

The DALLAS POST

50¢

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

REMEMBERING A FALLEN SOLDIER



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Jack Cleary and his son, Patrick, read a proclamation during from the State of Pennsylvania, honoring Lt. Michael Cleary, who was killed in Iraq during Memorial Day ceremonies in Dallas last Monday. For more Memorial Day photos, please turn to page 3.

CARING FOR CARRIE



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Wendy Cadwalader videos the beginning of the 50-mile benefit motorcycle ride in memory of her daughter, Carrie Martin, who was killed three years ago in a drug-related murder. The ride started at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds where Carrie had ridden her horses and been the Luzerne County fair queen. For more photos of the benefit ride, please turn to page 10.



Some of the dancers who will appear in "Songs from the Silver Screen" during the 25th annual recital of the Joan Harris Centre for the Gifted and Talented June 8 and 9 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts are, from left, first row, Katie Conrad, Dallas; Lauren Slavoski, Shavertown; Rachel Polacheck, Exeter. Second row: Mary Gittens, Dallas; Alaina Schukraft, Dallas; Krista Zimmerman, Dallas; Cierra Yonchik, Wyoming; Kiera Gross, Trucksville. Third row: Nicole Slavoski, Shavertown; Abrianna Tolomello, Dallas; Ashlyn Wilson, Dallas, Michele Fromel, Dallas.

Local girls will dance at Kirby

Over 200 dancers from the Back Mountain communities will appear in the Joan Harris Centre's 25th annual recital scheduled for June 8 and 9 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts in Wilkes-

Barre. Titled "Songs from the Silver Screen," this fast-paced production will showcase

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"That can happen anywhere. I did not give it a second thought. I was just stunned. I think I would have the same reaction if it happened anywhere else, 'Wow! How can this happen?'"



Philip Paul Pack III overcame childhood adversity to excel in his academic work at College Misericordia.

Va. Tech bound

CM graduates will attend medical school

SPECIAL TO THE DALLAS POST

Jan Bartels, '07, does not talk to the animals, nor does she pretend to. But after growing up on her family's historic 150-acre dairy farm in Meshoppen, it did not surprise too many people when the Tunkhannock High School graduate chose to care for those same types of animals as an adult.

Philip Paul Pack III, '06, already has a bedside manner befitting a veteran family physician. The Kingston Township resident gains insight into the needs and concerns of patients from his own personal 10-year struggle with debilitating migraine headaches. Now that he's won that battle, he wants to touch people through osteopathic medicine.

Together, these two College Misericordia graduates will follow their dreams to Virginia Tech University's campus, where Bartels will be a graduate student in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, and Pack will be a first-year medical school student at the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) in the fall.

Although the Blacksburg, Va., campus has become synonymous with one of the worst mass school shootings in the nation's history, that stigma did not alter Bartels' or Pack's plans to continue their medical schooling there.

Bartels sorted through offers from the University of Missouri-Columbia College of Veterinary Medicine and the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine before choosing to become one of 90 new veterinarian students at Virginia Tech. "I like the campus, the school and the program," said Bartels who accepted the



Jan Bartels' love for animals was nurtured on her family's dairy farm in Meshoppen. The College Misericordia graduate checks on the cows in the barn.

school's offer two days after the shootings. "That can happen anywhere. I did not give it a second thought. I was just stunned. I think I would have the same reaction if it happened anywhere else, 'Wow! How can this happen?'"

Pack accepted the medical school's offer for admission several weeks before the tragedy after considering seven other schools, including the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. A recent apartment shopping trip only reinforced his decision to join the Hokie Nation.

"I was there the day after it happened," said Pack, one of 150 members of the incoming medical school class. "It was a very humbling experience being down there because the community is very close knit. The school is the keystone of the community. When this happened, it just pulled everyone together."

Bartels and Pack both graduated cum laude from Misericordia. But that's where their familiarities end, despite living only a short drive from each other in Northeastern Pennsylvania and attending the same schools for

their undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Life on the farm

The daughter of Charles and Beth Bartels is your typical country girl - soft-spoken, but extremely determined and hard working. Those admirable traits can be traced to her family and their landmark dairy farm in Wyoming County, which has been in the family for more than 100 years. It is also where the future veterinarian and her two brothers learned about caring for animals and farmland.

By the age of five, Bartels knew she wanted to care for the same animals that provided so much for her family. The family's roots are deeply embedded in the soil they sow and the animals they tend. But it is also the natural impetus behind Bartels' aspirations.

"I've always had a connection with animals," Bartels says, a proud smile appearing through her serious nature. "I always feel like they're there for you no matter what. You can always turn to them. It's just like a regular friendship to me. 'I've al-

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