

94th Year, Issue 49

UP FRONT

the envelope,

May I have

please?

By JIM STREIT

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

'S that time of year.

its Person of the Year,

A&E's "Biography" salutes its top profile of 2003, and

Newark gets its Jimmys.

duce many

variations of

"best of 2003"

Time magazine picks up

Yep, in a year-end scramble for column material, not

unlike the networks who pro-

Newark, Del. • 50¢

Students learn true meaning of season

By ROBIN BROOMALL NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

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HEN an early December snowstorm caused their fund raiser dance to be cancelled, the eighth grade Honor Society students at Shue Medill School had to think of another way to support their fifth annual adopt-a-family project. They wrote letters to parents and soon donations poured in from their own families and staff members. They collected clothing, toys, books and food for a family of three who have at last one child attending Shue School.

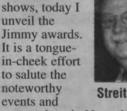
"There were so many gener-ous people," Lauren Salter, president of the society, said. "At first we wondered if we would have enough." By the time they had a wrapping party on Dec. 18, the

See SERVICE, 8



National Honor Society students at Shue Medill School collected gifts for their adopt-a-family. A 24-inch bike was donated by one student. Even WJBR's JBear paid a visit to the wrapping party.





newsmakers in Newark in the past 12 months.

The Jimmy is named after the name I hate to be called. All my Virginia relatives called me Little Jimmy and I have never forgiven them. Such may be the case of some Jimmy recipients. May I have the envelopes

please?

The "Coughing and Stinking No More Jimmy" goes to Delaware's Gov. Ruth Ann Minner. In spite of the obvious problems for Delaware's hospitality industry, she stayed the course. The smoking ban remains intact.

The "We Finally Got It Right Jimmy" goes to the Delaware Department of Transportation. It took a few years but DelDOT finally came up with a good solution See UP FRONT, 13



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Darrel W. Cole is the news editor. He leads the day-to-day operation newsroom. Call him at 737-0724. on of the

Marty Valania prepares the sports pages of this newspaper. The sports editor is seldom in the office, however, he checks in frequently. Leave me sages for Marty at 1-800-220-3311.

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Police Blotter is compiled each week from the files of the Newark Police Department, New Castle County Police and the Delaware State Police by the newspaper staff.

Two held for multiple robberies

WO Newark men were arrested by three separate I law enforcement agencies for armed robberies at a Newark hotel, a liquor store, three 7-Eleven stores and two other businesses between Dec. 13 and Dec. 15.

Elvis L. Gove, 22, and a 15year-old were originally taken into custody by Delaware State Police Tuesday, Dec. 16 for a series of robberies. Plainclothes troopers on Dec. 16 spotted a 2003 GMC Yukon, that had previously been identified as being used in prior robberies, and proceeded to follow it to a 7-Eleven store.

The youth was arrested as he attempted to rob the store, while Gove drove off, leading troopers on a 47-mile pursuit through three states before giving up in Pennsville, N.J., police said.

Inside the vehicle police found clothing worn in the weekend robbery of the Embassy Suites Hotel in Newark, police said. Later, a handgun used in the robbery was found in a Claymont hotel where the two were staying, police said.

Newark detectives then interviewed the two on Dec. 16 and they admitted to their involvement in the hotel robbery, Newark police said. Gove and the youth were then arrested by Newark police for several crimes related to that robbery.

Meanwhile, New Castle County Police also arrested Gove and the youth for an earlier armed robbery of Brookside Liquor Store on Marrows Road. County police interviewed the men after state police took them into custody because they matched the surveillance photos taken of the Brookside robbers.

Gove has been arraigned and is in Gander Hill prison after fail-ing to post \$195,000 secured bail. The youth was committed to the New Castle County Detention Center after failing to post \$195,000 secured bail.

Coy robbers take koi

On Sunday, Dec. 21 a resident in the unit block E. Mill Station Road returned home to find koi fish, valued at \$260, had been removed from a pond in the back yard, according to Newark Police reports.

The plastic PVC pipe frame and netting had been broken and placed along side the pond, police said.

Crashes

kill two

locals

Koi is a Japanese fish similar to carp.

Mid-street bonfire

Newark Police were called to the 400 block of S. College Ave. on Friday, Dec. 19, at 10 p.m. where they observed several subjects standing around a bonfire in the middle of the street near the train station. The burning rubbish consisted of two mattresses, a door and other miscellaneous items, police said.

Police questioned a resident in the nearby house about the fire and reported he said he burned rubbish there and then put the refuse in the garbage container. The resident was released pending warrant approval.

Fire in front of firehouse

Firefighters from Aetna Hose, Hook and Ladder, Station Nine returned to their firehouse on Academy Street on Friday, Dec. 19, at 10:34 p.m. to find a wooden chair burning in the driveway, Newark Police said.

The chair did not belong to the station and there was no damage to the driveway or the firehouse, according to police reports.

Expensive can of whipped cream

On Friday, Dec. 19, at 9:33 p.m. Newark Police were called to SuperFresh Store in the Fairfield Shopping Center, New London Road, where they found a suspect being detained by the store management.

8 -1

22-year-old dies

737-0724 · Fax 737-9019 · www.ncbl.com/post/ · newpost@dca.net

The Delaware State Police is investigating a 2:30 a.m. Sat. Dec. 20 fatal car crash on I-95. north of Rt. 141, that killed Terry Alls, 22, of Newark.

Alls was driving a 1999 Lexus GS3000 at a high rate of speed southbound on I-95 when, for an unknown reason, he veered to the left before losing control, striking a guardrail and rolled over several times, according to police. Alls, who had not been

wearing a seatbelt, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Prior to coming to rest, passenger Vincent McCants, 21, of Wilmington, was thrown from the vehicle. He was admitted to Christiana Hospital with a fractured neck and contusions and abrasions. McCants was also not wearing a seatbelt.

The crash remains under investigation.

Passenger dies

The Newark Police Department is investigating a

University, Pa., was issued a criminal summons for attempting to exit the store without paying for a can of Reddi Whip, valued at \$4.29, police said. He was given a court date of Jan. 30, 2004 and released.

Failed robbery near Citizens Bank

The Delaware State Police are investigating an attempted robbery that occurred Friday, Dec. 19 at 8:55 p.m. at the Citizens Bank located at Chestnut Hill Plaza.

Police said two victims were walking in the area of the night deposit box when a white male assailant, who was armed with a silver handgun, approached them. The assailant then demanded money from the victims and threatened to shoot them. When the assailant was unable to obtain any money from the victims, he fled in a black four-door vehicle.

The robber was described as 26 to 33 years old, 6 feet to 6 feet 3 inches tall, 150 to 170 pounds and unshaven. He was wearing a black hooded pull over sweat shirt, light colored dirty blue jeans, and tan work boots.

Anyone with information about this crime is urged to call Troop 2 at 834-2620 ext. 4 or Crime Stoppers at 800-TIP-3333.

Robbery at Courtyard Apartments here

The Newark Police Department is investigating a strong-arm robbery that occurred on Friday, Dec. 19 at 8:48 p.m.

The victim, a 22-year-old University of Delaware student Brett J. Witte, 21, Lincoln | reported that he was walking in

single-vehicle collision that occurred on Old Papermill Rd. on Friday, Dec. 19, killing passenger Christopher Lovett, 23, of Wilmington.

Police reported that a 1997 Saturn station wagon struck a utility pole. The two occupants of the car were treated at the scene by the New Castle County Paramedics and were transported to Christiana Hospital.

The driver, Andrew Cheney, 19, of Bear was treated and admitted to Christiana Hospital. At press time, Cheney was listed in stable condition.

Lovett, the passenger in the vehicle, sustained severe injuries and died a short time later at Christiana Hospital.

The Newark Police received assistance from the Delaware State Police FAIR Team in their investigation of the collision.

Anyone who has information that may be helpful to the investigation is asked to contact the Newark Police Department at 366-7111.

the hallway of the 5000 building University of Courtvard Apartments when he was approached by three men. One of them demanded the victim's cell phone and ordered him to empty his pockets.

The victim tackled one of the men but while on the ground the other two assailants kicked him. The three assailants then fled with the cell phone, police said.

The victim suffered contusions to his head and a split lip. He refused medical attention.

The assailants are described as black males, 18 to 24 years-old. The first had short braided hair, approximately 6 feet tall, with an average build. He was wearing a gray baseball cap with "Chicago" script on the front and a gray sweatshirt. The second suspect had short hair, approximately 5 feet 10 inches tall, wearing a red jacket, and the third suspect was approximately 5 feet 11 inches to 6 feet 1 inch tall.

A small white car, possibly a late 80s to early 90s Honda or Toyota was seen leaving the area at a high rate of speed.

Information about this crime can be reported to Detective Bryda at 366-7110 ext. 132 or anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333.

Rudolph, where are you?

A white-wire reindeer with white lights was removed from the front lawn of a home in the 100 block of Hayden Way sometime between Friday, Dec. 19 at 11:30 p.m. and Saturday morning at 10:15 a.m., according to police reports. Value of the lawn ornament was \$40.

New office location: Suite 206, 168 Elkton Rd., Newark, DE 19711

NEWARK POST * IN THE NEWS

Increased taxes await the New Year

By DARREL W. COLE

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

S TARTING with the New Year next month, city of Newark property owners will see their property tax rate increase by 2 cents, raising the rate to 44 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation.

