

# Young scientists converge at Olympiad

A team of students from Dallas Middle School placed fifth in Division B, the middle school division, in the Northeast Regional Science Olympiad competition on March 11 at Penn State Wilkes-Barre.

Because the Dallas Middle School team placed in the top five, they will advance to the Pennsylvania State Science Olympiad competition on May 1 at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa. The team is advised by Dan Flynn.

More than 1,300 students, coaches and parents from over 50 middle schools and high schools competed in the regional



Dallas student Chris LaFratte solves a science Crime Busters lab at the fair.

Students who individually placed are: Anatomy, first-place, Megan Fleming and Dana Yu; Robo Cross,

event. The students competed in individual and team events that tested their skills and knowledge in biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, problem solving and technology. The coordinator of the event was Daniel Blessner, a math instructor at Penn State Wilkes-Barre.

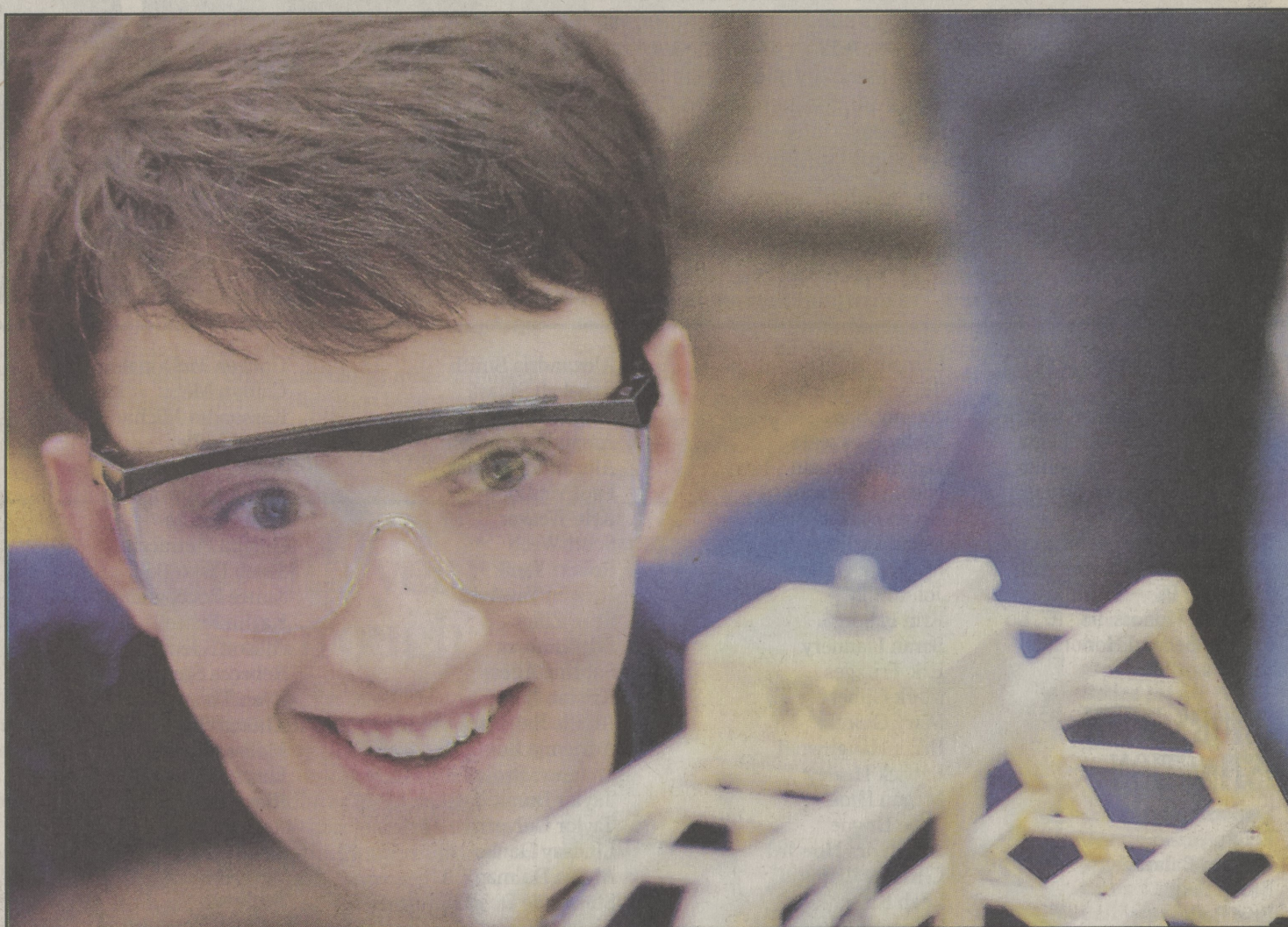
Science Olympiad is devoted to increasing student interest in science, recognizing outstanding achievement, and improving the quality of science education. The goal of the Science Olympiad is to stimulate interest in science through the excitement of competition, with personal and team awards.

Members of the Dallas Middle School Science Olympiad team are: Thomas Ketchner and Sam Williams, sixth-grade; Peter Shaver, seventh-grade; Dana Yu, Megan Fleming, Jeremy Peters, Marcus Wagner, Casey McAndrew, Skylar Velasco, Sal Polit-Moran, Lauren Fernandez, Krysti Oschal, Greg Struzdus, and Chris LaFratte; eighth-grade.

first-place, Jeremy Peters and Skylar Velasco; Dynamic Planet, second-place; Lauren Fernandez and Chris LaFratte; Meteorology, second-place, Marcus Wagner and Greg Struzdus; Wright Stuff, second-place, Marcus Wagner and Greg Struzdus; Cave the Wave, third-place, Sam Williams and Casey McAndrew; Compute This, fourth-place, Krysti Oschal; and Reach for the Stars, fourth-place, Chris LaFratte and Dana Yu.

