

NEWARK POST

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UP FRONT

I find it amazing

By JIM STREIT

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

FRANKLY, I feel a bit strange authoring this "end of year" column on Dec. 22 for a newspaper with a Dec. 27 dateline. There's plenty of time between now and the first second of 2003 for new developments (or for my wife to discover that I spent some of the Christmas money on a new bumper for my Corvair).

Not wanting to lose their precious audiences, the TV networks hosted many of their end-of-year specials days before Christmas. Sunday, there was a special on CNN about Time magazine's whistle-blowing "Persons of the Year." The "Biography of the Year" was announced two weeks ago as was the top 2002 "True Hollywood Story" (Thank you, God. E! did not rebroadcast the "true" events leading to the John McEnroe-Tatum O'Neal split).

For many in our world, this has been a forgettable year (ask anyone with retirement accounts in the stock market), however, for me, 2002 can be described in one word — amazing. For example:

It's amazing to me... that DelDOT contractors actually did work "around the clock" this year on the world's most expensive pedestrian walkway. The Casho Mill Road tunnel project caused little inconvenience to those of us who must deal with this unusual traffic

See UP FRONT, 5



Streit

Newark minister cleared

Drug, suspended license charges against NUMC pastor dropped, traffic fine paid

By ERIC G. STARK

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

HARTFORD COUNTY, MD

THE WAIT to clear his name took longer than the actual case.

Rev. Bernard "Skip" Keels, the senior pastor at Newark United Methodist Church, looked relieved last Thursday as he stood in the hallway at the Hartford County District Courthouse, moments after the charge of cocaine possession

levied against him were dropped.

He had to pay out a \$110 fine, but appeared to get his reputation restored in the process.

Keels, 52, had been charged with possession of cocaine after a Sept. 8 incident in which Keels was involved in a traffic accident on I-95 in Hartford County, Md.

Maryland State Police officials pulled Keels over after he failed to control his speed to avoid an accident and said they searched him at the JFK State Police Barracks in Maryland

after they believed he had a suspended drivers license. Officials later said his license was never suspended.

When they searched Keels, police found he was carrying a small amount of cocaine, officials said. Keels said the cocaine was not his, but rather belonged to a person he



Rev. Keels

was providing outreach to, a person with a drug problem.

"The District Attorney found in speaking to his (state police) officers that Rev. Keels' story was true," Keels' attorney, Jeffrey Markowicz, from the law firm of Howard and Howard in Washington, DC, said last Thursday. "He was holding the drugs of someone he was ministering to."

"Once they saw his past record was clean, his driving record was clean, his drug tests were clean, it was a very simple

See PASTOR, 9

City police will appeal arbitration ruling

By ERIC G. STARK

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

The long, drawn out process for a new City of Newark Police contract will continue.

For a year and eight months the City of Newark Police Department has been operating on an expired contract, using the old contract while they were in the negotiations and later arbitration with the city.

On Monday, Dec. 16, in an arbitration hearing, the State of Delaware Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) ruled in

favor of the city, accepting the city's last, best and final offer.

"This is the end of the process the way it is setup now," Newark City Manager Carl Luft said. "We have gone through the process and now it is up to the FOP (Fraternal Order of Police) to accept or take to a court."

The Newark police plan on doing the latter.

Before filing an appeal to the Court of Chancery, the police made one last attempt to negoti-

ate with the city.



Members of the FOP met with Luft last Wednesday hoping to come up with a compromise. Their goal was to sit down with the city (Luft) and work out their problems and come up with a resolution.

At the meeting with Luft, the police presented him with an offer of resolution that would have the FOP accepting the state's arbitration ruling for two years already, one year counting the arbitration and adding a year

to it, if the city would accept the police's demands for retirement health care and worker's compensation. Agnor said Luft was not willing to award anything not awarded by the arbitrator.

Following the meeting, Newark Police Sgt. Bob Agnor, vice president of the FOP and the chief negotiator for the police in the contract talks, instructed the FOP's attorney to proceed with an appeal of the board's decision to the Court of Chancery.

"The vote was 2-1 against, however they (the board) all used different reasons, so there was no

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Calling it quits

Five city employees retire with combined 170 years of service

By ROBIN BROOMALL

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

TWO DAYS after Lee Gray graduated from Newark High School, he started working for the City of Newark.

That was 37 years ago. Except for a three-year stint with Uncle Sam in Korea and Germany, Gray has spent every year serving the citizens of the city in the electric department. He has never been late one day.

When there was a storm or power outage, Gray was

on the scene. Since 1973 he installed all metering equipment for commercial customers and created the metering standards for the city.

Gray joins four other city employees who will be retiring over the next two months. The five have a combined service of 170 years with the city.

Leroy Briscoe will retire in January after 27 years working in the water and waste department. He won't miss fixing water main breaks in the middle of the

night in sub-zero temperatures.

William "Hoppy" Hammond will spend his first warm winter in 32 years not behind a snow plow. Hammond has provided maintenance support for 31 Halloween parades, 31 Community Days, 26 Liberty Days, 17 Newark Nites, and hundreds of other special events and recreational programs.

Leroy Duker will leave the public works/refuse department after 35 years of

See RETIRE, 12



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY ROBIN BROOMALL

Five city employees will be retiring with a combined 170 years of service with the city. They include, from left, back row, Ernie Lewis, Lee Gray, and Leroy Briscoe, and, front row, Leroy Duker and William "Hoppy" Hammond.



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James B. Streit, Jr. is the publisher of the *Newark Post*. He sets policies and manages all departments in the Newark office. Call him at 737-0724.

Eric G. Stark is the news editor. He leads the day-to-day operation of the newsroom. Call him at 737-0724.

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

Kathy Burr is the office manager and editorial assistant who processes most press releases. She prepares obituaries and People briefs. She is assisted by **Ginni Buongiovanni**. Contact them at 737-0724.

Robin Broomall is a staff reporter. Reach her at 737-0724.

Phil Toman has been the paper's arts editor since 1969. Well-known in the arts community, he writes his weekly column from his Newark home. Leave messages for him at 737-0724.

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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.

Burglars steal Christmas gifts

NEW Castle County Police have arrested two suspects and charged them with burglary related offenses after they broke into a home and stole over \$1,000 worth of wrapped Christmas presents.

On Thursday, Dec. 12, at 11:30 a.m., county police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 100 block of Eastfield Drive in the community of Scottfield.

A citizen reported observing a white Oldsmobile Bravado parked on the street occupied by two suspects. Officers were told the pair was seen removing Christmas presents from the rear of the home.

Within moments, police arrived on the scene; however, the suspects had already fled. Fortunately, the witness obtained the Olds' tag number. Police dispatch personnel broadcast the suspect information to the other officers working in the county.

Police later contacted the homeowner who advised the missing gifts consisted of clothing, toys, jewelry and electronic equipment.

About one hour later, Officer Brian Taylor observed the vehicle and the two suspects in the community of Collins Park.

Taylor stopped the car and discovered a few of the victim's stolen Christmas presents inside. Officers later executed a search warrant at a home in Collins Park and recovered the remaining gifts.

Police have arrested Crystal Reed, an 18-year-old female who resides in the 300 block of Howell Drive in Collins Park, and Austin Govin, a 23-year-old man who resides in the 100 block of Council Circle in Newark. They were both charged with burglary, theft, and conspiracy, police reported.

Chestnut Hill Citizens Bank robbed

Delaware State Police detectives are investigating a bank robbery that occurred on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Citizens Bank at 40 Chestnut Hill Plaza.

At about 10:20 a.m., a white

male suspect entered the bank and provided a teller a note demanding money and implying he had a handgun.

The teller complied and the suspect fled on foot with an undisclosed amount of currency.

Police said the clerk was uninjured.

The suspect was described as a white male, 20 to 30 years old, six feet to six feet, two inches tall, weighing about 170 to 190 pounds, with blond hair, wearing a dark-colored jacket and dark knit ski cap.

Anyone with information about this crime is urged to contact Delaware State Police Troop 2 at 323-4411 or CrimeStoppers at 800-TIP-3333.

Blockbuster target of shoplifting

Two suspects are wanted in the shoplifting of eight X-box video games from Blockbuster in the College Square Shopping Center, on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4:55 p.m., according to Newark Police Department.

One suspect occupied the store clerk's attention by completing an application for membership, then opened the "in" door for the second suspect to exit with the games, valued at \$100. After fleeing from the store, they ran around the Sears store toward KFC and were both seen leaving the parking lot in what appeared to be a gray Buick Regal that was parked near Sears, police reported.

Both suspects are white males, approximately 20-21 years old, 5'9" to 5'10", 135 to 140 pounds, one with blond hair and the other with black hair, police said.

Gunman holds up beauty store

On Dec. 18 at 3:42 p.m. a man entered the Sally Beauty Supply store, located at College Square Shopping Center, Newark, and pointed a handgun at the clerk and demanded money from the register.