For a typical single family residence with an assessed value of \$71,004 the increase would cost an extra \$14.20 per year, according to the city.

The tax rate increase — the first city-imposed rate increase since 1994 — and the city's \$30.5 million 2004 budget were approved by the Newark City Council Dec. 8.

The budget includes dramatic increases in employee health care costs, reductions in capital

spending and materials and supplies and refraining from filling two full-time positions. Reductions in city revenues are expected to come in investment income, realty transfer taxes and sewer.

The largest part of the city's budget is \$23.6 million for operations, including \$17.5 million in personnel costs.

The property tax increase is a small part of the overall budget and expected to raise only \$171,000. While the council has not initiated a property tax increase since 1994, a voter-approved referendum to build a reservoir in 2002 also included a property tax rate increase of 3 cents.

The city said it will consider raising the rate another 2 cents in 2005 if the economy doesn't improve.



Lt. Col. Thomas Ruocco, center in fatigues, of Newark arrives just in time for the holidays to see his family. He arrived Dec. 17 with 20 other soldiers, including seven other Newarkers. Ruocco has served two deployments. His first stretched from March to July.

Home for the holidays

By DARREL W. COLE

ELAWARE Air National Guard airmen from Newark returned from Southwest Asia and missions supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom last week just in time for the holidays.

One of those returning was Maj. Patrick Houtman, a pilot with the 142nd Airlift Squadron, who has flown an estimated 250 combat hours during the war in Iraq. Houtman pilots the C-130H aircraft that is used to transport goods and supplies to a variety of locations in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Houtman returned Dec. 17 with 20 other soldiers, including seven from Newark, to New Castle County Airport. Waiting his arrival was his family, brothers Tim and Dave, son Joseph, daughter in law Christa Harliker, wife Tracey, daughter Julie, 3, and his parents Patricia and William.

"I count my blessings," said Houtman, a reservist during peacetime whose full-time job is a pilot for Flight Options. "I have some very good friends still in Baghdad who haven't been back since this began."

The other Newarkers returning home are: Capt. Cheryl Pauley, 142nd Airlift Squadron, C-130H co-pilot; Lt. Col. Thomas Ruocco, 166th Operations Group, Chief of Standards and Evaluation; Master Sgt. Scott Stenzel, 142nd Airlift Squadron, C-130H loadmaster; Tech. Sgt. Brian Whitt, 166th Maintenance Squadron, turboprop engine mechanic; Master Sgt. Andrew Klabunde, 142nd Airlift Squadron; and, Staff Sgt. Brett Scheffler, 166th Maintenance Squadron, electronic warfare craftsman.

A few days after his arrival, Houtman said he's enjoying spending time with his family and looks forward to being together on Christmas. Having been deployed twice to the battle zones, Houtman said he notices the most change in his daughter.

"Her hair is longer, she talks in complete sentences," he said.

Houtman has served as a reservist for 15 years. His first deployment was from March to July of this year. His second from October to December. He expects to return in February. As a pilot he's had "a fair share of people shooting at us" but has escaped unscathed. In flying in and out of Iraq, he's transported approximately 1,200 soldiers and 80 tons of cargo.

* He said the warm welcome he receives from everyone he knows makes him and other soldiers feel good.

"Even if people don't think we should be over there, they always wish us the best and say we are in their prayers," Houtman said. "I really don't enjoy being away from my family but someone has got to do this and I really do believe we are making a difference."

There will be no more troop arrivals by aircraft before the holidays.

Recycle Christmas trees at state parks

Once the presents have been opened and the ornaments taken down, it's time to trash the tree. The Christmas tree that is.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's Division of Parks and Recreation in conjunction with the State Division of Forestry, is conducting its Christmas Tree Recycling program for the 10th year. Bellevue, Brandywine Creek, Lums Pond, White Clay Creek, Killens Pond, Cape Henlopen and Trap Pond state parks will accept from families holiday trees Friday, Dec. 26, through Monday, Jan. 19.

through Monday, Jan. 19. Due to the number of trees anticipated based on past experience, the parks cannot accept trees from commercial haulers or tree vendors. Christmas trees brought in for recycling must be free of ornaments, tinsel, plastic bags, stands, etc. Wreathes will not be accepted.

Each park will have a marked drop off site. The Division also is accepting donations of \$2 per tree to offset the cost of the program. Last year more than 6,300 trees were recycled and diverted from landfills.

Due to the large number of trees Lums Pond and Bellevue receive each year they will have mulched Christmas trees available to the public on a first come first serve basis until mulched trees are gone. The park offices can provide information on availability of mulch after Jan. 22.

For more information on Christmas tree recycling at Delaware State Parks or to make a donation to the program, contact Killens Pond State Park Administrator Gary Focht at 302-284-4526.



Delaware Air National Guard Maj. Patrick Houtman, second from right holding his daughter Julie, of Newark is welcomed by his family at New Castle County Airport Dec. 17. Pictured back row, left to right, are brother Tim, daughter in law Christa Harliker, son Joseph, Houtman holding daughter, and wife Tracey. Seated, left to right, mother Patricia, brother Dave and father William.

Thursday trash to be collected Wednesdays

The City of Newark will have altered garbage collection during the holiday season.

Garbage normally picked up on Thursday, Dec. 25 will be picked up Wednesday, Dec. 24, while garbage normally picked

up on Thursday, Jan. 1 will be picked up Wednesday, Dec. 31. Friday garbage collections will remain in place.

Also, there will be no bulk item pick ups during the week of Dec. 22 and the week of Dec. 29.

JD11101 EDITORIALS COLUMNS • PAGES FROM THE PAST • LETTERS

AMUSED, CONFUSED, BEMUSED

December 25 and the reason 'why?'

By MARVIN HUMMEL

NEWARK POST COLUMNIST

IDS aren't dumb. They just learn to keep their mouths shut when it's to their considerable advantage to do

Take the celebration of Christmas, for instance. They learn in church about the baby Christ child's birthday and how poor his family was. It is reasonable for a kid to ask, "Then why am I getting fancy pres-ents on His birthday? It doesn't make sense!" (And, of course, it doesn't.)

I accepted my parents' reluctance to tell me the reason why when I was four years old. But when I was five, I fully expected "the scoop": it would be, I thought, the first of many rites-of-passage into the adult

world. I was ready and eager, but no reasonable answer was forthcoming. Presents were a good thing; but I wanted to know why I was getting them on some-body else's birthday! And other kids were getting them, too! It made no sense. (And, of course, it Hummel doesn't !)



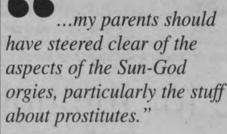
I persisted and then I insisted; they were annoyed and then angry. And, when I petulantly said I would not open my presents until they told me why and kept stu-pidly repeating, "Give them to the baby Jesus," my Dad stormed out of the house and delivered them to a poor little kid who wouldn't have gotten any if I had kept my big mouth shut.

The next year I dummied up and even said, "Whoopee!" when they introduced me to Santa Claus, alias Kris Kringle, a.k.a. St. Nick. But they knew.

My own later research explained it all: Christmas was celebrated for the first time in Rome - not Bethlehem- and not until the year 336 when it was started to keep the men of Rome from sliding back into their old celebration of the birthday of the fertility god, the Sun-God, on Dec. 25. Previously, it had been required of all adult male worshipers of the Sun-God to "visit" the temple prostitutes on that day, and it was a generally crazy, festival day in Rome. How to combat it? Have a Christian holy day instead.

But what about all the hoopla attending the old Sun-God celebration on Dec. 25? Everybody missed it. The answer? Have a

A retired clergyman and a teacher since 1972, Hummel has contributed to the Newark Post for more than two decades. He has lived in Delaware since 1959.



party for the baby Jesus on that day. Celebrate joyously. (But purely.)

The newly-converted Emperor Constantine, apparently missing some of the gala attached to the old Sun-God worship, approved and encouraged the new, Christian celebration on Dec. 25. It was a natural. Have special foods and drink. Get together and sing. Whoop it up for at least 12 days. Give presents, especially to the kids. (After all, it was to honor a child's birthday. A family day.) Bye-bye, Sun-God.

No longer can most of us exchange home-made presents, so we go to the malls. Naturally we do. Understandably we do.

The "commercial" Christmas can be a good thing - if we remember why. There's a ghastly commercial that shows clearly the danger of forgetting the holiness of why: two little kids are shown dragging their mother, kicking and screaming, out of the store. She grabs at a display of on-sale shoes while the kids beg her to behave herself and come along with them.

When last seen, they're still dragging her along the floor and saying to her with a combination of sympathy and annoy-ance, "Come on, Mom." (I'll bet she's long forgotten the why of Christmas, and surely Emperor Constantine could not have anticipated her when he encouraged the festival side of Christmas. Ugh.)

I understand there's a store in most malls whose name should help us keep the appropriate balance to our gala celebra-tion: it's called "Lord and Tailor," I think. If that's true, I'm grateful. We need to be reminded.

How I regret that my parents didn't tell me most of this when I was five. It would have made Christmas much more pleasant for our whole family.

Naturally, my parents should have steered clear of the aspects of the Sun-God orgies, particularly the stuff about prosti-tutes. That could have waited until I was 10.

