

### Dallas Elementary's November Standouts

From left, first row: a.m. kindergarteners Darian Healy and Kim Pretko. 2nd row: 1st graders Kameryn McGee, Kellie Meehan, Talia Sztatkowski, Eric Pinofski, Olivia Thomas. 3rd row: 2nd graders Samuel Reinert, Kayla Gleco, Elizabeth Dillon, Drew Cohen, Vincenzo Parente, Maggie Michael. 4th row: 3rd graders Michael Podskoch, Chris Reimard, Bridget Boyle, Brian Stepniak. 5th row: 4th graders Shane Dunn, Michael Wright, Haley Bullock, Matthew Moser, Alyssa Charney. 6th row: 5th grade, Danielle Reimard, Gary Anderson, Drew Schaub, Samantha King.



## Local PSU graduates

Penn State Wilkes-Barre held commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 20, in gymnasium of the Athletics & Recreation Building. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. with musical selections by Joseph Jumpeter, Ph.D., assistant professor of music.

John R. Murphy, director of student affairs, is the guest speaker. Murphy will retire in January, after serving Penn State University and its students for almost 38 years.

Class speaker is a graduating student, Kimberly Boyle. A reception for graduates and their families, sponsored by the student activities fee, will immediately follow the ceremony.

Graduates from the Back Mountain are:

Associate in Information Sciences and Technology: April Eaton, Brian Puza, Mark Savignano.

Bachelor of Arts in Administration of Justice: Danielle Kamine.

Bachelor of Science in Business: Alec Baird, Stephen Bolin, Kimberly Boyle, Karen Brace-Hodde, Janet Connolly, Carson Hawke, Matthew Keiper, Barbara Lispi, Vicki Manka, Gregory Naylor, David Shaner, Jason Smith.

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology: Stephen Clark, Jenelle Kerr, Kazuyuki Nishi.

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering: Nicholas Arnone.

## Medical College Admission Test workshop at King's College

The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) Preparation Workshop to be presented by King's College on January 21, 22, 24 and 25 provides a thorough orientation to the MCAT. The workshop includes techniques for approaching all three types of questions: verbal reasoning, physical sciences, and biological sciences.

The MCAT workshop at King's College consists of four sessions: evening sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 21 and 22, from 6-9 p.m.; and weekend sessions on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 24 and 25, from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

The four sessions of the MCAT Workshop provide 15 hours of intensive skill-building and preparation. Specific skills and strategies for each situation will be addressed, including how to untangle dense prose, how to use scientific knowledge, and how to manage

one's time throughout the test.

The workshop emphasizes practicing these strategies on real MCAT questions. The basics, such as how the MCAT fits into the overall picture of the medical school admissions process and how to produce an effective writing sample, will be covered as well.

Dr. James Yoho, the MCAT workshop instructor, is nationally recognized in teaching test preparation through such schools as Lehigh, LaSalle, Temple, Penn State and Rutgers universities. Dr. William Van Der Sluys, a chemist with 12 years of university experience, is also a workshop instructor.

The cost for the workshop is \$300 per student. For registration information, call the King's College Educational Conference Center, at 208-5807 or e-mail semccabe at Kings.edu.

## Oratorical contest offers scholarships

High school age students of the Back Mountain are invited to compete in the 65th annual National High School Oratorical contest. William Kupstas, Commander of the Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 American Legion, Dallas, said more than \$132,000 in college scholarships will be awarded to winners.

The subject in the Prepared Oration portion of the contest must be about some aspect of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen to the United States government. The prepared oration must be the original effort of the contestant and must be 8-10 minutes in length.

In addition to awards to winners of various elimination rounds of competition, scholarships of \$18,000, \$16,000 and \$14,000 will be given to the first through third places in the national finals. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the national contest will receive a \$1,500 scholarship. Participants in the second round who do not advance to the national final round will receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship.

Entries in the local contest will be accepted until the first week in January, 2004.