The employee complied and the suspect fled the store with the cash. He was last seen running toward Marrows Road. The employee was not injured.

The suspect is described as a white male, 40 to 50 years old, short white or gray hair, stubble on face, 5-foot-5 to 5-foot-7 in height with an average build. He was wearing a black baseball cap, a black, waist-length jacket, and dark-colored pants.

Anyone with information can call Detective Szep at 366-7110, ext. 133.

Newark man charged in underage rape

New Castle County Police have charged 28-year-old Christopher Nesbitt of the Harbor Club Apartments in Newark with one charge of rape after he had

sex with an underage girl.

County Police Detectives began investigating Nesbitt after receiving information that he had engaged in intercourse with a 15-year-old girl at his Harbor Club apartment. Nesbitt had been employed at the New Castle County Detention Center, where the victim had been an inmate.

Nesbitt has been charged with one count of Third Degree Rape, a felony after an investigation revealed that he had sex with the 15-year-old girl at his apartment in August of 2002.

Nesbitt was arraigned and committed to Gander Hill Prison after failing to post \$10,000 secured bail.

Two killed after car and train collide

Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal crash involving a train and a car in which two people were killed.

The crash happened early Friday morning at a railroad crossing on Rt. 72, Wrangle Hill Road, just south of Porter Road. At approximately 2:50 a.m. a 1996 Lexus 300 occupied by seven people was heading north on Rt. 72. For reasons that are still under investigation, the car drove on to the railroad crossing and was struck by a freight train traveling west. The train struck the right rear portion of the Lexus ripping open the passenger compartment.

Two people who were seated in the right rear of the car, where the impact occurred, were pronounced dead at the scene. They were identified as Nancy M. Williams, 26, of Dover and Neville Cole, 43, of Philadelphia, Pa. Troopers believed that Cole was sitting on Williams' lap when the crash happened.

The driver of the car was identified as Frank H. Issacs, 43, of Newark. His front seat passenger was Tabatha Brown, 28, of Dover. The surviving rear seat passengers were identified as Gary Richards, 38, Philadelphia, Pa., Myra Graham, 25, of Dover, and Ernest Simmons, 42, Philadelphia, Pa. Graham was

Blue lights to shine to honor and thank police

Since 1989 COPS (Concerns of Police Survivors) has promoted "Project Blue Light" during the holiday season. Each year thousands of blue lights shine nationwide to honor and remember those law enforcement officers who have given their lives in service to the profession.

The blue lights also thank police officers who continue

to provide law enforcement service each day of the year.

To date, 127 law enforcement officers have lost their lives in the line of duty during 2002.

During the holiday season, the Delaware chapter of COPS urges Delaware residents to show support for this project by displaying a blue porch light or a single blue light in the window of

seated on the lap of Richards when the crash occurred.

All five survivors in the car were transported to Christiana Hospital in Newark. Issacs and Brown were not treated. Richards, Graham and Simmons were treated for lacerations and contusions.

The freight train that was involved in the collision was heading to Indian River and was pulling 105 cars filled with coal. State police and investigators from Norfolk Southern Police Department believe the train was traveling at 20 miles per hour when the crash happened.

The train crossing was controlled with red flashing lights and an audible signal, both of which officials believe were functioning properly at the time of the crash.

Mother arrested in infant assault

New Castle County Police have arrested Denise Stine, a 23-year-old female who resides in the unit block of Ravenworth Court in Glasgow Pines in Newark.

Stine has been charged with felony assault in the second degree for an incident that allegedly occurred on Dec. 18.

At 4:55 p.m. police responded to A.I. Dupont Hospital in reference to an 8-month-old baby who was being treated for a broken left arm.

The investigation conducted by County Police Detectives revealed that at 3:30 a.m. on Dec. 18 the baby began crying. Stine responded to the baby's crib and allegedly snatched the baby out of its crib by grabbing its arms. Stine then put the baby back to sleep. When the baby woke up at 6:30 a.m., Stine noticed the baby's left arm was swollen at which time she sought medical treatment for the child.

Stine was arrested without incident and the baby was turned over to a family member. Stine was arraigned and released on \$3,000 unsecured bail and ordered by the court to have no contact with the child.

Clubs could be hit with higher alcohol fees

By ERIC G. STARK

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

THE WAY the ordinance is currently written for alcohol permits, private clubs are excluded from needing to purchase permits.

But this may change.

Currently there are two types of entities not covered under the ordinance, which takes effect next month and will have businesses paying a license fee to sell alcohol.

Two entities – charitable (non-profit by the IRS) and multiple activities (specific club memberships) are not covered in the ordinance. These types of places include the VFW, Aetna Hose, Hook and Ladder Fire Company, Elks, Lions Club, and Newark Country Club – public service

groups, but all based on charitable, rather than public consumption. Their doors are not always open to the public.

"I can't explain why it is not included," Newark City Manager Carl Luft said. "In the ordinance we specifically define restaurants. It's valid and something we don't want to jump into hastily, but is something that needs to be looked into. There's no reason that they weren't included."

"If it was missed, let's get amended," Ryan German, owner of the Main Street restaurant Caffé Gelato, said.

Currently there are 43 businesses covered by the ordinance, which was established to cover the \$215,000 to initiate the city's new Alcohol Beverage Control Program, and it will all be paid for by the increased business license

“If it was missed, let's get it amended.**”**

RYAN GERMAN

NEWARK RESTAURANT OWNER

fees. The most significant planned expenditure is the hiring, training and outfitting of three additional police officers to staff the program. The program will also require office equipment, radios, surveillance vehicles, and legal fees to prosecute violators.

Each year businesses are required to report their wholesale alcohol purchases and gross receipts. Gross receipts

are currently reported to the Delaware Division of Revenue. A series of five Alcohol Beverage Control Rates (ABCR) would be administratively set each year to generate revenue approximately equal to the cost of the Alcohol Beverage Control Program.

The average license fee for alcohol vendors could increase from \$680 to nearly \$5,000, but the fees could vary widely among businesses. George Sarris, the city's finance director said at a city council meeting in September. The fee will be collected quarterly, starting in April.

Sarris said a one-page application for the alcohol permit is due Jan. 15. Businesses must indicate wholesale purchases and also the gross retail receipts. From this it will be determined how much each

business will owe for the alcohol permit. Businesses can pay all at once or in four quarterly installments that must be paid in full by the end of 2003.

Sarris was not sure why private organizations were not included in the ordinance.

"We will discuss with city council that these organizations are not included," he said. We will send council a memo."

Luft said the city must keep moving forward. They need to take the steps to hire three officers by Jan. 1. These officers will then need to attend the Police Academy, which starts Feb. 1.

"We've got a commitment to move on that," Luft said. "Funding is the number one question. We're moving ahead with what's passed."

Brader students learn how to speak Chinese

By ROBIN BROOMALL

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

When the school bell rings, most kids can't get out the door fast enough. At Henry Brader Elementary School in Four Seasons, 25 students can't wait to get to their after school classes.

On Wednesday, Dec. 18, the first class of students to graduate from the after school Chinese Academy demonstrated to parents, grandparents and other classmates what they had been learning.

Under the direction of Joan Chien, the academy instructor, the group sang Chinese children's songs, played games, and repeated rhymes - all in Chinese.

At one point Chien taught the audience three Chinese words, after which there was a lively game of "rock, scissors, paper."

Students were then presented with the certificates of completion.

The 25 participants, all third and fourth graders, from non-Chinese speaking families and with no background or experience in Chinese, met two afternoons per week for seven weeks.

Except for three students missing one session each, there was 100 percent attendance.

The academy was initiated by a group of parents in the Brader neighborhood who approached Shuhan Wang, in the State Department of Education. Wang, responsible for world language programs in the state, had some funding available from a federal grant.

The program became a collab-

oration of the Chinese American Culture Center in Hockessin and Brader School.

"China is emerging as a world super-power moving to economic development," Wang said. "People see potential and the necessity for learning the Chinese language."

"This is the only elementary school in the state doing foreign language as a cultural experience," Margaret Sharp, school principal said. "They were provided with a background in a foreign language and the culture of a foreign country."

The class size was limited to 25 openings for third and fourth graders. More than 100 applications were received by the second day.

"We were overwhelmed with their response," Sharp said, "so we had to limit it to 2 students per classroom."

Chien, who is native speaking Chinese, has a masters degree in childhood education and teaching skills. She designed the curriculum to fit the knowledge and skill level of the children.

"I have been teaching Chinese in schools for years in New York and Delaware," Chien said, "but this is the first time for teaching all students who are all American and not from Chinese families."

"Chinese is not really hard, it just takes time to teach the school children," Chien added.

The language was learned by ear, which is good for children at this level, Chien said. They



NEWARK POST PHOTOS BY ROBIN BROOMALL

All 25 participants from Henry Brader School's first after school Chinese Academy proudly show their certificates of completion. Instructor Joan Chien taught the group Chinese songs, games, and conversation. Below, the students play a game of "scissors, paper, rock" spoken in Chinese.

focused on songs, games, and conversation. The learning content included counting, adding and multiplying, knowing the date, proper ways of greeting others, and knowing their own names in Chinese.