OUT OF THE ATTIC



This week's "Out of the Attic" photo features a post card from the collection of the University of Delaware library's Special Collections Department. It shows the covered bridge on Paper Mill Road in Newark and appears to have been printed after 1900. The bridge was built in 1861. This interesting collection of postal memories is available to the public on the Web at http://www.lib.udel.edu/digital/dpc/. "Out of the Attic" features historic photographs from Newark's past. Readers who have a historic photo and would like to share it with other readers are invited to loan their photos for reprinting in this space. Special care will be taken. For informatheir photos for reprinting in this space. Special care will be taken. For informa-tion, call the *Newark Post*, weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 737-0724.

PAGES FROM THE PAST

News as it appeared in the Newark Post throughout the years

Santa Claus brings \$250,000 to University

Dec. 27, 1928

Newark has there been

more of the Yuletide spirit

This was true not only as to the church services in

the various churches of the

On Christmas Eve, the

usual exercises were held

on Academy lawn, where

the illuminated community

Professor George H.

community singing at the

exercises held at 7 o'clock

The Rev. H. Everett

Hallman also took part in

the exercises and Mayor

Ryden, appointed by Mayor Frazer, lead the

town, but also as to the

displayed generally than

during the present

Christmas season.

private homes.

tree is located.

that evening.

Frazer attended.

Never in the history of

Yuletide spirit

is manifested

A quarter of a million dollars as a present is how Santa Claus treated the University of Delaware.

Santa Claus in this instant was one Rodney Sharp, alumnus and trustee of the University, and his



"Pages From The Past" is compiled from early editions of the Newark Post and its forerunners by staffers. Efforts are made to retain original headlines and style in the reprinting of these items.

gift of \$250,000 is for an auditorium to be named "Mitchell Hall," in honor of Mr. Samuel Chiles Mitchell, former president of the University and now holding the Chair of History at the University of Richmond, Richmond,

Legislature to meet in Dover on January 1

The coming session of the Legislature, to convene at Dover on Tuesday of next week for organization, will be one of the most important in years for both Newark and the University of Delaware.

Charles B. Evans, J Pearce Cann and George L. Townsend, Jr., compose a special committee appointed by Mayor E.B. Frazer to prepare a new town charter for presentation to the General Assembly. This committee has been at

Reader urges 'stick with reporting, not campaigning'

realizing that a school of 1,100

To: The editor

From: Richard Kate Newark

am a long-time resident of Newark and support the nonpartisan approach to city elections. I also appreciate the more thorough news coverage of local events by the Newark Post.

However, I think the Post went beyond reporting in the front-page article on Nov. 21 announcing the entry of Vance Funk into the race for Mayor of Newark.

The interest in the individuals who signed Mr. Funk's petition seemed unusual. The implication was that everyone should be told that a number of University of Delaware employees have signed the petition.

One headline "UD officials among Funk candidacy support-ers" and a second "Who signed for whom" clearly shows the emphasis of the article. Is there some reason residents of Newark who work for the U of D should not sign petitions for someone who is running for office?

Only 10 registered voters are required to sign a petition. They can be all family members,

work on a tentative draft of the

proposed charter for several

weeks, and it is understood that it

is now about ready to put in the

neighbors or even people who may not vote for the candidate.

And there is not space on the form for job titles. This means that it took extra effort to examine the list, select U of D employees and list their job titles. This was only done with Mr. Funk.

There are hundreds of taxpaying home owners in Newark who happen to work at the university. Quite a number have been elected to Newark City Council, named to city committees, or otherwise have contributed effort to the City of Newark

Why the implication that it is not acceptable for them to sign a petition for a candidate?

Stick with reporting as opposed to campaigning.

here 'life threatening'

Game attendance

From: Dennis L. Guthrie

Wofford

From the past: Stores split on meters

North Carolina

HIS past weekend, I trav-

eled to your city to see the

College-

To: The editor

students, of which 550 are males, probably had little chance of winning a football game against a university of over 15,000 students, whose athletes have SAT scores of several hundred points less than the average SAT score of the Wofford football team.

A win was not life threatening to me but attendance to the game turned out to be.

Delaware fans are the most "base" fans I have ever witnessed at hundreds of college and professional athletic events attended by me.

I have never been around such foul-mouthed people and abusive people. The students were equally

appalling and, if representative of the entire student body at the University of Delaware, the administration needs to turn its attention to basic values such as respect and discipline.

For the students to steal and destroy an opponent's college flag that cost \$1,700, and other personal property from and opponent mascot, is inexcusable.

For the players not to shake hands after the ball game likewise sends a strong message. I have never witnessed, even at a professional athletic event, the players not shaking hands after the game. Charging the field by the stu-

dents is in violation of NCAA rules and, likewise, is a first for me. At the first two playoff games I attended, not one student or adult left the stands during the 15-minute cooling off period mandated by the NCAA. I should

mounted police came onto the field with several minutes left in the game. That was also the first time I have ever witnessed such a show of police force.

The University of Delaware web page asks for comments about the university and, rest assured, any time any young person counsels with me about colleges, I will always mention the University of Delaware as a place not to attend.

I can only hope the fans of Colgate, another academic institution like Wofford, are prepared for anything but an enjoyable experience in Chattanooga this coming Friday night at the NCAA 1-AA National Championship game.

Visitor turns writer into football fan

To: The editor

From: Cathy Raphael Newark

am one of 35 dealers at Olde Tyme Antiques on Main Street in the old church/police station in front of the Newark Food

Coop. Like the other dealers, I work a minimum of one day per month for my space, and like many others, since I have a Monday-Friday job; my Olde Tyme working days fall on weekends.

Early this fall, I had the pleasure of meeting a rather regular customer, a red-headed, frecklefaced lady with a great attitude, who was coming to Newark every few weeks from California.

Her son, Bubba, is a freshmen at UD and wears number 97 on the football team. She was making regular trips to the home games to watch him play. Her husband, a football coach at Fullerton College in Calif., had to be at his own games, and couldn't accompany her.

Now we know Mrs. Jesperson as Bubba's Mom when she comes in the door, all smiles, and sometimes with other family members. She is a good customer and packs away goodies purchased in our shop to haul back to California on the plane, believe it or not.

Ironically, this has made a football fan out of me-as well as other dealers, who never before paid attention to this "man's sport." Because of the cheerful visits of Bubba's Mom, we are attentive to our home-town winning team this year. Go Bubba.

Val says 'thank you'

To: The editor

HRIST

200 Vinings Way, Newark, DE 19702 (302) 737-4999

at

From: Val Nardo

wish to thank you for the continued support you have given throughout the years.

It is heartwarming to experience the generosity and outpouring of such a caring community, who over the last 35 years has devoted your time and yourselves to such a worthy ministry. With Val's your constant efforts, Needy Family Fund will continue its wonderful legacy for years to come. Please keep me in your prayers that I may remain serving the Lord in this very special way.

Dec. 27, 1979 Schools investigate segregation charges

► PAGES, from 4

shape of a bill.

The New Castle County School District may be in violation of the court's desegregation order if charges of segregated classrooms made by board member James Sills Jr. are true.

Sills' charges were prompted by a Philadelphia Inquirer article that stated several classrooms in the new district were segregated.

As a result of the article, Sills said he visited two Wilmington schools and talked to two teachers and a principal. Sills said he found the remedial classes in both schools were segregated.

Charities made holiday merrier

All of the results are not in and all of the proceeds have yet to be counted, but from all accounts it looks as though efforts by area organizations on the behalf of the less fortunate have paid off.

The result was a brighter holiday for the needy and the infirmed throughout New Castle County

Newark Welfare The Committee's Dec. 1 Tag Day was "the most successful in history," said committee

University of Delaware game,

Kenneth Lambert. Between 23,000 and 27,000 old and new toys were collected by the Marine Corps. Reservists in the annual Toys for Tots campaign, according to 1st Sergeant William Hudson.

Stores split on meter issue

Main Street merchants in Newark reacted inconclusively to a proposal to remove parking on the left side of Main Street during "peak" hours, according to a sur-vey conducted by the Greater Newark Chamber of Commerce.

Dec. 31, 1999 Department heads on call for New Year's Eve

All department heads for operations in the city of Newark are on call this New Year's Eve. Possible computer failures, mob scenes or party-goers in accidents has government heads around the world marshaling their employees and Newark is no exception. Although historians say that the new millennium does not officially begin until 2001 and that a grand celebration should be next New Year's Eve, it has not affected the many who believe that New Year's Eve 1999 holds a certain significance that should not go unrecognized.

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- Pet Walking area Resident activities program
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OUTLOOK

Give gift of yourself

Outlook is a weekly feature provided to Newark Post readers by the staff of the New Castle County Cooperative Extension Office.

By JO MERCER

SPECIAL TO THE NEWARK POST

N this season of reflection and renewal, many people look to the coming

year and the challenges and rewards it could bring.

Here's one way to start the year right - consider finding the time to help others. Specifically, train to be a New

County Master Gardener volunteer educator.

environ

Castle

Master Gardeners are specially trained volunteers who love gardening and the

Mercer

ment. They also love spending time with people of all ages in teaching them how to put knowledge to work. Without the 85 members in our county, Cooperative Extension would have a very hard time of making significant contributions to conserving and protecting our natural resources, increasing our enjoyment and value of our properties and appreciating the plants and animals that live around us.

