

# The DALLAS POST

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Participating in the International Dinner at Lake-Lehman High School are, from left, Josh Payne, Kris Carter, Kristen Baker, Jenna Barski, T.J. LaBar and Mr. Brian Gorski.

## Celebrating many nations

By REBECCA BRIA  
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Students in the China group in Humanities II at Lake-Lehman Junior/Senior High School knew they couldn't go to China for ideas about what to prepare for the school's Annual International Dinner. So, they did the next best thing. They went to Chinatown.

The seven students in the China group visited Chinatown in Philadelphia seeking inspiration for their project. They also purchased real silk Chinese kimonos online from a company in China.

"We got all of our ideas and decorations from there," said Allison Smith. "We met a man in a store and he showed us a lot of Chinese traditions."

The group, along with the other members of their class, made authentic cuisine, displayed decorations, wore costumes and put on skits from foreign countries as part of the 21st Annual International Dinner during the morning of Thursday, Dec. 18, at the high school.

Russia, Mexico, China, Greece, Japan, France and Italy were the seven countries students chose to feature this year.

Started by Jean Lipski in 1987, the International Dinner was first held at the former Humanities II teacher's home. Lipski and now-retired teacher Sandy Weyman team-taught the course and had their students put together the dinner each year.

Lipski has since become a gifted support teacher at the school and Brian Gorski and Stacey Rudy now co-teach the advanced sophomore class. For the first time, the dinner was moved from the evening to the morning. Although foods such as enchiladas and baklava were served as early as 8:30 a.m., most attendees didn't seem to mind and filled their plates.

"This year, we decided to have it in the school day because the students' peers can see the work they have done," Gorski said. "All of the teachers

See NATIONS, Page 12



Donning appropriate attire for the International Dinner are, from left, Stephanie Zeller, Anjuli Symone, Pauline Rose, Krysia Goodwin and Kaitlyn Martin.

## Seven countries represented at dinner

21st Annual International Dinner  
Presented by the Humanities II class of Lake-Lehman Junior/Senior High School

**China** – Devin Fine, Stevie Kioske, Allison Smith, Brad Stevens, Alex Suder, Brady Sutliff and Kyle Wesley

Skit: "Welcome to the New Year"  
Menu: Green bean stirfry, egg drop, salad with ginger dressing, chicken chop suey, chicken and black bean sauce, pineapple cake, New Year cake and green tea (hot and cold).

**France** – Tom Bedford, Lily Calkins, Rebecca Farrell, JJ Ford, Corey Hohol, Erin Hohol and

Tyler Pearson  
Skit: "Yule Tide Tradition"  
Menu: Salad Nicoise, lemon-garlic vinaigrette, soup au pistou, pistou, chicken cordon bleu, potatoes au gratin, green beans gourmandize with tomato, onion and garlic, chocolate mousse and white chocolate mousse.

**Greece** – Meghan Bloom, Sara Hagenbach, Mikayla Rosencrans, Claire Sesson, Linley Smolow, Jessi Swingle and Caitlyn Wright  
Skit: "A Greek Wedding"  
Menu: Tiropeta, homus and tzatziki with

See DINNER, Page 12



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

George Pyle, a Penn State alumnus, returns each year to play trombone with the Blue Band at the annual Homecoming game.

By REBECCA BRIA  
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## Ultimate Lion fan roots for his team

Roses are red. Penn State is white and blue. The football team's going to the Rose Bowl and George and Carole Pyle will be watching, too.

The Pyles, of Dallas, and other avid Penn State fans, are excited their team has made it to the Rose Bowl.

Penn State (PSU) will face the University of Southern California (USC) in the 95th Rose Bowl Game at 5:05 p.m. on January 1 in Pasadena, Calif. This will be Penn State's third appearance in the Rose Bowl which was first held in 1902. PSU lost to USC, 14-3, in 1923 and defeated Oregon, 38-20, in 1995.

Although the couple will view the game on television this year, they attended the Rose Bowl in 1995 – the last time Penn State played in the game.

George and Carole will tune in not only for football and the Rose Parade, but to catch glimpses of the Penn State Blue Band which has held a special place in George's heart since he was accepted into the band as a trombonist 61 years ago.

The 82-year-old is the oldest living alumnus of the band to return and play in the Alumni Blue Band each fall during Homecoming.

The Alumni Blue Band plays during the pre-game show and performs one tune with current Blue Band member during half-time. Pyle is quick to point out that the alumni, close to 400 of them, don't just sit in the stands but actually march on the field.

"I don't think I can contribute much music, but I contribute to the authenticity which truly makes it an alumni band," he said. "I guess it's just the thrill of going back and doing what you did years ago."

Pyle first returned to Penn State to play in the Alumni Blue Band in 1964 when 44 alumni band members participated. He has returned to play with the band during Penn State's Homecoming game every year except two – once when he had bypass surgery and once when he was out of the country.

During George's Blue Band days, about 30,000 fans fit into the old Beaver Stadium. Now, when he marches on the field, he is in front of about 107,000 people. The band also marches much slower now and plays many pop tunes as opposed to marches.

A native of Somerset, Pa., Pyle grew up "humble and poor" as the son of a dairy farmer. It was in the late 1930s when he picked up the trombone. The youngster was inspired to join the Somerset High School Marching Band because his father played the trombone. Pyle received help in learning the instrument from his older brother, Clarence, who was a trumpeter.

After graduating from high school in 1942, Pyle enlisted in a naval cadet program in 1943. He was in Navy pre-flight school when World War II ended and never went to war but retired from the Navy as a lieutenant commander in 1986.

He enrolled in Penn State University Park in 1947 to pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree in agriculture education.

"In the fall of '47, I stopped in the local high school and the band director (Walt James) asked me if I was trying out for the Blue Band and I had never heard of the Blue Band," he said. "He invited me to visit his fraternity and they asked me to stay."

See LION, Page 12

## WINTER WONDERLAND



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Joellen and Danielle Spencer, of Dallas, make the best of the snow that fell last week. For more snow photos, see page 3.

## He's not your average Joe

By KIM ROLLMAN  
Dallas Post Correspondent

Joe Klemunes is addicted to fitness.

Having developed a passion for weight lifting and exercise in seventh grade when he began an after-school conditioning program, the Pikes Creek resident later spent in the gym to prepare for his wrestling and football careers at Lake-Lehman High School.

Now 20 years old, Klemunes is using his knowledge of exercise and fitness to help others get healthy and improve their lives.

Having graduated from Lake-Leh-

See JOE, Page 12



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Joe Klemunes, of Pikes Creek, a personal trainer at Odyssey Fitness Center, helps Elena Schraeder with her therapy.



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