Fourth grader Deme Trachy, whose Chinese name is twa ew shu, never expected to be able to read Chinese so quickly.

"It's fun learning other numbers and words and getting to speak," Trachy said. "It wasn't that hard, just kinda hard."

Another participant, Tiffany Shaffer thought, "The hardest part was learning the date for each day in Chinese."

"It's absolutely wonderful," parent Debbie Holton said. "I wish there were more programs like this



See BRADER, 9 ►

Opinion

EDITORIALS COLUMNS • PAGES FROM THE PAST • LETTERS

PER CHANCE

More impressive than imagined

By **ELBERT CHANCE**

NEWARK POST COLUMNIST

HAVE you ever discovered that a friend you admire is even more impressive than you imagined?

I had that rewarding experience in recent weeks with a fellow member of our church choir.

I was aware that a long-time musical colleague, Lois Huggins, is a capable soprano who has been active in church and community affairs.

I have admired her lively wit and knowledge of current issues, and on several occasions when she missed rehearsals or a Sunday morning service, I overheard others speaking of her involvement in tennis. I assumed she and her husband enjoyed the game and were taking occasional trips to resorts where tennis was a part of the recreational package.

My journalistic curiosity was aroused, however, and I was determined to learn more about my friend, especially when she modestly resisted my attempts to seek the facts.

What I discovered is, I believe, worth sharing.

Ms. Huggins is an honors graduate of the University of Delaware who married shortly after her graduation.

She initially combined homemaking, teaching and coaching with community service. She was president of the PTA at the Pulaski School and at Kirk Middle School.

She was a charter member of the Mill Creek Hundred branch of the AAUW and became its treasurer and president.

Somewhat later, she was elected state vice president of the AAUW and two Named Gift Awards were presented to the Educational Foundation Program in her honor.

In 1984, continuing a life-long involvement in athletics, she completed a clinic sponsored by the Women's Tennis Club of New Castle County, and began to officiate at local matches.

By 1988 she had become Middle States Sectional chairman of Officials, a position



Chance

she still holds. She also is a member of the Middle States Board of Directors and the USTA National Officials Committee.

But Ms. Huggins' role in officiating extends far beyond the Mid-Atlantic region.

She is one of nine National Trainer-Evaluators for the U.S. Tennis Association, teaches classes for officials throughout the nation, and evaluates their performances in tournaments.

Even more impressive is her status as one of 41 silver badge chief umpires in the world who have been certified by the International Tennis Federation headquartered in London. Only eight of these highly qualified officials are Americans.

Ms. Huggins has done chairs or lines for many major tournaments, among them the U.S. Open in New York and the Lipton (now NADSAQ) championship in Key Biscayne, Florida. She is Chief Umpire for the \$50,000 USTA Challenger Events, and has been Chief Umpire for the Advanta championships in Villanova and for a recent Men's Professional tournament at the Spectrum in Philadelphia.

Not surprisingly, she was inducted into the Delaware Tennis Hall of Fame in May 2002.

Ms. Huggins is also a qualified high school and college swimming and diving official, and has worked meets for the University of Delaware, Washington College, and Franklin and Marshall.

She was the first and only woman to serve as referee for the Delaware State High School Swimming Championships.

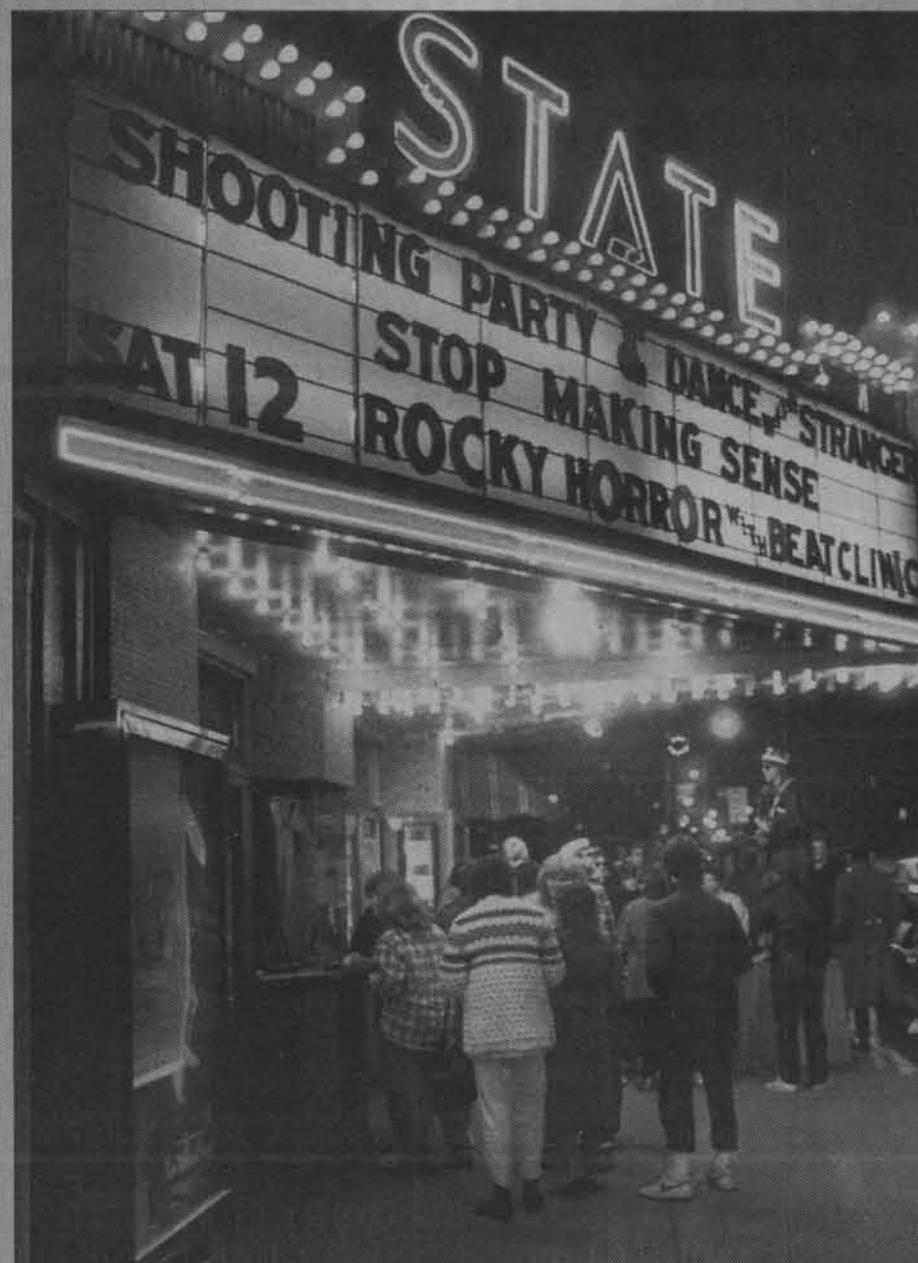
A participant as well as an official, Ms. Huggins is a member of a 4.5 USTA league team and the Brandywine Racket Club's interclub team.

Her daughters, Kim and Sandie, carry on the family's athletic tradition. Kim is a volleyball coach and heads the guidance department at Christiana High School. Sandie chairs the Middletown Middle School mathematics department and coaches the Middletown High School swimming team.

■ *The author, when not on the golf course, retired this year as the public address announcer at University of Delaware home football games, a job he had done for five decades. Chance is a longtime Newark resident. He has been a Newark Post columnist since 1992.*

It is our mission to inform readers of local government activity that touches the lives of the citizens it serves; to celebrate the freedom of speech granted all of us by the Founding Fathers of our Constitution by publishing letters of opinion and matters of record; and, most importantly, to offer news of people, places and events that chronicles the Greater Newark community.

OUT OF THE ATTIC



We received calls about the State Theater photo that appeared in this space recently. This week, "Out of the Attic" features another photograph of the Main Street landmark, this one from the 1980s. The State was known throughout the tri-state region for its late-night showings of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," as advertised in the marquee in this photo. "Out of the Attic" features historic photographs from Newark's history, recent and long ago. 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 information, 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

■ Dec. 28, 1927 Community joins in reviving custom of Christmas caroling

Despite the cold, over 150 people gathered under the lighted community Christmas tree, in front of the Old Academy, last Saturday night to sing Christmas carols. Thus an old Newark custom, which had lapsed for one year, was revived.

After the crowd had sung the favorite Christmas carols several times, it dispersed and many followed the



"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.

Continental Band, which marched about the town playing until the small hours of Christmas morning.

