards, including the Ed Press Golden Lamp Award for excellence in educational journalism.

"He has always loved this magazine, so we've subscribed to it for four or five years now," Ezra's mom said. He is one of approximately 30 children

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## Dallas School Board election

### Directors ready to get down to work

By ERIN YOUNGMAN  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** — Newly elected Dallas School District board members say they are ready to get to work on issues ranging from a high school renovation project to creating opportunities for the "average" kid.

On Tuesday, voters elected three new faces to the board, Gary Mathers, Russell Bigus and Bruce Goeringer. Current board members Deborah Morgantini and James Richardson were re-elected.

*"We must take care of the average student — they are so important."*

**Gary Mathers**  
Elected Tuesday

Three long-time board members didn't win in the May primary and will be leaving at the end of the year. They are Ernest Ashbridge Jr., who has nearly three decades on the board, John Litz and Tom Russ.

"There are quite a few changes (to the board)," said Morgantini, who was re-elected to her second term. "But I think it's all very positive."

How to enrich offerings for the average student takes top priority for Mathers, a retired Dallas wood shop teacher. "Not everyone can be a doctor, lawyer or engineer," he said.

Now that he's been elected, Mathers wants to waste no time in figuring out how to increase the quality of offerings for such students.

"We must take care of the average student — they are so important," he said.

Morgantini said she feels pursuing research on renovating the high school should come next.

She said the school was built in 1964 and is "dated." A principal in the Wyoming Valley West School District, she said she feels a pleasant "state-of-the-

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### How To Reach Us

News: 675-5211  
thepost@leader.net  
15 N. Main St.  
Wilkes-Barre PA 18711  
Advertising: 970-7102  
Subscriptions  
and Delivery: 829-5000