If you have school-age youngsters, there's a good chance they have seen Master Gardeners in action. Since 2001, more than 16,000 students in grades K-4 have participated in the Junior Gardener program. McVey and Downes elementary schools (and many others, public and private, across the county) have invited Master Gardeners to present a variety of horticulture and environmental science topics that include worm composting, tree identification, soil science, butterflies, insects, and topiary.

The Junior Gardener pro-

See OUTLOOK, 13

ognizable Something orates six mol PP

By ANTHONY PIERCE SPECIAL TO THE NEWARK POST

HE stainless steel globelike sphere sitting atop a steel tripod between Crystal Concepts and Formal Affairs on East Main Street may look like a huge holiday decora-tion, but in reality it is a permanent art piece, celebrating its sixmonth anniversary. For those curious to know, it

is called "Recognizable Something," and was created by University of Delaware sculpture professor David Meyer at the request of the city of Newark and merchants. Meyer has worked on several other public projects, including the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial, and this month had his art shown at the Muse Gallery in Philadelphia. Meyer recalls back to when he

drove his newly created art piece to its permanent spot and was asked a question by the passenger of a moving car.

'What does that thing do?" said the motorist. Meyer simply smiled and said, "It's art.

"It was funny that happened," Meyer said. "I wanted to make it look like it did something, as though it didn't look like art at all-almost to confuse anyone who took notice of it. I wanted to let their curiosity guide their thought.

The stainless steel globe-like sphere of squiggly, 3/8-inch rods is propped up by a tripod, also solid steel, cemented into the sidewalk. Inside the hollow body of the sphere is a thicker steel rod, which holds a metal ball directly in the middle of the cylinder. The sculpture is nearly eight feet tall and measures almost four feet in diameter.

The sculpture's name, Meyer said, is an adaptation of the way in which

people may view it. "The line work guides your eye along a series of recognizable, but individually interpreted, patterns found in nature," he said. "The overall piece feels familiar, but its essence is difficult to articulate because the familiarity is determined by the viewer's own experiences." Meyer said we live in a society where many things are so readily



David Meyer puts his Main Street creation into motion.

available that communication with one another on a personal level can become scarce.

That's why I love art. It brings people and ideas together on a more intimate level," he said. "It's only art when people see it, when they share it with one another and make it a part of a common experience.

Meyer has been teaching at UD since the fall of 2000. He received his masters degree of fine arts in 1996 from UD. In the fall of 2002, he was asked to do a commissioned project by Maureen Feeney-Roser, the city of Newark's administrator of the Downtown Newark Partnership.

The idea for a public sculpture for Main Street came from the DNP's extensive work on comprehensive streetscape improvements for downtown, and the recognition that a visual display of just some of the artistic genius inherent in Newark is good for the community, and good for business," said Feeney-Roser. The tie in with the University of Delaware was a natural extension of the Partnership and I was just so pleased when David indicated an interest in creating a piece specially for our downtown.

The sculpture was dedicated on

June 15, 2003 during Newark Nite. "I got a lot of great feedback that night," said Meyer. "It was interesting how people from different backgrounds all viewed the sculpture differently. Those with a background in welding appreciated the difficult molding of the materials." Meyer said that perhaps the most

unique description of the sculpture came from a young girl who described it as "a bunch of metal snakes slithering around.'

"That's what's great about kids," he said. "Adults tend to look at things more wholly, but younger children see the details and specifics of things.'

Meyers' work on the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial in 1998 was inspired by "the immediate response of individuals who placed items of remembrance near the bombing site," he said.

The large arcing granite wall with 168 missing blocks was created to represent the individuals killed and provide a place for people to continue this act of remembrance. To view this, and various works, refer to Meyer's homepage at

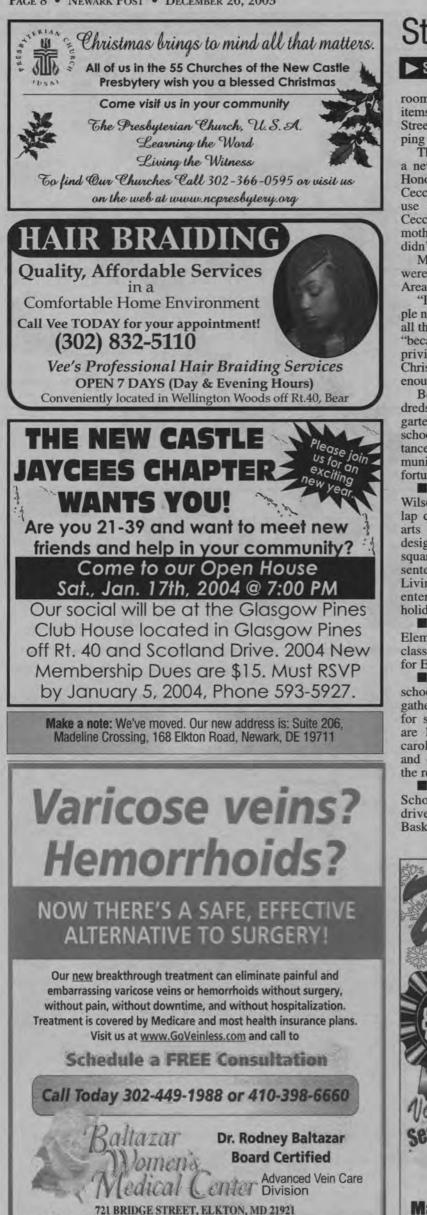
See SCULPTURE, 13



NEWARK POST * THE POST STUMPER

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120 SAND HILL DRIVE, BUNKER HILL CENTER, MIDDLETOWN, DE 19709

Students get high grades for helping others

► SERVICE, from 1

room was overflowing with items. Happy Harry's on Main Street in Newark donated wrapping paper and tags.

This year's donations included a new 26-inch bike donated by Honor Society member Melissa Cecconi for the adopted family to use as transportation to work. Cecconi had won the bike at her mother's company picnic but she didn't really need it.

More than 150 cans of food were also donated to Newark Area Welfare Committee.

"It's good for us to help people not just during the holiday but all the time," Razaz Mageid said, "because lots of people need the privilege to have a good Christmas even if they don't have enough money." Besides Shue Medill, hun-

dreds of students from kindergarten to twelfth grade in local schools have learned the importance of giving back to the community and helping others less fortunate.

Two second grade classes at Wilson Elementary School made lap quilts as part of a language arts lesson, with each student designing and drawing their own square. The quilts were then presented to Somerfield Assisted Living in Newark. They also entertained the residents with holiday tunes.

West Park Place Elementary School first grade classes collected unwrapped toys for Emmaus House.

Newark High School afterschool club Christians In Action gathered food for Thanksgiving for students in the district who are homeless. They also went caroling at Cokesbury Village and delivered flower bouquets to the residents.

Gallagher Elementary School held a canned goods drive/cash donation for the Basket Brigade at Thanksgiving

time and again for children of the Newark Area Welfare Committee at Christmas time. Their "giving tree," sponsored by the staff and PTA provided dozens of wrapped gifts to assist four needy school families.

Newark High School Key Club wrapped gifts for UNICEF at the Christiana Mall and American Cancer Society at Borders Books, helped with Winterfest at Jennie Smith School, ushered for the Mid-Atlantic Ballet performances and babysat at various school functions for parent meetings.

Spanish Honor Society of Glasgow High School held its 10th annual food and toy drive, collecting toys, food, books, turkeys and hams which were delivered to St. Paul's Church Outreach Roberto Clemente Center.

Pulaski Intermediate School Student Council sponsored a toy drive for needy families in partnership with Salvation Army.

Newark High School's Student Government held a school-wide canned food drive, collecting nearly 600 cans for the Welfare Newark Area Committee.

Family and Consumer Sciences students at Glasgow High School collected several large cartons of toys, books, gifts, hand-made cards, stockings filled with candy and homemade cookies for children to be distributed through the Salvation Army. Residents at Emmaus House will benefit by board games, videos, puzzles, household items, canned goods and school supplies.

For the second year Brothers and Sisters Student Union at Newark High School wrapped gifts at the Delaware Psychiatric Center.

Keene Elementary School staff, had a "Giving Tree," decorated with snowmen tags to collect specific items for four local needy families. Twenty other needy families were identified by the school staff and got gifts donated by the Knights of Columbus.

Downes Elementary School had a "Mitten Tree," that collected specific items for several needy families in their school.

Maclary Elementary School collected food for the Newark Area Welfare Committee and mittens, gloves, scarves and hats went to Emmaus House.

The school nurse and social worker, along with donations from staff at Stubbs Elementary School, provided for their own needy families, including 100 new coats, 20 pairs of eye glasses, Thanksgiving for nine families and holiday gifts for five families. Referrals to other agencies provided gifts for six more families.

Glasgow High School Chapter **Business** of Professionals of America hosted their tenth annual party for children from the Terry Center, a psychiatric center in Wilmington. The students acted as big brother/big sister for the day, providing games, arts and crafts and lunch. Santa gave out personalized gifts which were donated by the high school students.

Newark High School musicians are mentoring elementary students in fundamentals and techniques in string instruments.

Solution to The Post Stumper on Page 7.







Hens get rightful crown

By MARTY VALANIA

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

Joyous Blue Hen fans were packed into every square inch of the hotel lobby. There were more jammed up against the second floor banister overlooking the lobby. Even more – surprise – were stuffed into the hotel bar.