Given Christmas treat

On Friday evening the guests at the Red Men's Fraternal Home of Delaware were made merry when several members of Mineola Council, No. 17, Degree of Pocahontas visited them. A beautiful Christmas tree was placed in the center of the living room and it brought back pleasant memories to the old folks when several little

See PAGES, 5 ▶

AN INTERNAL PERSPECTIVE

Different people, different meanings

By APRIL SMITH

NEWARK POST COLUMNIST

HOORAY! It's Christmas time! Yep, sorry to admit it everyone, I am one of those cheesy individuals who strolls around in a daze during the holiday season, staring at the Christmas lights and making hot chocolate while wrapping gifts.

I guess you could say there is a little bit of Martha Stewart in me around the holidays (the old Martha Stewart, though, whose only true crime was not giving her domestic staff credit for the cleaning and cooking she supposedly was always doing).

I think most of my spirit comes from my childhood. I have many fabulous memories of Christmas back home in Maine. I remember every year, about a week before Christmas my mother, brother, aunts and cousins would pile into a car (a really big car as you can imagine) and go ride around looking at the way people were decorating their

houses for Christmas.

I remember the laughs we would get out of the Charles' house on Main Street, who had a slight obsession with huge plastic figurines such as Frosty, Rudolph and even Mary and baby Jesus in the manger.

I'll never forget the year I saw that ad posted in the local newspaper reading:

"To Whomever stole the baby Jesus off our lawn last year: Now you've ruined Christmas for all the little children who look forward to seeing our Christmas decorations each year. We hope you are happy and enjoy baby Jesus as much as we did."

That was so funny.

I guess eventually the Charles family splurged and went to Wal-Mart for another Baby Jesus because their lawn still serves as a point of hysterical laughter for our family around Christmas.

Don't get me wrong, the Charles family are a great bunch, five kids, one of whom I went from kindergarten to high school

graduation with. They just enjoy their holiday decorating and there is nothing wrong with that.

There was another house in the next town that was situated on an island in a small river.

They, much like the Charles', had a tendency to get a little Christmas light-happy and go a bit overboard when it came to Christmas decorations.

Anytime my family and I would drive by that house during the holiday season we would sing "Co-Ney Island..." It was great.

Christmas morning was really great, too. Opening gifts, having my uncle and his German wife come over for Christmas dinner.

My uncle and his wife are great. My uncle "Tinker" has a slight resemblance to Santa



Smith

Claus, because he has a rather round belly, like a bowl full of jelly...

My Aunt "Lottie" has been living in the U.S. for 40 years, but still has a German accent that is stronger than the eggnog cocktail she will pour you.

So you see, my Christmas spirit comes from my family and all of our little traditions.

That's what Christmas is really about, you know, spending time with your family.

That's why Coney Island and a plastic baby Jesus mean a lot to me and probably nothing to you.

At least I sincerely hope they mean nothing to you...

Happy Holidays everyone!

► UPFRONT, from 1

obstruction every day.

(I smile every time I hear "working around the clock." It brings to mind that hilarious scene from "Police Story," the short-lived Leslie Nielsen TV series that preceded his "Naked Gun" cinematic exploits. In the squad room, Lt. Dribben tells a caller "I have men working around the clock on that" while O.J. Simpson and other actors mill around a giant wall clock pretending to be busy.)

DelDOT similarly handled the Library Avenue refurbishing in the

promised timely fashion.

It's amazing to me... Y2K was only three years ago.

Maybe it's me but doesn't 1999 seem like it was a lifetime ago? I can't believe there's only a quarter-inch of dust gathered atop the Honda generator I bought to ring in the new millennium, just in case the City of Newark let me down. The best thing about Y2K, though, is that I have a lifetime supply of flashlights, more than I could ever misplace in a century.

It's amazing to me... that a year ago outlawing smoking

See UP FRONT, 7 ►

Diphtheria scare in 1927

► PAGES, from 4

papooses danced merrily around the tree to the tune of "O Christmas Tree"

State Board Of Health fighting Diphtheria

Deputy State Health Commissioner for New Castle County and secretary of the Newark Board of Health, has issued a plea for the use of preventative measures in making the children of this community immune from diphtheria, and has arranged for the showing of a film showing the administration of the anti-diphtheria serum and its effectiveness in preventing the disease. All parents in Newark are urged to see the picture.

■ Dec. 31, 1980

New Castle County art studios to hold open house

On Saturday, Jan. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Art Studio of the New Castle County Department of Parks & Recreation will hold an Open House. The program will be free and open to the public.

Taylor paintings exhibited

Pointer E. Romney Taylor will bring her new exhibit "Street Lights" to Delaware's Gallery 20 from Jan. 9 through Jan. 26. Ms. Taylor will talk informally about

her work and her process.

■ Dec. 27, 1996

The more the merrier, say Newark police

Officers from the Newark Police Department had an easy assignment this week when they escorted Santa Claus through local communities to deliver toys.

Children selected by neighborhood coordinators lined up to receive a gift, meet Santa and explore a fire engine—all courtesy of the Newark police and fire personnel.

Seniors project okayed

Newark's city council has given their approval to a senior residential community and health center to be built next to the Newark Senior Center on Whitechapel Drive.

Raymond Becker, senior vice-president of developers Venture Care, presented plans to council on Dec. 16 for the proposed community between Marrows Road and the senior center to be called "Whitechapel Village."

Traffic signalization plan delayed again

Newark officials were dismayed this month to learn that a long-promised project to synchronize traffic signals throughout the community has been delayed once again.

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OUTLOOK

60-second holiday stress busters

By MARIA PIPPIDIS

SPECIAL TO THE NEWARK POST

STRESS seems to be part of the holiday season as we try to finish tasks and prepare for family. But, it doesn't have to be uncontrollable.

Many of us know the warning signs of stress: headaches, tight neck and shoulders, sleeping or eating difficulties, and being easily up-set. And we know if we feel bored, lonely, resentful, or tense,

we may be having difficulty handling the stressors of our life.



Pippidis

It isn't necessarily the amount of stress in life that causes these symptoms, but how we deal with them. By having a more optimistic outlook and having good emotional support, we can greatly reduce our perception of stress. Changing attitude and location can really help us enjoy the holiday. Try these sixty-second stress busters.

■ Do something physical. Run, jump, play, or try twisting a towel.

■ Be kind to yourself. Read a joke or something inspirational. Listen to some uplifting holiday music or savor a favorite holiday treat without guilt. Close your eyes and just take a sixty-second break.

■ Find a quiet corner and remember a favorite holiday memory.

■ Breathe! Just a few deep-cleansing breaths can do wonders for keeping your cool.

■ Tighten up. Tense and then relax different muscles throughout your body for a tingly, relaxed feeling.

■ Make a worry list. Each time you feel stressed, write down your worry. After the

See **OUTLOOK**, 7 ▶

NCCL expands building

Foundations fund expansion of 32-year-old co-op school

By ROBIN BROOMALL

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

PLENTY of room to move around now - that's what sixth grader Jasmine Cutler likes about her new classroom space.

The Newark Center For Creative Learning, located on Phillips Avenue in Newark, recently increased their classroom space by 20 percent with a 1,000-square-foot addition.

The additional classroom space houses the fifth and sixth grade classes. There are 24 students currently in these two grades.

"Before we could sit only with our knees squished together and it was hard to move around," Cutler said. "We can stretch out now and it makes it easier to study."

Funding for the \$200,000 construction project came from the Longwood and Welfare foundations.

Builder Randy Olney, of Olney Construction, Newark, and designer Susan Schwab, of Architectural Interiors, Wilmington, worked with the teachers to design the type of space suitable to their needs.

From the outside you won't see the new addition because it



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY ROBIN BROOMALL

There's plenty of elbow room now for fifth graders (from left), Hannah Kaplan, Shana Mattes, and Cristina Cruz, to do research for class projects on the computers at the Newark Center For Creative Learning.

was built inside the U-shaped structure, replacing some playground space.

Construction took place over the summer months from June to the opening of school this fall.

Sixth grade teacher, Marilyn Magnane, who has been at the school since it began 32 years ago, said they made do with the old situation, but the additional space allows more flexibility.

"Our science and math classes are more efficient," Magnane said. "We can do more in-depth projects and not have to put everything away all the time."

"No more shared space," she

added.

Expansion of the building does not mean expansion of the student body.

"We plan to keep the number of students small," Paula Hines, Spanish teacher and school administrator, said, "so we can provide individual attention to focus on students' strengths and needs."

NCCL is a small, parent-cooperative school with an enrollment of 91 students from ages five to 14 years, with a student-teacher ratio of 11 to one.

Founded in 1971, the Center was originally housed in an old

fraternity house on the corner of West Park and Indian Road. That building was razed and a new church has since been built there. In spring 1975, the new school building on Phillips Ave. was opened.

"We might have a new building, and we've moved around," David Scott, parent and chair of the public relations committee, said, "but we still maintain the dedication of the staff and parents."

"We once had a reputation of being a hippy school," Scott

See **NCCL**, 7 ▶

STARK RAVING

It's easier when you don't stress about gifts

By ERIC G. STARK

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

Well, have you recovered from Christmas yet? Were you happy with all the presents you received? Did everyone like the gifts you gave to them?