The Dallas High School Science Olympiad team competed in Division C, the high school division, at the regional competition. The high school team came in seventh place out of 32 teams.

Individual medals were awarded to A.J. Thomas and Brad Johnson, Cell Biology; Kaitlyn Reinert and Elise Fields, Disease Detectives; Preston Balavage and Nicole Clemson, Environmental Chemistry; and Emma Pfeiffer and Elise Fields, Fossils.



Preston Balavage, of Dallas, watches delightedly as his team bridge holds about 40 pounds of sand without breaking.

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST



Casey McAndrew, left, and Sal Polit-Moran, members of team #4 from the Dallas Middle School, participate in the annual Science Olympiad at Penn State/Wilkes-Barre.



Nikki Dunn, of Lake-Lehman, watches anxiously as her arched bridge holds the last bits of 40 pounds of sand during the annual Science Olympiad at Penn State/Wilkes-Barre.

ON THE WEB For more photos, go to [www.mydallaspost.com](http://www.mydallaspost.com)

## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Historian will speak at MU on March 23

Misericordia University will host Ramon Gutierrez, Ph.D., a historian of race and ethnic relations in American life, for a lecture on the Mexican-American experience at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 23, in the Catherine Evans McGowan Room of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library. The presentation is open free to the public.

For more information, call 674-6305.

### Professor will discuss fantasy television

Dr. David Wright Jr., Ph.D., associate professor and History Department chair at Misericordia University, will discuss "The History of Science Fiction and Fantasy Television" at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, in the Catherine Evans McGowan Room of the Bevevino Library as part of the Spring Speaker Series. For more information, call 674-6231.

### Craft show benefits LL Marching Band

A Spring Holiday Craft Show

to benefit the Lake-Lehman High School Marching Band will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, at the Lake-Lehman Junior/Senior High School, Old Route 115, Lehman.

Admission is free to the show where approximately 100 crafters will display their unique items and a Chinese Auction will be held.

For more information, call 574-6325 or visit [www.lake-lehmanband.com](http://www.lake-lehmanband.com). Businesses wishing to donate a basket or gift card for the Chinese Auction are asked to call 696-3988.

### KHS Class of 1959 will meet on March 29

The Kingston High School Class of 1959 will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 29, at Norm's Eatery, Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre.

Plans are being made for the 50th anniversary reunion to be held on August 29 at the Fairfield Inn - TGI Friday complex.

The group is looking for addresses for the following classmates: Robert Benson, Marshall Brooks, Gwynne Goeringer Fulkman, Joan Gross, Gary Hutchinson, Jane Mondulick Jenkins, James Wallace, Bruce Weber, Judith Weber, William Williams.

Anyone with information is

asked to contact Jayne Searfoss Haele at [jshae@epix.net](mailto:jshae@epix.net).

### Dallas Lock-In holds fundraiser

The Dallas High School Senior Lock-In '09 will have a fundraiser from 12:30 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, at Barnes and Noble, Arena Hub Plaza, Wilkes-Barre. Vouchers will be available from Dallas senior students and at the door. A percentage of the sales in the bookstore and coffee shop will be donated to the Lock-In.

### PSU/WB hosts high school students

Penn State Wilkes-Barre is hosting its annual "Be a Penn Stater for a Day" program from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1. All high school juniors and seniors thinking about college are invited to visit the Wilkes-Barre campus.

All participants who spend the day on campus will have the chance to attend classes, meet professors, have lunch in the cafeteria and interact with other

students and staff members.

To learn more, call the Admissions office at 675-9238.

### Lock-In Committee to meet on April 7

The Dallas High School 2009 Graduation Lock-In committee will hold its next meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, in the high school library. Grocery certificates for Mr. Z's and Thomas' Markets will be available for purchase in increments of \$50 to support the Lock-In.

Seniors are reminded to submit pictures for the Lock-in video as soon as possible. A senior picture and a baby or toddler picture are requested. All pictures will be returned.

### Seminary to hold visitation day April 13

The Wyoming Seminary Upper School in Kingston and Lower School in Forty Fort are offering area elementary, middle and high school students and their families an opportunity to visit either campus on Easter Monday, April 13.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. at the Lower School and at 8:30 a.m. at Upper School. Visiting students will attend classes, tour campus and have lunch in the school cafeteria. Tours of the Upper and Lower Schools for parents will also be offered.

For more information, call the Lower School Admission Office at 718-6610 and the Upper School at 270-2160 or visit [www.wyomingseminary.org](http://www.wyomingseminary.org).

### MU professor to present lecture

Angela Asirvatham, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology at Misericordia University, will present "Support in the Nervous System: Conversations Between Schwann Cells and Neurons" at 12:15 p.m. on Friday, April 17, in the Catherine Evans McGowan Room of the Bevevino Library as part of the Spring Speaker Series. For more information, call 674-6231.

### Open House planned at Misericordia

Misericordia University invites high school students and their parents to an open house program at the Back Mountain campus from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 25.

For more information, contact the Misericordia University Admissions Office at 675-4449.

### LL Class of '99 plans reunion

The Lake-Lehman High School Class of 1999 will hold its 10th anniversary reunion from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, July 11, at The Lakeside Skillet, Harveys Lake. Cost is \$35 per person with a cash bar.

Class members may learn more information at <http://lake-lehman.org> or by calling 237-6048.

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Wilkes-Barre, PA

### WORKSHOPS:

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- Bone Health
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