Into this throng, with the national championship trophy held high over his head walked Delaware coach K.C. Keeler. The crowd went wild.

After a rousing "Kay-

Cee, Kay-Cee" chant, his flock wanted a speech. Keeler, after falling in all five national

champi-

onship



Valania

attempts with Rowan, just delivered Delaware its first national crown since he himself played on the 1979 national title team.

Keeler, standing on a lobby couch, told the raucous gathering how special his team was and then thanked the fans for their support. If he said anything after that, it wasn't heard above the roar.

Keeler may win another half dozen national titles with Delaware (don't bet against it). He may go on to a Division I-A job and win one there (don't bet against that either). Whatever future success he has (and he'll definitely have more), it may be tough to top what happened Friday night in Chattanooga. The combination of the

The combination of the Division III championship game losses at Rowan, coming back to his alma mater, replacing a legend in Tubby Raymond and then winning Delaware's

HEN-SATIONAL!



NEWARK POST PHOTOS BY SCOTT MCALLISTER

Delaware players, coaches and fans celebrated the school's first-ever Divsion I-AA national title. See HE

Hens rip Colgate to win national title

The University of Delaware football team is back on top again.

Using a punishing defense that held Colgate to just 157 total yards and posted its first road shutout since 1982, the Blue Hens captured their sixth national championship Friday night with a dominating 40-0 victory over the previously unbeaten Raiders in the NCAA I-AA championship game at Finley Stadium.

All-American quarterback Andy Hall threw two touchdown passes to sophomore David Boler (#6 at right) and senior running backs Antawn Jenkins and Germaine Bennett each scored twice on the ground as Delaware (15-1) highlighted the most successful season in school history with its first national title since winning the NCAA II crown in 1979. It was Delaware's first national title at the I-AA level.

"Winning a national championship is a very difficult thing, so many things need into place," said second year Delaware head coach K. C. Keeler, who was a starting linebacker for the Hens' previous championship team in 1979. "This time it all came into place. I recognize how special this is. It's special to to bring the glory back to the greatest I-AA tradition in the country."

The Blue Hens continued their dominance in the post-season as they outscored their four opponents 149-23 and posted the first-ever shutout in the I-AA championship game. The Hens' posted their first shutout on the

Freshman Abbott leads St. Mark's at Beast

Spartans win Governor's Trophy again; CR second

By MARTY VALANIA

..... NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

Ups and downs, highs and The St. Mark's High lows. wrestling team experienced a roller-coaster ride long enough to last an entire season at the Beast of the East Tournament.

Unseeded freshman 103pounder Tommy Abbott had a superb tournament, upsetting

Dragons roll through

high caliber wrestlers on his way to a sixth place finish. He turned out, though, to be the lone Spartan place winner as tough losses and an unfortunate injury to All-American Brian Willis tripped up the rest of the team. The team, however, won more than enough matches to easily win the Governor's Trophy as the highest placing Delaware team. The Spartans finished 18th while Caesar Rodney was the next clos-est school in 35th place.

"I feel good about our effort," Mark's coach Jay said St. Bastianelli. "We showed a lot of heart, but at the same time I'm disappointed that some of the guys didn't accomplish their

Willis, who would've certainly placed, was injured in the second period of his 215-pound quarterfinal match and was unable to continue in the tournament. After quickly falling behind 5-0 in his quarterfinal match, Willis fought back to take a 9-7 lead after the first period. Early in the second period he injured his knee and was done for the tournament. The Spartans hope to have him back in two weeks.

"That's a shame for Willis," Bastianelli said. "He's about to be in the semis and the next thing you know, he can barely walk. And you can't compete against

this kind of competition when you're hurt like that.

"But, hopefully, he'll be back in a few weeks. There are much

bigger things waiting for him down the road."

Several Spartans were close to placing, but lost in the consolations. Kyle Skinner (152) lost a tough 4-3 match that would have catapulted into a place winner. Jeremy Shaw (112) and Andrew Bradley (130) each lost one-point decisions that eliminated them from placing. Andrew Jordan (171) and Kenny Zell (275) fell in close matches as well.

Abbott, a highly successful youth wrestler, won his first two matches easily before losing a tight 1-0 match to drop him into the consolation round. He then upset two seeded wrestlers to place. He fell 4-1 in the consolation semifinals and then lost 2-0 to Caesar Rodney's Ian Moser in the match for fifth place.

fire," 'Tommy was on Bastianelli said. "He's still learning a little bit about wrestling in high school but he's starting to wrestle our style and he found ways to win in those matches.'

Another successful **Beast of the East**

First-year tournament director Bob Shaw was happy with the way the tournament ran this year.

In fact, so was just about everybody. Saturday's normal marathon length was trimmed by over an hour, which pleased the coaches, wrestlers and fans alike.

"We've had a lot of good comments about how well the tournament went," Shaw said. "It's been great this year.

"We really had a tremendous group of people that worked a long time on this and then we had a great group of volunteers that helped out all weekend." The tournament was recog-

nized as the toughest high school tournament in the country.

ragons win

Vikings in final

By JOE BACKER

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

No doubt about it, Glasgow is off to a fast start in the team's quest to win a second straight state title.

The Dragons are 3-0 after winning all of their season-opening games in the 16th Annual Klassic Basketball Kappa Tournament, winning each game by a margin of more than 25 points.

Glasgow capped the weekend sweep with a dominating 65-29 drubbing of neighborhood rival

WATERFRONT DINING

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20 Years

Christiana Saturday night on the Dragons' home court. Valuable Tournament Most Player Marc Egerson showed why he was the Player-of-the-Year last season. He led Glasgow with 23 points and 18 rebounds.

Glasgow coach Don Haman said he's pretty pleased with the team's performance so far.

"I satisfied with the improvement of some of the guys that came up from last year's JV squad, especially Mike Ingram and Pete Folke," said Haman. "They work very hard in practice are very dedicated to improving their games. They've really stepped it up since the season began."

Glasgow dominated the Vikings from start to finish all over the court. In the first quarter, the Dragons roared to a 20-4 lead, and by halftime had built up a 30-15 lead. The Vikings offense attempted to run-and-gun with Glasgow, but their shooters couldn't find the range and went several long stretches without scoring a single point.

The dominance continued In the second half, with the Dragons running away with the game and outscoring Christiana 35-14 over the last two quarters.

The new running clock kicked in early in the fourth quarter when Glasgow went ahead by more than 30 points. Nobody seemed to notice.

Christiana coach Anthony Jefferson said this year's Dragon team reminds him a lot of last year's squad.

"They are the defending state champions and playing very well. They have some new kids, but I don't see any drop off from last year," he said. In addition to Egerson's fine

performance, teammates Cory Lemons and Sean Hammond each scored 10 points, and Folke added nine. Senior guard Steve Huhn led Christiana's offense with eight points. Rashad Williams added five points, and three other Vikings added four points each.

Hens crowned in Chattanooga

▶ POST GAME, from 9

first-ever I-AA championship in just his second year makes this season one that will Keeler will remember fondly forever. The season was special from

start to finish. As a fan you can only hope

to have one special moment each season. A good year may produce two. Overtime wins, 21point rallies, the win at Navy, the snowstorm and playoff win over Northern Iowa and Friday night in Chattanooga - this season had more than its share.

The four-game playoff run was as good as any in I-AA playoff history. The 40-point margin against Colgate was a I-

AA championship game record. Blue Hen football has always held significant stature in Delaware. The sport goes

beyond the university. Fans include students, alumni and many more who are neither just residents of the state. Yes, there are a ton of Eagles fans in the area, but the Eagles are from Philadelphia. The Blue Hens are ours

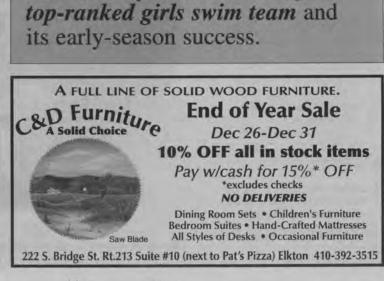
The Chattanooga newspaper said Delaware was royalty in I-AA land. It was one of the few things it got right.

Delaware has had great teams and great players. It's had three Hall of Fame coaches. That tradition and the thousands of fans that follow it are what separate Delaware from just about every other I-AA school in the country.

Led by Keeler, Delaware took its rightful perch Friday night atop I-AA land and thousands of its faithful enjoyed the coronation.

- 0 10 La Hara Eastern Shore 11 = 2002 = 200on the Beautiful **OPEN YEAR 'ROUND** Lunch & Dinner **Celebrate New Years Eve** with us! Dinner Served 4 'till 10:30 Full Course Meal ~ \$50.00 pp * **Christmas Eve Lunch Tony Mowen Jazz Quartet** Served 11:30 - 2 A Bayard House Gift Certificate is Always in Good Taste Every Thursday is LADIES NIGHT at The Hole in the Wali Ladies Drinks 1/2 price. Historic Chesapeake City 410-885-5040 Toll Free 1-877-582-4049 www.bayardhouse.com





Look in next week's issue for a

feature story on Newark High's

Jversions

THEATRE • EVENTS • EXHIBITS • NIGHTLIFE • MEETINGS

FRIDAY

610-388-1000.