I guess it is a sign of getting older, maturing, but I really get more satisfaction from someone enjoying the gift I gave them, as opposed to what others give me. Now, don't get me wrong, I enjoy a good gift like the next guy.

Basically, I like anything free, but I don't expect things anymore.

As a child I made a list and then had to have, even expected, everything on my list to be given to me. I was disappointed when particular items were missing. Now I really don't care. Whatever people get me is a bonus. My two younger brothers still haven't grasped this yet. It has become a holiday tradition for one of them to sulk about the wrong pair of shoes being purchased, or why wasn't a certain compact disk (A CD for our hip-

per readers) placed as a stocking stuffer?

I have long since grown out of sulking on Christmas (all-right, it's only been a few years). If I don't receive something on my list I just buy the item the day after Christmas, when all the really good sales take place. I will let



Stark

you in on my little secret but don't tell my family - I usually only start my Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve.

There are three reasons. First, most people have their gifts bought before this and the parking lots and malls are not nearly so congested.

Secondly, I am so used to having deadlines at the newspaper I have to give myself a deadline with gift buying, too. I take my list, which has at least one item from the lists my family members put together for themselves

See **RAVING**, 7 ▶

'It's amazing to me...'

► **UPFRONT, from 5**

everywhere but in the privacy of your bedroom seemed a long shot a best.

I suspect budget woes next year will outshine the halo Gov. Minner wore when she signed the smoking-ban legislation. (I don't smoke but I still miss those Benson & Hedges TV commercials.)

It's amazing to me... that I like smoke-free bars and restaurants so much. I was okay with the way things were.

Speaking of controversial legislation, **it's amazing to me...** that the Newark City Council, goosed along by Mayor Hal Godwin and his Alcohol Commission, in a few months passed signifi-

cant alcohol reform ordinances. He made some enemies along the way but Godwin never can be accused of being a "do nothing" mayor. A year ago, there was talk. Today, there are \$5,000 license fees.

It's amazing to me... how some politicians lose touch with reality. How stupid must one be to utter (with TV cameras rolling) Trent Lott's take on Strom Thurmond's failed presidential bid? Or maintain Tom Gordon's unwavering loyalty to protégé-and-hatchetwoman Sherry Freebery, even when it costs him his political future?

It's amazing to me... how people get so jacked up over parking. My life is too short to worry about

having to drive around the block a second time or walk a few extra feet (things few complained about after stalking a parking spot last week at the Christiana Mall).

It's amazing to me... that Christina School District superintendent Nick Fischer took the bullet when the real target should be the goofy district configuration.

The one thing most everybody agreed on during the "should-he-stay-or-should-he-go" fiasco this fall is that Christina's largest problems lay in its geography.

Maybe it's time to put pressure on the legislature that gave us the inane Neighborhood Schools Bill (without the funds to build schools in the neigh-

borhoods).

It's amazing to me... that I never cease to surprise myself.

For 51-plus years, I mouthed off that I hate any activity that makes me sweat.

Family and friends have encouraged a "change of lifestyle" for years. Then, Mayor Godwin's "brush with disaster" medical experiences last summer inspired me to action.

Hal and I are about the same age, same build, and same lifestyle. It was time for me to start cleaning up my act instead of merely intending to.

My 18-year-old son, Tyler, detected a window of opportunity and lured me to High Energy The Gym on Chapel Street,

where he works.

Even though I'm still the fattest, slowest and wimpiest in the building, I do feel better, in general and about myself.

It's amazing to me... how the dingy, dark (I thought) Newark Free Library this year has been transformed into the bright, stimulating information mecca it surely will become when it reopens early next month. It's wonderful what money can do.

It's amazing to me... how every new year offers each of us a fresh start, an opportunity to start over or move ahead on delayed projects and goals.

Two-thousand-two was a good year for me and my family. I wish the same for you and yours in 2003.

NCCL expands

► **NCCL, from 6**

said, referring to the flexible, child-centered, activity-based curriculum.

"People think that if you don't have desks, you're not going to fit into the corporate world," he noted.

"The school has been here for over 30 years, run by dedicated people, with two teachers here since the beginning," Scott said. "It's such a positive mark to the school, it's endurance, the belief in the parents and the staff of the type of school as an alternative for their kids."

► **OUTLOOK, from 6**

holidays are over, read each worry and divide them into two piles: one for worries that came true and one for those that didn't. Which pile is bigger? Try to remember these for next year so that you don't start out the next season being stressed.

- Call or e-mail a friend you've been meaning to talk to.
 - Make yourself a cup of tea and sit quietly by your tree.
 - Read a favorite holiday story like, "Twas the Night Before Christmas."
 - Spend some time at the park enjoying the winter season.
- Finding a few moments for yourself can really help you reduce stress and further enjoy your holidays.

I am maturing with each Christmas

► **RAVING, from 6**

and I go to the shopping mall. With an early deadline because the malls do not stay open as long because it is Christmas Eve, I have less time to debate and over think about my purchases (and this is a good thing). My motto is: Get it and keep moving.

My third reason for waiting until the last day to start my shopping is because of all the bargains. My relatives think they are getting expensive gifts, but actually I purchased them at 40 percent off. Stores practically give me items just to get rid of their

inventory. You see, by waiting until the last day, I get expensive gifts cheap. The department store clerks are very kind and helpful (probably because they know they get the next day off, and any extra cheer they have for the customers they use up on me).

So there is a bit of deception going on; my family believes they are getting expensive gifts when I paid very little. Now there's some holiday cheer for you.

Speaking of cheer, I was thinking back about some of the gifts I received at past Christmas' and I started to laugh. One of the gifts I enjoyed the most as a child was the football I received from Santa Claus. I remember diving around the living room catching the ball, pretending I was Philadelphia

Eagle receiver Harold Carmichael. The football was autographed by a Hall of Fame football player. The player was OJ Simpson.

Believe it or not, OJ actually played football before doing Hertz commercials and spending time in court denying he has anger management issues. I still have the football, but the autograph is a bit smudged, much like OJ's reputation.

Now, receiving clothes and CDs gain my fancy more than toys, another sign I am getting

older, I guess.

Also I have learned, the older you get, the more expensive the toys.

Trash pickup changes

With the New Year's Day holiday, there will be no bulk collections during the week of Dec. 30, 2002.

For questions, call the Public Works Department at 366-7045.

Solution to The Post Stumper on Page 9.

BAD	ASCAP	FALA	FORTE
EYE	SHORED	IRIS	AMAH
BLEAK	HOUSE	DRESS	TETRA
EARL	STOLE	PUP	ION
AIM	FADE	MEADOW	
THE	SCARLET	LETTERMAN	
HUT	ETHAN	BOO	TIARA
ELAM	ORDERS	BEG	SLID
MALES	DINE	ARNE	ITA
SUB	NOVA	GIAN	SAM
THE	JUNGLE	BOOKWORM	
BAR	DOPE	ALAR	SCI
ABU	ERTE	ETNA	HOVEL
DESS	NOO	BREATH	TIDE
ELTON	EAR	TOBEY	LEN
WAR	AND	PEACE	MOVEMENT
HORACE	BASH	AWE	
FUR	EGO	TUNED	APSO
ENTER	THE	TINDRUM	STICK
ACHOO	AIDA	GASKET	TOA
RHYME	ROOM	KEENE	STY

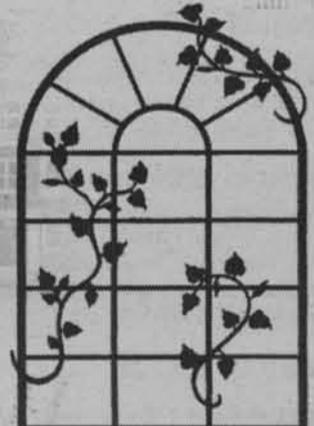
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Diversions

THEATRE • EVENTS • EXHIBITS • NIGHTLIFE • MEETINGS

FRIDAY

27

CHRISTMAS IN REHOBOTH Through Jan. 2. Enjoy the avenue of lights, with many types of light displays.

LONGWOOD GARDENS CHRISTMAS Through Jan. 5. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. thousands of flowers flourishing inside heated glass houses, carillon concerts, organ sing-alongs, choral performances, strolling Yuletide Singers, musical fountain displays, and 400,000 tiny lights twinkling in the evening skies at Longwood

Gardens.

FAIRIES, BROWNIES, AND TROLLS: IMAGES OF FANTASY AND MAGIC Through Jan. 5. Enchanting exhibition that captures the wonder of American fairy tales and folklore at Brandywine River Museum. Info., 610-388-2700.