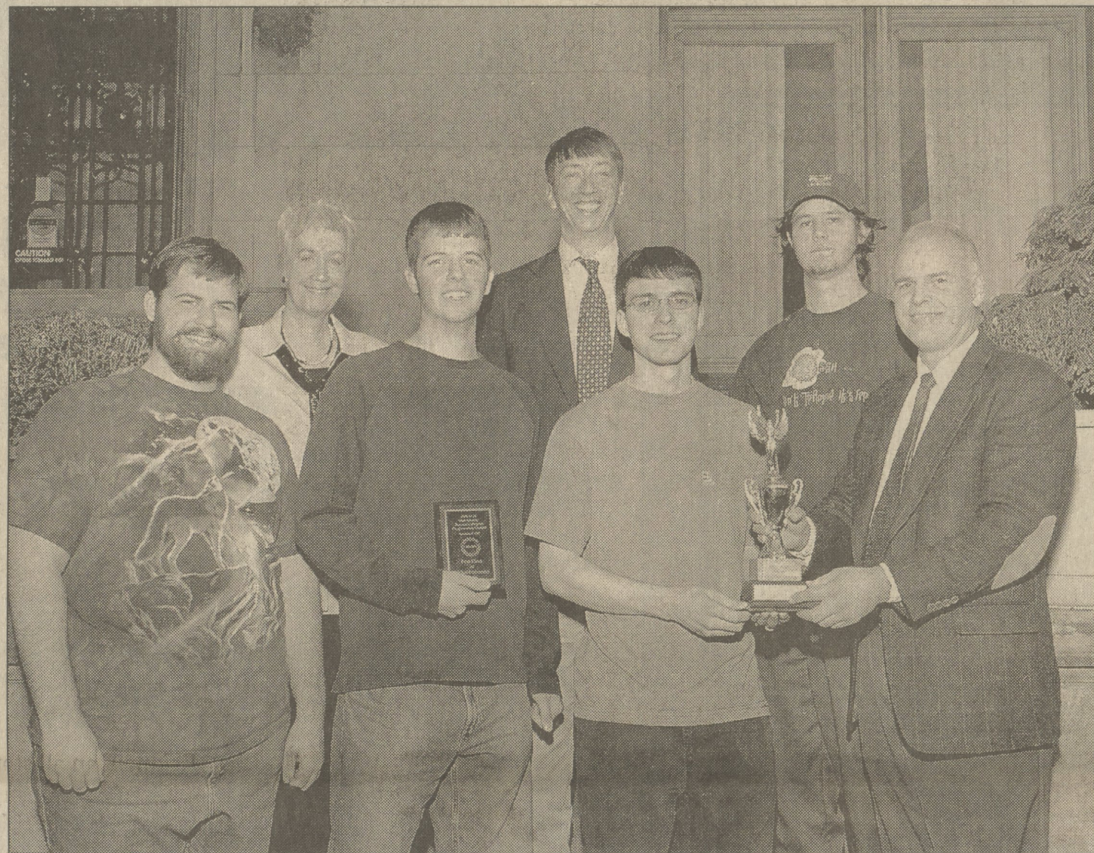
The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners at the national contest.

High school students in the Back Mountain who are interested in entering the contest will find the complete rules and contest information at the schools, or contact Clarence J. Michael at 675-0488.

## DMS physicals

Dallas Middle School sixth grade physicals will be given to all students on January 15, 2004, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Parents are welcome to be present. Parents who choose to have the examination done by their personal physician must submit the physical report to the nurse by January 5, 2004.

Spring sports physicals will be held on February 5 and February 12 at 8:30 a.m. Parent permission forms are available in the school office and must be completed and returned to the nurse prior to the examination. Any student who plans to play baseball, softball, or track and field in the spring is required to have a physical before the first day of practice.



From left, first row: Kristopher Smith, John Mishanski, Richard Kern, Dr. Dale Bruns, Dean of the College of Science and Engineering. Second row: Dr. Maravene Loeschke, University Provost; Mr. Matt Zukoski, Assistant Professor, Department of Math and Computer Science; Cody Raspen, System Administrator.

## Wilkes students win programming contest

Wilkes University freshmen Richard Kern of Noxen, John Mishanski of Lehman, and junior Kristopher Smith of Wilkes-Barre, recently took first place in the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Mid Atlantic Regional Programming Contest held at Wilkes.

The students, known as "Wilkes Blue," were given a list of eight problems that could be solved by writing computer programs. The problems dealt with such issues as

simulation, artificial intelligence and discrete structures.

Wilkes Blue was one of 161 teams from colleges and universities throughout Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. They competed against teams from Villanova University, the University of Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr College and Swarthmore College.

"This is an impressive and much deserved win for our students," said Matt Zukoski, Assistant Professor of Math

and Computer Science at Wilkes. "The Wilkes Blue team included two freshmen and they successfully competed against prestigious schools; many of which had graduate students on their teams."

ACM is an international scientific and educational organization dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences and applications of information technology. The ACM collegiate programming contest, sponsored by IBM, is in its 25th year.



## 3rd graders' holiday show

Third grade Wycallis Elementary School students recently presented a program of holiday songs, dances and a short play called "Santa and the Snowmobile." Deborah Pike, music teacher, was the director.

From left, first row: Nadia Novak, Andrea Boedecker, Amanda Judge, Briana Konecke, Jamie Wise and Nathan Vario as Santa.

Second row: Tanner Englehart, Jonathan Strausser.

## Simpson inducted into fraternity

Amanda Simpson of Dallas has been inducted into the Sigma Iota Epsilon honorary and professional management fraternity at Ithaca College. Criteria for membership include maintaining a 3.0 GPA or higher over 30 or more credits.

## Feinstein chosen for leadership seminar

Ross Feinstein of Shavertown, a sophomore at Wyoming Seminary Upper School, has been selected to serve as Sem's representative to the annual Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation Leadership Seminar (HOBY), to be held May 14-16, 2004 at Eastern University in St. David's, Pa.

Feinstein, son of Dr. and Mrs. Peter Feinstein, serves as an officer in student government and as opinions editor for the student newspaper, The Opinator. He is also a member of the Mock Trial team, the Science Research Group, Blue Key, Peer Group and the Sem Orchestra, and was recently named to district orchestra. He also is a member of the Sem soccer and tennis teams.

For more than 40 years HOBY, a non-profit, non tax-supported youth leadership development organization, has worked to help young people



Ross Feinstein

make a difference and become positive catalysts for change in the home, school, workplace and community. Each year, more than 20,000 high school students participate in its leadership seminars held throughout North America.

## Eckman completes wilderness course

Christopher Eckman of Dallas has completed a 30-day wilderness course with the National Outdoor Leadership School in Lander, Wyoming. The course was conducted in Wyoming's Wind River Range.

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