Wilmington. Info., 658-2400. ARTFUL LIVING Through Jan. 4. MICHAEL WYSHOCK Painting exhibition in the Mezzanine Gallery in the Carvel State Office Building, 820 N.

French St.

LONGWOOD

GARDENS

Wil

CHRISTMAS Through Jan. 4. Holiday

concerts that will include sing-alongs

evening concerts, and performances by

area choral groups, handbell choirs, and a harp orchestra. For more information, call

A BRANDYWINE CHRISTMAS Through

Jan. 11. Celebrate the holiday season at

Brandywine Museum while enjoying the

collection is among some of the original

works of art. Closed Christmas day. For

ENCHANTED WOODS Last night to stroll

beneath the holiday lights, featuring 500

lighted spheres and globes. Community choirs and other groups will perform each night at Winterthur, An American Country

CHRISTMAS AT HAGLEY Through Jan.

4. Colonial Revival Christmas decorations reflecting the furnishings and style of the period between 1925 - 1958 at Hagley Museum and Library, Route 141 in

more information, call 610-388-8337.

fabulous displays. Donald Pywell's jewelry

Exhibition showcasing paintings and deco-rative arts from the home of Sewell C. Biggs at the Biggs Museum in Dover. Free and open to the public. Info., 302-674-2111 HEAD TO TOE: ALL ABOUT YOUR

- BODY Through Jan. 4. Take a closer look at the human body using a hands-on model at Delaware Museum of Natural History. Info., 658-9111.
- MACHINE, MONUMENT AND METROPOLIS: NEW YORK'S PENN-SYLVANIA STATION Through Jan. 2. Exhibit tracing the history of the engineer-ing feat that brought the Pennsylvania Railroad into Manhattan and evoke the feeling of the magnificent space that was the Pennsylvania Station, all at Hagley seum and Librar
- ENCHANTED COLÓNIAL VILLAGE Through Tuesday. Five refurbished scenes from a Colonial village will be displayed at the Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia. Open seven days a week from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Info., 215-963-0667.
- FIBRE RICE Through March 31.m Exhibit presenting fiber arts in their functional aspect and as beautiful material expres sions of different regional, ethnic, and religious symbols at Wheaton Village in Millville, N.J. Info. and directions, 856-825-6800 or visit their web site at www.wheatonvillage.org.



HOLIDAY MANSION DECORATIONS

Nemours Mansion & Gardens Holiday Tours is dressed for the holidays from now through Dec. 27. The reception hall, pictured above, of the mansion can be seen during limited tours at 1600 Rockland Road in Wilmington. Cost is \$10 and par-ticipants must be at least 12 years old. Reservations are recommended, and required for groups. For information call 651-6912.

ROCKEFELLER COLLECTION Through Feb. 1. One of the most significant collections of American paintings in the world from San Francisco's de Young Museum at

MEETINGS

group meeting at Evangelical Presbyterian

Church, 308 Possum Park Rd., Newark.

Info 737-7239

Winterthur, An American Country Estate. Info 888-4600. THE FELLOWS Through Wednesday. Exhibit showcasing contemporary glass

FRIDAY, DEC.26

Estate. Info., 888-4600.

STRENGTH TRAINING Fridays and Mondays at Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Dr. Info., 737-2336.

SATURDAY, DEC. 27

- POST-POLIO SUPPORT 10 a.m. to noon fourth Saturday of month. Meeting at the Easter Seal Independent Living Center, Reads Way, New Castle. For information, call Paula Hentz at 369-3905 or 764-1714. WOMAN'S MINISTRY Fourth Saturday of the month. Meeting to unite and share fel-lowship at Dale United Methodist Church, 143 E. Lake Street in Middletown.378-
- 9744 THE-LOIS YOUNG SHOW 10:30 a.m. Master puppeteer, songwriter and ventriloquist, Lois Young uses her life-size puppets and humorous songs to express the joys and dilemmas of childhood through puppetry, original songs and interactive stories imed at children from 3 to 8 years old at The Chapel Street Playhouse. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased at the door. 456-
- 9227 MEN'S BREAKFAST 7:30 a.m. at Greater Grace Church, 30 Blue Hen Dr. \$5 donation goes to missions. Info., 738-1530.
- **DIVORCECARE** Saturdays and Wednesdays. Separated/divorced persons meet at Praise Assembly, 1421 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark. All welcome. Info, 737-5040.
- NATURE VIDEOS Every Saturday. 1 p.m. video and one-hour guided walk for all ages at Ashland Nature Center. All welcome. Info., 239-2334.

MONDAY, DEC. 29

MHA DEPRESSION SUPPORT GROUP 7-9 p.m. Mondays. Support group spon-sored by Mental Health Association in Delaware. Free. To protect privacy of members, meeting locations provided only with registration at 765-9740. ESL Afternoon and evening classes for

English Conversation held every Monday at Newark United Methodist Church, 69 East Main Street. Registration required. 292-2091

- SCOTTISH DANCING 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, South College Avenue, Newark.Info. 368-2318.
- NCCo STROKE CLUB noon at the Jewish Community Center, Talleyville. For information, call Nancy Traub at 324-4444. SIMPLY JAZZERCIZE Mondays,
- Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Drive. Info., 737-2336.
- CHORUS OF BRANDYWINE 7:30 p.m. Men's barbershop rehearsals at MBNA Bowman Conference Center, Ogletown. All are welcome. 655-SING.
- NEWARK ROTARY CLUB 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. every Monday at the Holiday Inn, Route 273, 453-8853.
- GUARDIANS' SUPPORT 6-8 p.m. Mondays. Meeting for grandparents and all those raising others' children at Children & Families First, 62 N. Chapel St., Newark. Information and registration, 658-5177, ext. 260.

TUESDAY, DEC. 30

- EATING DISORDER 7-8:30 p.m. last Tuesdays. Support group for people with disorder, and family and friends meets at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Naaman's & Darley roads, North Wilmington. Free & open to public. Info. 475-1880.
- NEWARK DELTONES Every Tuesday. 7:45 p.m. For men who like to sing at NewArk Church of Christ, East Main Street. For more information, call Will at 368-3052
- SWEET ADELINES 7:30 -10 p.m. Singing group at MBNA Bowman Center, Route 4, Newark. Listeners and new members wel-come. Info, 999-8310.
- MS SUPPORT 4-6 p.m. at MS Society Headquarters, 2 Mill Road, Wilmington. Info, call 655-5610.
- DIVORCECARE 6:30-8:30 p.m. support

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31

BINGO 12:45 p.m Wednesdays at Newark Senior Center. Lunch available for \$2.25/platter at 11:45 a.m. 737-2336. DIVORCECARE 7 p.m. Separated/divorced persons meet at Praise Assembly, 1421 Old Baltimore Pike. Info. 737-3544.

GRIEFSHARE 7 p.m. seminar and support

works by past and current CGCA fellowship recipients at Wheaton Village in New Jersey. Info., 856-825-6800.

SATURDAY, DEC. 27

- DINO DAYS Through tomorrow. Dinosaur festival with many activities for the entire family at The Delaware Museum of Natural History from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. today and tomorrow and Noon to 4:30 on
- LAMPLIGHTER CHRISTMAS TOURS Through Monday. Tours of five of the Victorian bed and breakfast inns in Cape May, N.J. Home-baked goods and warm Wassail punch will await tour-goers in some of the homes. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling 800-275-4278

MONDAY, DEC. 29

LINE DANCING 1 p.m. beginner class; and 2 p.m. advanced class every Monday at Newark Senior Center. 737-2336.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31

- EDWARD L. LOPER Beginning at 6 p.m. participants can enjoy free refreshments and entertainment while viewing Loper's vibrant new paintings at 11th & Orange Gallery (next to Deep Blue restaurant) located in the Community Service Garage.
- group every week for those who have lost someone close to them at Praise Assembly, 1421 Old Baltimore Pike. Info. 737-5040.
- NEWARK DELTONES 7-10 p.m. at Newark United Church of Christ, Main Street, Info. 737-4544.
- TAI CHI 2:30 p.m. Wednesday or Monday; 11:15 a.m. Friday, at Newark Senior Center. \$20/month. 737-2336.



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In Our Schools EDUCATION NEWS FOR NEWARK FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS

NOTEPAD Winter break for students and staff

Tinter break for all students and staff in the Christina School District will begin Wednesday, Dec. 24. All schools and offices will remain closed until Monday, Jan. 5.

Newark Charter School will close at noon on Dec. 23 and reopen on Jan. 5.

Read along with Dr. Wise

When the kids get bored during their break from classes, try a day or two at the library. For a list of recommended titles by age group for you to consider purchasing, or checking out of the library, look at

Superintendent's Book Club on the district Website. Dr. Joseph Wise has a list of 40 books that he hopes will spark your child's (and maybe rekindle your) interest in reading. Visit www.christina.k12.de.us.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

ENNIE Riviera, a twelfth grader at Sterck School For the Deaf, was selected by Principal

Jan Keen and staff as this week's Student of the Week. As president of the senior class. Jennie uses her leadership

to keep her class-

mates organized and focused on their goals. As a single parent of a three-year-old boy, Jennie still makes time to manage the volleyball team and be the leader at pep rallies. Her teachers say she never complains and gets good grades.