ENCHANTED WOODS Through tomorrow. Holiday lights and special Yuletide celebrations at Winterthur, An American Country Estate. Info., 800-448-3883.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS Through Jan. 15. Fifty of the largest trees throughout Rockwood Mansion Park will be lit with nearly one million lights from dusk to 10 p.m. Holiday carolers will perform every Friday from 6-9 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7 from 6-8 p.m., and every Sunday from 6-8 p.m. Info., 761-4340

A BRANDYWINE CHRISTMAS Through Jan. 5. Sights and sounds of the holidays at the Brandywine River Museum on US Route 1 in Chadds Ford, Pa., Info., 610-388-2700.

AT HOME WITH HOMER Through Jan. 26, 2003. Exhibition of more than 30 works by Winslow Homer portraying America's social and political life between 1857 and 1875 at the Delaware Art Museum Downtown Gallery, 919 Market Street.

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES Through Tuesday. Vignettes drawn from L. M. Montgomery's classic book in the Wilson-Warner House at Historic Houses of Odessa. Catered breakfast, lunch, dinner, and dessert tea available for group tours. For more information, call 378-4020.

YULETIDE AT WINTERTHUR Through January 5. Discover the origins of some of the holiday decorations and customs that Americans hold most dear at Winterthur Museum & Gardens. For more information, call 800-448-3883.

THE GRANDEUR OF VICEREGAL MEXICO: TREASURERS FROM THE MUSEO FRANZ MAYER Through Jan. 12. Decorative and fine arts that express the rich artistic heritage of Mexico at Winterthur. Info., 800-448-3883.

18TH CENTURY Through January 12. Examples of samplers, silk-work pictures, and lacework made by colonial schoolgirls will be featured in a new exhibition at Winterthur. Admission to the exhibit is included with tickets to Winterthur. Info., call 888-4600.

TRADITIONS IN ELEGANCE Through Thursday. 100 rare and



Longwood Gardens, located near Kennett Square, Pa., celebrates with a holiday spectacle considered "the best Christmas display in the world" by London's Financial Times. The display runs through Jan. 5. Thousands of poinsettias, towering trees, flowers, and exotic plants fill four acres of gardens inside Longwood's heated Conservatory. For information, call 610-388-1000.

unique 18th and 19th century teapots from the internationally acclaimed Twinings Teapot Gallery at the Norwich Castle Museum in England in The Carriage House Gallery in Cape May, N.J. Info., 609-884-5404.

SHARED VOICES Through Jan. 5. Modern Gay Literature exhibit at the Morris Library, South College Ave. Info., 831-2231.

SPINELESS WONDERS: BUGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD Through Jan. 5. Exhibit at The Delaware Museum of Natural History. For more information, call 658-9111.

THE GIFT OF MAGI Through Sunday. Musical for the whole family at the Delaware Theatre Company in Wilmington. Tickets and times, 594-1100.

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER Through Sunday. One act play telling this humorous and sometimes poignant story at Candlelight Music Dinner Theater in Ardentown. For reservations and information, call 475-2313.

NUNCRACKERS: THE NUNSENSE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL Through Sunday. Hysterical musical at Candlelight Music Dinner Theater in Ardentown. For reservations and information, call 475-2313.

HOLIDAYS AT WHEATON VILLAGE Through Jan. 5. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. decorations, special exhibitions and activities related to the holiday season. Closed Christmas day and New Years day. Info., 856-825-6800.

HOLIDAY CABARET Through Sunday. Music and comedy at the Baby Grand, 818 Market St., Wilmington. Tickets and times, 800-37-GRAND.

SATURDAY

28

LUNCHBOX 7 p.m. down home back porch blues at Home Grown Cafe' & Gourmet to Go, 126 Main Street, no cover. Info., 266-6993.

SATURDAY TOURS 10 and 11 a.m. Tours on varying exhibits at Delaware Art Museum, Kentmere Pkwy, Wilmington. Free. Info., 571-0220.

DOO WOP REUNION 8 p.m. music and vocal harmonies of the stars on Richard Nader's Doo Wop Reunion Tour at The Grand Opera

House, 818 N. Market St. Info and tickets, 652-5577.

TUESDAY

31

NEW YEARS EVE WITH FRIENDS DANCE 2-4:30 p.m. dance to the music of D.J. Paul Kessler at Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Dr. \$6. Info., 737-2336.

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION 6-9 p.m. fun, family-oriented indoor event at Iron Hill Community Church, 11 Parkway Circle, New Castle. Info., 325-0430.

DINNER TRAIN 6:30 p.m. Ride a restored 1929 Pennsylvania Railcar on Wilmington &

Western Railroad to restaurant in Red Clay Valley. \$39 per person. Reservations required. 998-1930.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

STARVING FOR ART 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. Thursday lunch tours at the Delaware Art Museum, Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington. Adults \$7, seniors \$5, students \$2.50, children 6 and under, free. Reservations requested. 571-9590, ext. 538.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

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

PWP CHRISTMAS DANCE 8:30 p.m. Newcomers orientation, 7:30 p.m. Parents Without Partners Dance with DJ at Nur Temple, Rts. 13 and 40, New Castle. Open to ages 21 and over. Admission \$7. 998-3115, ext. 1.

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

MEN'S BREAKFAST 7:30 a.m. every Saturday morning at Greater Grace Church, 30 Blue Hen Dr. \$5 donation goes to missions. Info., 738-1530.

DIVORCECARE 1-3 p.m. Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays. Separated/divorced persons meet at Praise Assembly, 1421 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark. All welcome. Info., 737-5040.

MONDAY, DEC. 30

JAZZERCIZE Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Drive. Info., 737-2336.

CHORUS OF BRANDYWINE 7:30 p.m. every Monday. Men's barber-shop rehearsals at MBNA Bowman Conference Center, Oglethorpe. All are welcome. 655-SING.

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. For information or to register, call 658-5177, ext. 260.

LINE DANCING 1 and 2:30 p.m. every Monday at Newark Senior Center. 737-2336.

SCOTTISH DANCING 8 p.m. Mondays at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, South College Avenue, Newark. For information, call 368-

MEETINGS

2318. **NEWARK ROTARY CLUB** 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. every Monday at the Holiday Inn, Route 273, 453-8853.

NCCo STROKE CLUB noon on Mondays at the Jewish Community Center, Talleyville. For information, call Nancy Traub at 324-4444.

TUESDAY, DEC. 31

SWEET ADELINES 7:30 - 10 p.m. Singing group meets Tuesdays at MBNA Bowman Center, Route 4, Newark. Listeners and new members welcome. Info, 999-8310.

OPEN MIKE/SLAM 8-10 p.m. Poetry reading/competition at Art House, 132 E. Delaware Ave., Newark, \$2. 266-7266.

SCRAPBOOKING 7-9 p.m. at Glasgow Reformed Presbyterian Church, Summit Bridge Road, Glasgow. Nursery, \$2/child. Info, call 834-GRPC.

MS SUPPORT 4-6 p.m. at MS Society Headquarters, 2 Mill Road, Wilmington. Info, call 655-5610.

SIMPLY JAZZERCIZE 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9 a.m. Wednesdays. Low impact fitness program at Newark Senior Center. Call 737-2336 to register.

EATING DISORDER 7 to 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.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

EVENING YOGA CLASS 6:15 p.m. class to support strength, balance,

and peace of mind at Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Drive. Info., 737-2336.

LINE DANCE CLASS Mondays and Thursdays at the Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Dr., Info., 737-2336.

BLUEGRASS/OLDTIME JAM 7:30-10 p.m. Thursdays at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, South College Avenue. Any skill level welcome. Bring your own instrument.

YOUNG ADULT DEPRESSION 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. Support group sponsored by Mental Health Association in Delaware for ages 18-26. Free. To protect privacy of members, meeting locations provided only with registration at 765-9740.

DIVORCECARE 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. Separated/divorced persons meet at Southern Chester County YMCA, East Baltimore Pike, Jennersville, Pa. Childcare available; ages 7 and up can swim. 610-869-2140.