Ready to blast off

Marshall students become 'wannabe' astronauts

By ROBIN BROOMALL

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

hen students Marshall Thurgood used Lincoln logs and building blocks to construct robots, they weren't just playing. The students in grades two to four were in strong competition for spots as astronauts and support crew for a simulated shuttle mission.

Marshall School was chosen to take part in 2004 Launching A Dream, a project of the statewide Aerospace Education Program, funded by the Delaware Education AeroSpace Foundation.

This is the 12th year for the program which is designed to integrate science, math, technology and career choices into the aerospace education curriculum.

All students at the school had the opportunity to participate in some aspect of the project such as state-wide naming of the orbitor, logo design contest, astronaut selection and a space science fair to be held in February.

There will be two teams of 12 students each who will have an astronaut and support crew. In the four month training period, they will work on experiments on plant growth, animal behavior, water and soil testing. Results will be presented on launch day,



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY BOBIN BROOMALL

Third graders Matthew Higgins, left, and Angela D'Occhio, right, have five minutes to build a robot from Lincoln logs and building binders. They are evaluated on teamwork, sharing, cooperation, and the ability to give creative instructions as part of their astronaut tryouts.

Thursday, May 20, at the Dover Air Force Base.

Second grade teacher and coordinator of the program at Marshall, Lynne Bloom was impressed with the number of student applicants for the shuttle team, with more that half of them being girls.

Students trying out for the coveted positions on the shuttle teams completed astronaut applications, including writing a brief reason for wanting to be chosen as the commander of a shuttle mission, signing pledges and getting letters of recommendation.

Then the applicants went

through a series of activities to tryout for spots on the team. The activities tested their physical dexterity, communications, cooperation, leadership and social areas. The procedure is a mini version of what actual astronaut applicants would undergo at NASA.

At one station they did jumping jacks and curl-ups and picked up items with rotobic arms before having their blood pressure taken. Other stations included a guessing game where two students communicated directions on recreating a block design, without being able to see each other.

Their dexterity was tested at station three where they were timed on following their pencil through a maze on paper. The catch was they had to do it while looking into a mirror. Teamwork was tested when groups of five had to build a robot within five minutes

The final station was a personal interview with Dr. Stephanie Wright, director of the program, where she looked for the right qualities for each position on the launch team.

One parent volunteering with the tests has inside information on what it's like to be involved with an aerospace project.

Dave Bahm is a business analyst at Boeing with the RAH 66 Comanche helicopter, with two sons who have participated in space camp.

"The experience is tremendous for the students. I hope the kids carry on the tradition of having an interest in aviation," said Bahm.

Matthew Higgins, a third grader, was already turned on to the idea of being involved with aeronautics as a career.

"I want to be a pilot. They're usually the first ones to see where you're going, including the crew," Higgins said.

But classmate Angela D'Occhio was more practical in

"I want to be the co-pilot because they fly the shuttle and get to push the buttons."

Finalists on the shuttle mission team were to be announced

All are winners in Black Cat City

"Get your tickets here." The call went out from the Treasury as students walked into Black Cat City, a tiny suburb of Drew Pyle School in Wilmington that was established for only one day early in December.

Everyone was a winner in Black Cat City. Even if you

didn't win, you got a prize. Students in Michelle Yon's Over the Top, formerly known as Excell, program hosted a day of fun and games to benefit fellow sixth graders who could use additional funds to support sixth grade activities, such as field trips. Last year they raised \$600. This year they hoped to bring in \$1,000.

The 50 students in the program organized the event, deciding on the mode of currency, games of chance, art projects and raffle. They made up directions and rules for the games, manned their tables or solicited help from friends. Thank you letters were written to area business that donated candy and TastyKakes as prizes.

When other invited students walked into Black Cat City (aka the school gym), they immediately went to the Treasury, where they pur-chased Black Cat City dollars for 10 cents each. Then they went to tables where they could participate in chances of skill and luck or just purchase candy. Rules and consolation prizes were printed on posters at every station.

There was bowling, bucket toss and a basketball shootout. They could knock over a pyramid of paper cups with a ball or pick ducks from the Duk Pawnd. At Prediction Probability the participants had to guess the probability of heads or tails in a toss of three coins.

The Chinese auction was a raffle where visitors to Black Cat City could use up any left-over tickets before leaving. "The best part of it all was



Win or Lozeee, participants in the Black Cat City Mini Society at Drew-Pyle Intermediate School got rewards for playing. Patrice Emory, right, helps others pick out their prizes.

putting the games together," sixth grad-er Alysha Sonej said. "It took a lot of thinking and plan-2004

ning.'

Another service project for Over the Top students is being planned for spring

Jennie Riviera

Wonder who gets the 'Timmy Jimmy?' Please read on

► UP FRONT, from 1

at Barksdale and Apple roads.

The signals are effective traffic control devices and far safer than the previous "sometimes they stop, sometimes they don't"

stop-sign plan. The "Uhh-Ohh Jimmy" goes Executive Tom Gordon and his sidekick Sherry Freebery. Surely "uhh-ohh" (pos-sibly "aw #\$@%") is what they muttered when news of former police chief Cunningham's plea bargain surfaced.

The "Bad Timing Jimmy" oes to Ivy Hall apartments chief Mike Purzycki. The former coun-cilmember and Wilmington riverfront redevelopment czar brought his request for more student apartments on Wollaston Avenue forward about the the time of UD's homecoming. That weekend city officials declared an Ivy Hall building uninhabitable at 2 a.m. when revelers, actually van-dals, completely destroyed the wallboards and stairwells of the building. The "Job Well Done Jimmy"

goes to retired Newark City Councilmember Tom Wampler. He is one of the best and most sincere public servants I've ever

SCULPTURE, from 6

Meyer is currently teaching a

wood and steel sculpture class

and is working on a group of experience-determined pieces, as

www.udel.edu/art/meyer.

encountered. For more than a decade, Tom clearly had only one agenda - to do the right thing.

The "Way It's Supposed To Work Jimmy" is a dual award shared by the Newark City Council and business owners. Affected by increased fees in order to fund the city's increased alcohol enforcement initiative, after some complaining the restauranteurs came up with suggestions. Council listened and reacted.

The "I'd Have No Luck At All If Not For Bad Luck Jimmy" goes to Dr. Nicholas Fischer. The former Christina schools superintendent gave 100% to the end after learning six months earlier that his contract would not be renewed. Then, days before his exit, the district discovers a million-dollar accounting snafu.

Speaking of schools, the "Big Surprise Jimmy" goes to the Christina School Board. After bumbling the handling of Fischer's firing, they hire a supertintendent that appears to walk on water.

"Wait A Minute, Joe The Jimmy" goes to U.S. Sen. Joe When MSNBC's Biden. "Hardball" was telecast live from Newark last January, it was host Chris Matthews who couldn't get a word in, not I-can-talk-for-twohours-without-taking-a-breath Biden

The "Timmy Jimmy" goes to State Rep Tim Boulden, the only elected official to send me a birthday card this year.

"Big Oil Shows Its The Muscle Jimmy" goes to Newark's Mayor Hal Godwin. to After 32 years in business, he was forced to close his familyrun service station after the rent was tripled by Shell Oil. The "Take A Number, Please

Jimmy" goes to the owners of Café Napoli, now being built next to Wilmington Trust on Main Street. If history at their Kirkwood Highway eatery repeats itself here, I predict there will be a line out the front door from the day the restaurant opens.

The "Now You See Them, Now You Don't Jimmy" goes to the owners of the Newark Shopping Center, which lost many long-term tenants this year. The "We Won't Miss 'Em

Jimmy" goes to the Newark Police Department which has more time for patrol now that the pool hall in the shopping center has closed. I hate stereotyping businesses but statistics proved the underground parlor was a magnet for certain ne'r-do-wells.

The "Deal With It Jimmy" goes to Newark High seniors who, last spring, complained that they had to take finals like students at the district's other high schools had done for years.

The "Did They Make The Guiness Book? Jimmy" goes to the students at The Independence School. Hundreds, not a handful of big-wigs in suits, were part of the ground-breaking ceremony for a major addition.

The "PR Jimmy" goes to Ryan German, the operator of Caffé Gelato who got more press...again...this year than any (Mike other Newarker. Purzycki's lambasting of the city council this month took him out of contention for this award.)

The "Graffiti This Jimmy' goes to the Downtown Newark Partnership's Design Committee, the volunteers who devised and are leading the effort to transform the CSX bridge near McDonald's into a welcoming mural. "Thanks" to all who have ponied up to their fund-raising effort.

The "I Gotta Get Me One Of Those Jobs Jimmy" goes to union bridge painters. Much of the \$100,000 price tag for the mural will go to these workers.

The "We See A Conspiracy At Every Turn Jimmy" goes to sup-porters of Newark mayoral candidate Vance Funk. Some have criticized our listing of prominent Newarkers who signed Funk's petition to get him on the ballot. We did not do the same for incumbent Godwin. The simple fact is the recognizable names all were on Funk's papers, not Godwin's. And that's news, folks, in a hot local election contest.

The "Turkey In Newark Jimmy" goes to the Rev. Al Sharpton. The Democratic presidential hopeful came to German's café in September to enjoy a turkey sandwich.