NEWARK POST ❖ THE POST STUMPER

- ACROSS**
- 1 "One — Apple" ('71 song)
 - 4 Broadway org.
 - 9 Presidential pooch
 - 13 Loudly, to Liszt
 - 18 Spud bud
 - 19 Propped (up)
 - 21 Author Murdoch
 - 22 Menotti title character
 - 23 Over-laundered mummy?
 - 26 Aquarium fish
 - 27 Viscout's better
 - 28 Walked off with
 - 29 Baby beagle
 - 31 Noun suffix
 - 32 Objective
 - 35 Lose luster
 - 38 One of the Sopranos
 - 41 Embarrassed late-night host?
 - 48 Humble abode
 - 49 Hawke of "Training Day"
 - 50 Start to cry?
 - 51 Pageant prop
 - 54 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
 - 58 Dicta
 - 59 Seek change?
 - 62 Coasted
 - 63 Cock and bull
 - 65 Sup in style
 - 66 "Rule Britannia" composer
 - 68 Call — day
 - 69 Fill in
 - 71 — Scotia
 - 73 Sculptor Bernini
 - 74 Snead or Spiegel
 - 75 Tarzan the Studious?
 - 80 Ingot
 - 82 Airhead
 - 83 Fruit-tree spray
 - 84 Biol. or chem.
 - 85 — Dhabi
 - 86 Art deco designer
 - 87 Sicilian volcano
 - 89 Humble abode
 - 93 Gershwin heroine
 - 95 Wordless greeting
 - 96 "Every — You Take" ('83 hit)
 - 98 Cheer competitor
 - 99 Singer John
 - 101 Organ of equilibrium
 - 103 Maguire of "Spider-Man"
 - 106 Singer Barry
 - 107 Undecided activists?
 - 113 Roman writer
 - 114 Hit hard
 - 115 Reverence
 - 116 It may be fake
 - 117 Author Umberto
 - 119 Adjusted an Amati
 - 123 Lhasa —
 - 127 Come in
 - 130 Good source of minerals?
 - 135 Cold sound
 - 136 "Ritoma vincitor" singer
 - 137 Piston packing
 - 138 Shelley's "Sklark"
 - 139 Verify
 - 140 Inn offering
 - 141 New Hampshire campus
 - 142 Hog heaven?
- DOWN**
- 1 Actress
 - 2 Auel heroine
 - 3 Forest beauty
 - 4 Request
 - 5 "Quiet!"
 - 6 Dove sounds
 - 7 In — (bored)
 - 8 Cuban currency
 - 9 Evergreen tree
 - 10 Exist
 - 11 Speech problem
 - 12 Take for granted
 - 13 Too big for one's breeches?
 - 14 Doolittle's digs
 - 15 Type of philosophy
 - 16 Hurl
 - 17 Panache
 - 20 Dutch pottery
 - 24 Sitka's st.
 - 25 Work in Vegas
 - 30 By means of
 - 33 Cover the cake
 - 34 Wrestling surface
 - 36 Labor leader Eugene
 - 37 WWII area
 - 39 Qty.
 - 40 Emcee's site
 - 41 '54 James Amess film
 - 42 A shake in the grass?
 - 43 List ender
 - 44 Pi follower
 - 45 Cooking fat
 - 46 Close
 - 47 Trinidad's neighbor
 - 52 Moreno or Hayworth
 - 53 Inspector Daigliesh
 - 55 Engage, as gears
 - 57 — Gay"
 - 58 Party animal
 - 60 Palladino of "ER"
 - 61 Behaves like a beaver
 - 64 Kid stuff?
 - 67 Methuselah's dad
 - 70 Borg or Ulvaeus
 - 72 Subside
 - 75 Reliable
 - 76 As many as
 - 77 Essential
 - 78 Elaborate
 - 79 Brilliant display
 - 80 Movie piglet
 - 81 Explorer Tasman
 - 88 Energy source
 - 90 Offensive
 - 91 Churchill's successor
 - 92 Time to give up
 - 94 Head for the clouds
 - 96 La — Tar Pits
 - 97 "Six Feet Under" network
 - 100 Pro-gun grp.
 - 102 PD alert
 - 104 — Marie Saint
 - 105 Evergreen tree
 - 106 Expert
 - 109 The gods guzzle it
 - 110 — Spumante
 - 111 Newscaster Connie
 - 112 Nut part
 - 113 Feeling
 - 116 Dread
 - 118 Phil Donahue's birthplace
 - 120 Neighbor of Mont.
 - 121 Gaelic
 - 122 Luke, Bo, or Daisy
 - 124 Prepares cherries
 - 125 Glasgow guy
 - 126 Hunky-dory
 - 128 Accounting abbr.
 - 129 Singer Tommy
 - 131 Maestro de Waart
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Keels drug charge dropped

▶ PASTOR, from 1

in and out case. It came down to if the DA thought he had a case he would have prosecuted."

Assistant State Attorney Scott Lewis said, based on the evidence he had, he decided to drop the cocaine charge. But the failure to control speed at an accident citation remained, causing Keels to pay a \$110 fine, a small price to pay considering the previous criminal charge that had just been dismissed.

"When you are ordained to do God's work you may have to do risky things," Keels said moments after the cocaine possession charge was dismissed. "I am thankful for the people who

supported me and my attorney who believed me."

Bishop Peter D. Weaver, the episcopal leader of the Peninsula-Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania Conferences, believed Keels would be cleared of the criminal charge.

"In his ministry he was caring for a person in need who happened to be a drug addict," Weaver said last month. "He had taken the drugs away and had not disposed of them yet."

Some members of the 2,500-member church located at 69 E. Main St. in Newark were upset to hear about the charges more than two months after it occurred. Weaver said Keels told him him about the arrest immediately after it occurred.

Weaver said he contacted the leaders of the United Methodist Church, which he said, elected not to inform the congregation right away.

In a letter dated Nov. 18, Weaver responded to an article about the allegations against Keels by informing congregation members of the situation.

Keels said he is thankful to put the situation behind him, in a case that received national exposure in USA Today.

"It is important to note when serving the public, you can't pass anyone by because they are different than you; there by the grace of God," Keels said. "My mother used to say, 'God will use you if you trust him.' I believe God is using me."

Students learn Chinese

▶ BRADER, from 3

for the kids."

Holton's son Michael really enjoyed it, according to his mother.

"He was very enthusiastic and couldn't wait for Mondays and Wednesdays, even though it was after school," Holten said.

Wei haw Lu, principal of the Chinese American Culture Center was also very excited with the results of the first group to complete the program. Her two high school age daughters assisted Chien in the program.

The CACC, which teaches Chinese from pre-k to 10th grade, is interested in having more non-Chinese children participate in their classes.

"This program is the start to putting Chinese in the regular

school," Wei haw Lu said.

Due to the popularity of the program at Brader, the Chinese Academy will run each semester to accommodate more students.

"I'm just so impressed with what the children can do," Principal Sharp said.

Participants in the first Chinese Academy include: (third graders) Anthony Buglio, Juliann Emory, Jimmy Fazio, Rachel Green, Shabram Khan, Ashlee Johnson, Sterlin Johnson, Emily Saxton, Gelan Shamloul, Ariel Walker, Lula Weldekidan, Terrell Wilson and Mychelle Young; (fourth graders) LaNisa Brooks, David Fett, Jonathan Fredericks, Michel Hulton, Mark Morakinyo, Eric Peterson, Patrick Peterson, Tiffany Shaffer, Christina Simmons, Alexander Spinden, Deme Trachy and Christine

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Five retirees have seen many changes in city

▶ RETIRE, from 1

driving a garbage truck and helping keep the city a cleaner place to live. Duker will miss building "all those mountains of trash" he accumulates every day.

Ernie Lewis will also be leaving the public works/refuse department. He won't miss get-

ting out of bed every working day at 3:45 a.m., but it will take some time to adjust to a new schedule after 39 years of early rising.

All five men have seen great changes and improvements in the city since they started. Starting salaries were barely over \$1.50 per hour. The total city budget was \$1 million. And there were

only two garbage trucks.

"It seems like each area now has million dollar budgets," Lewis said, "and we now have ten garbage trucks."

City parks system has grown by more than 400 percent, from 103 acres to more than 500. Active parks increased from 10 to 29. Hundreds of park benches

have been made or repaired.

The electrical system grew over 500 per cent, with the number of customers over 11,000. 21 substation transformers have been installed and seven new sites constructed.

The five soon-to-be retirees praised the union in helping to bring the city to a good level.

"The union helped the city grow in grace and dignity, give everybody what they deserved," Lewis observed.

What will they miss most? Besides getting up at 4 a.m., it's the people.

"Everyone's been so good," Hammond said.

"We'll miss doing things for the citizens," Gray added.

"I'll miss the good residents I've met down through the years," Lewis said. "I've made some good friends."

Everyday on the job was not really a picnic.

"I did like the challenge of the people," Hammond said. "Everyday was a challenge."

"You had to keep them [the residents] in the right direction," Lewis added. "They get side-tracked if they have their own way."

The five agreed that sometimes "what the book says and what happens doesn't all go together."

"Sometimes you had to create your policy on the spot," Lewis said.

Gray would often be confronted by irate residents "hollering about the electric rates" while he was checking meters. When he told them he wasn't the person to talk to, one lady said, "You work for the city, so you listen to me." He listened to her complaints then went on with his job.

When Carl Luft, city manager, was asked to be included in a photo with the five, he politely refused. "It's their day, they need to get all the glory for all they have done for the city," he said.

There are no big ambitious plans for the first few months of retirement - just a lot of relaxing, working around home, visiting children, hanging out with the grandchildren, hunting and fishing. A lot of fishing.

Mid-Atlantic Ballet offering classes

The Mid-Atlantic Ballet on E. Main Street in Newark is offering adult classes in Ballet, Modern, Theatre Dance and Pilates/Stretch to help nurture your inner-dancer. Also, MAB's new boys dance class, Dancesport, helps boys achieve the agility, flexibility and coordination to succeed in sports. For more information, call 266-6362.