The "Dieter Meter Jimmy" goes to Jim Wolfe, the respected manager of DaimlerChrysler's Newark Assembly Plant. He is parting ways with Chrysler prez Dieter Zetsche to become the new Delaware State Chamber of Commerce president. While other auto plants closed, Wolfe has been the catalyst for unionmanagement cooperation that has lured good things (read Durango) to the Newark facility.

The "Who's On First Jimmy" goes to the Newark City Council. They're now holding the ball in their game with Newark landlords but I Don't Know is on deck.

The "You Made It This Far Jimmy" goes to you. "Thanx" for reading this 'column and this newspaper in 2003. I look forward to a prosperous and healthy new year for all of us in Newark.

When not professing that it is imperative for him to attend every holiday party in town, the writer is publisher of this and two other Delaware newspapers headquartered in Newark. The Streits have lived in the Cherry Hill neighborhood of Newark since 1992.



Gardener training begins March 9

► OUTLOOK, from 6

gram is important to teachers and their students in several ways.

Many teachers in the primary grades have not had extensive training in the sciences. It is difficult for them to find the time and resources to "bone up" on the latest developments in the sciences then to prepare and present lessons to supplement the standard curriculum. The Junior Gardener program allows more students and teachers to experience the scientific process and activities that make learning fun.

If you have called the university about a bug in your house or a sick plant in your yard, you probably ended up talking with a Master Gardener.

The members of The Garden Line consult with some 4,000 people a year by phone and email in helping them solve problems in pest management and get the most enjoyment from their lawns and gardens.

Often that 'advice includes a recommendation to attend a Master Gardener workshop,

well as a few time-based pieces using "random images that are at the same time designed." His most recent work, "Nature

People must have relationship with art, Meyer believes

of Nature," is part of a series of pieces based upon the idea of layering degrees of discovery and knowledge. As Meyer puts it, "[art becomes a thing of] dialogue with the viewer, the sense that everything you look at is a part of you."

The outdoor exhibited piece is a small aluminum table holding up a glass case containing an "encyclopedic book" lying on a layer of soil. Etched on the glass case are the words "You are part of the system you are trying to understand."

The idea behind placing the piece of art in a forest, so as to beg the question, 'Is it art when no one can see it?,' was something that Meyer found to be interesting.

"I've discovered that the answer is no," he said. "For something to be art, people have to have a relationship with it and view it based upon their own reality.

Meyer's "Nature of Nature" was shown at the Muse Gallery in Philadelphia in December.

where the learner comes away with a new set of skills and knowledge that have immediate and practical application. About 400 people attend these workothers.

shops annually and several hundred more hear Master Gardener presentations at meetings of area groups and organizations. Members of the Master

Gardener class of 2004 will serve apprenticeships with veteran volunteers to learn the ins and outs of preparing and presenting lessons for children and adults and dispensing accurate advice.

We're looking for people who

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like to learn and share their own store of practical gardening knowledge and newly learned science based information with

The training is intense - just ask any veteran of our program but it's more than worth it to know you'll make a difference in someone's life.

More information and applications are available at http://ag.udel.edu/ncc/mg/ or by calling 302-831-2506. The deadline to apply is Jan. 30, and training starts March 9.



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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

DELAWARE 40, COLGATE 0

Hens win first I-AA national crown

► HENS, from 9

road since downing Louisiana Tech 17-0 in the NCAA I-AA semifinals in 1982, a span of 113 games. During the Hens' fourgame playoff run, they outscored opponents 60-0 in the first quarter and never trailed.

ter and never trailed. Colgate (15-1), which was appearing in its first championship game, had a 21-game win streak snapped. The Raiders managed to cross midfield just three times and never got closer than the Blue Hen 20-yard line. Running back Jamaal Branch, the Walter Payton Award winner and the all-time leading single season rusher in I-AA history, was held to just 55 yards on 20 carries. Colgate quarterback Chris Brown completed just 9 of 21 passes for 94 yards.

Hall, a second-year transfer from Georgia Tech, completed 12 of 20 passes for 183 yards and two scores, both to Boler, who caught a five-yard toss on the first play of the second half to up the lead to 20-0 and caught a nine-yarder midway through the third quarter to up the lead to 27-0. Bennett's one-yard dive with 2:52 left in the third quarter and Jenkins' two-yard dive with 12:22 left were icing on the cake. Delaware piled up 348 total yards as Bennett, who set a UD single season record with 1,625 yards, rushed for 60 yards and Jenkins added 53 yards. Defensively, the Hens posted seven tackles for loss, including three sacks. "I tip my hat to our coaching

"I tip my hat to our coaching staff and the great job they did," said senior safety and co-captain Mike Adams, who posted a teamhigh nine tackles and broke up a pass. "This win is going to be talked about for hundreds of years. To go out on top with the people you have bled and sweated with, there's nothing better."

The theme of Delaware's playoff run has been score early, and score often. In its first three playoff games, Delaware had outscored its opponents 47-0 in the first quarter and 54-10 in the first half. More of that came against Colgate.

Delaware drove to midfield on its opening possession before punting. After Colgate failed to sustain a drive, Sidney Haugabrook returned the punt 19 yards to the Colgate 40. The Delaware offense took over from there, driving down the field on the arm of Hall.

Hall accounted for 37 yards in the air, connecting on passes to



PHOTO BY SCOTT MCALLISTER

Boler and Justin Long, the latter to Long, a 17-yarder after a brilliant scramble by Hall, placed the ball at the 3. The 60 yard, eightplay drive culminated in Jenkins' three-yard touchdown run. Brad Shushman converted the PAT and Delaware had a 7-0 lead with 7:29 to play in the first quarter.

Delaware forced a punt again on Colgate's next possession after the Raiders moved the chains once. This time, though, Haugabrook didn't get a chance to return the punt as a one-bounce snap resulted in a bad punt. The kick went just five yards, giving Delaware the ball at the Colgate 34.

On the first play, Hall found Boler for 22 yards down to the Colgate 12. After Hall was tackled for a three-yard loss on first down, he got loss on second down for 13 yards to set up firstand-goal. On first down, Bennett was stopped at the one-foot line, but on second down, he snuck around the right side for the touchdown. Shushman's PAT hit the left upright and the scored stayed at 13-0.

On the first play of Colgate's next series, the assault continued. Delaware's Dominic Santoli hit quarterback Brown, knocking the ball loose. The Blue Hens' Tom Parks jumped on the loose ball, giving Delaware the ball at Colgate 18.

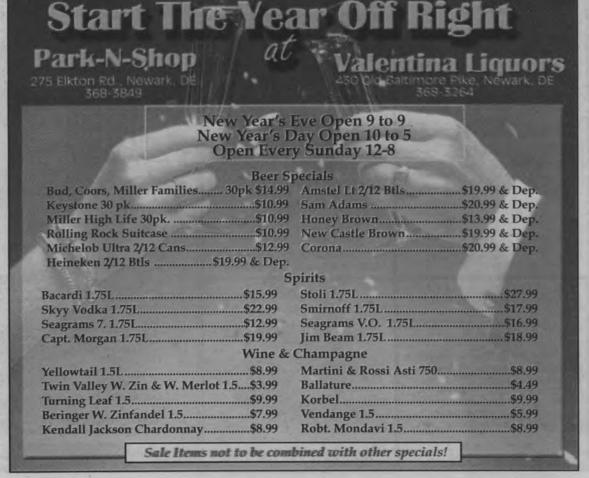
Two plays later, Hall rushed down the right sideline for 14 yards, giving Delaware first-andgoal at the Raiders' 4. After two running plays were stuffed, Hall found Boler on a quick slant for a five-yard touchdown. Shushman's PAT gave Delaware a 20-0 lead.

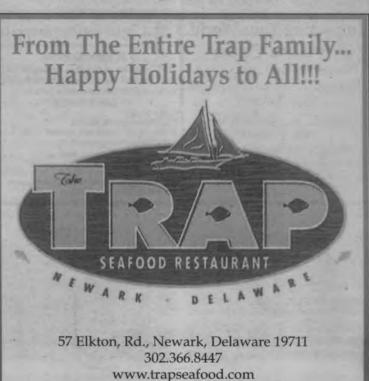
Colgate drove back down the field on its next possession. The Raiders got down to the Delaware 20 after a nine-yard run by Branch, which would be Colgate's deepest drive in the first three quarters. However, on fourth-and-two from the 20, SCHEDULE

9/6	CITADEL	W 41-7
9/13	RICHMOND	W 44-14
9/20	W. CHESTER	R W 49-7
9/27	at Hofstra	W 24-14
10/4	W&M	W 41-27
10/11	at UNH	W 22-21
10/18	R. ISLAND	W 55-10
10/25	at Navy	W 21-17
11/1	MAINE W	24-21 OT
11/8	at N'eastern	L 14-24
11/15	UMASS 1	W 51-45 OT
11/22	at Villanova	W 20-17
11/29	S. ILLINOIS	W 48-7
12/6	N. IOWA	W 37-7
12/13	WOFFORD	W 24-9
12/19	COLGATE	W 40-0

Delaware's Adams knocked a potential first down completion away from tight end John Freiser to end the threat.

"We are a very physical team and once we get rolling, things can snowball," said Keeler, who won his first national title as a head coach after losing five times in the NCAA III championship game as head coach at Rowan University. "We played that way tonight. This is a great win for the University of Delaware and very rewarding. We gave a group of special kids the opportunity to get that ring and they did it."





+33