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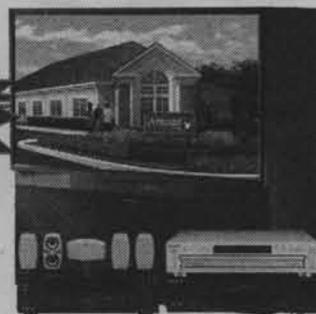
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Newark police bothered by 'silence'

▶ APPEAL, from 1

consistency for why they chose to vote the way they did," Agnor said. "Quite honestly, we're very encouraged with the way the vote went and being able to listen to deliberations. We found out a lot of our reasons and arguments are very reasonable."

Agnor said the FOP likes the idea of using the Court of Chancery because the Chancery is a judge, so they will be dealing with someone with a legal background. Most of their appeals, he said, are based on procedures.

"Part of our argument was that the city provided misleading information and his (the arbitrator) decision was on bad information," Agnor said. "We are going to proceed with the Court of Chancery and hope he (the judge) understands the court of law better."

"I said if there is anything I can do to help relations I would do it," Luft said on Dec. 13. "This process is very sensitive. I don't want to interfere." Luft was hesitant to comment on the contract.

The city's contract, Agnor said, does not allow a police officer to receive health benefits until turning 55, even though a police officer could be eligible to retire with 25 years service by age 46. Agnor also said the contract from the city has police officers allowed to miss only 60 days if they are hurt on the job.

"These are issues that are not going to evaporate over time," Agnor said. "Until they are resolved they will continue to be an issue for the FOP. We keep losing officers over these issues."

Since January of this year, Newark has lost six of its 57 police officers to other law enforcement agencies. For the

past six years, the FOP said the dilemma of retaining officers has been a major item on which the FOP has focused its collective bargaining efforts. Since 1994, the city has hired and trained 48 officers.

This situation has not gone unnoticed. Council member Jerry Clifton is concerned about losing so many officers and having to pay to retrain new people.

"I'm tired of losing six people to the state police," Clifton said. "It's a matter of respect the whole way around. We need to wake up and realize we have a drain. Some is monetary and some is respect...I think my position has some validity and I think over time it will show accuracy."

The police are upset that they have not received any response since handing out a letter signed by every Newark police officer and read during the Sept. 9 city council meeting. The letter addressed the concerns of the police officers. The two main concerns are worker's compensation and retirement health care.

"We are very disappointed that the city doesn't think more of us; it's a lack of respect," Agnor said. "They (City Council members) have shown us no respect with their silence to our letter we wrote and read to City Council on Sept. 9."

On Dec. 9 City Council voted 4-3 to send a letter to state legislators expressing displeasure for the arbitration process, the very process that ruled in favor of the city's contract.

"I'm disappointed with the long-winded letter we sent to legislators that says we disagree with the law without discussing with our employees," said Council member Karl Kalbacher, who voted against sending the letter. "We should have sat down with our employees and listened

to what they thought. It was terribly wrong, it was undemocratic."

Kalbacher said he likes current process from contract negotiation, believing "binding arbitration gives some balance to municipal employees where they

had none before."

Agnor is not sure how long it will take it before the Court of Chancery will hear the FOP's case, but he said the police are not backing down on their beliefs.

"We are police officers and have certain principals we have to abide by," Agnor said. "We live by these laws and expect to be treated fairly under the law."



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Raymond DiPretoro, Jr., DPM, FACFAS

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Sports

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POST GAME

Beast creates a new generation of Delaware wrestlers

By MARTY VALANIA

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

There was just one wrestler from the state of Delaware that placed in the top eight of this past weekend's Beast of the East wrestling tournament at the Carpenter Center. Don't look for that to be a trend that continues for very long.

This year's Beast — ranked as the top high school tournament in the nation — was tougher than ever. Only Hodgson's Brian Welch, among in-state participants, managed to work his way through a brutal bracket. Welch was more than impressive in finishing second at 125.



Valania

Traditionally, Delaware hasn't stacked up very well against powerhouse wrestling programs from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio and Virginia. That will always be tough just because of the sheer number of wrestlers those bigger states produce.

Judging by the large number of young wrestlers that enthusiastically attended and helped out at the tournament this weekend, though, it won't be long before there are more than a few Delaware wrestlers ascending the medal podium.

The Beast is 10 years old now and the last few years it has been the best high school tournament in the country. There is a growing generation of young wrestlers that have attended this tournament and dream of winning it.

They could be seen working on the floor, delivering bout sheets to table workers

See POST GAME, 15 ▶

Hodgson's Welch second at Beast

He's the only Delaware wrestler to place in nation's toughest tournament

By MARTY VALANIA

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

Delaware high school wrestlers got a taste of what it's like to wrestle against the best competition in the country. For many, though, it wasn't a pleasant one.

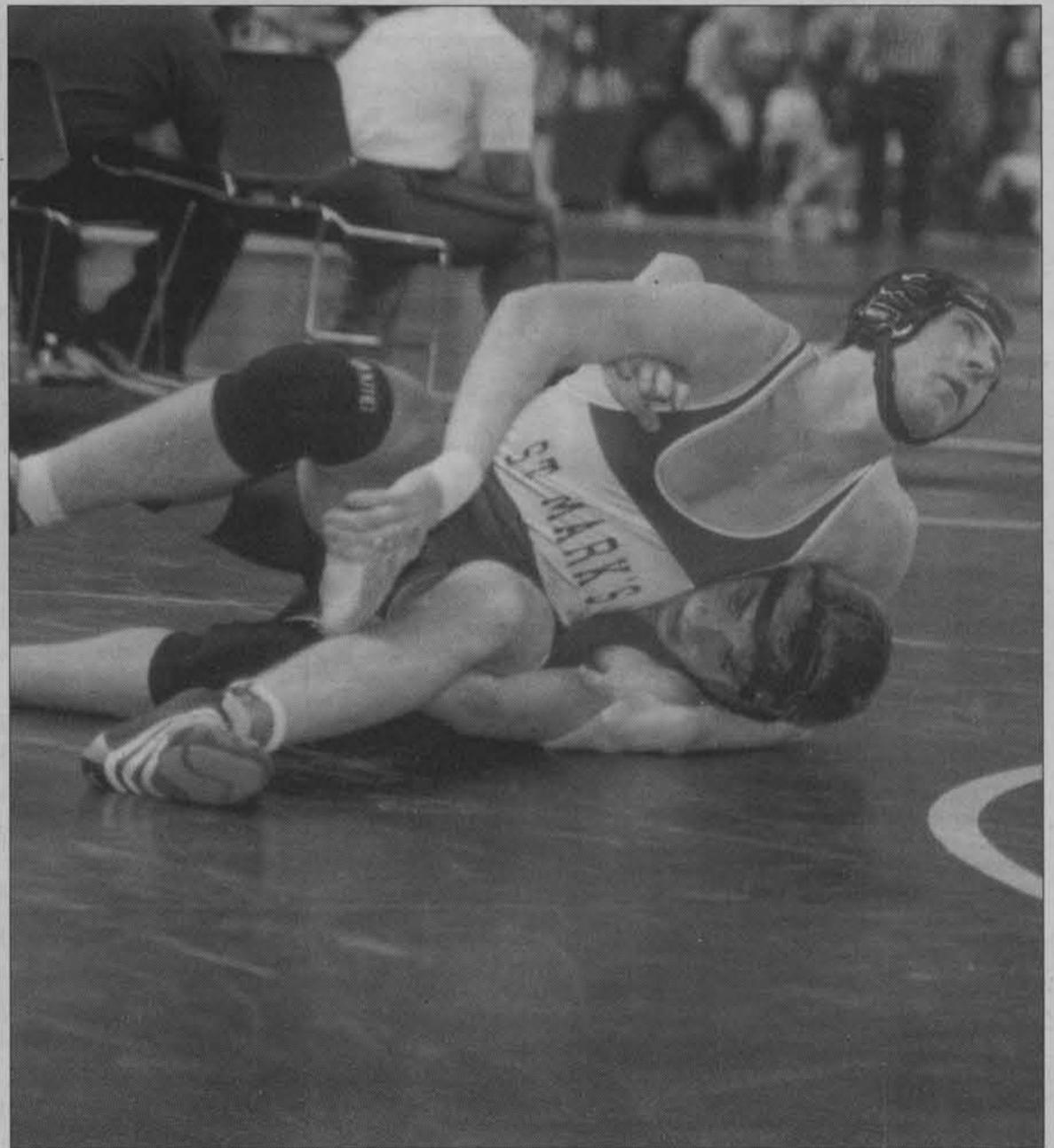
Hodgson's Brian Welch was the only Delaware wrestler to place, finishing second at 125 pounds after an amazing two-day run through the bracket.

Welch, after a bye in the opening round, started his pinning spree with a 1:25 fall over Jason Spencer of Mayfield, Ohio. He followed with a third period pin of Eddie Quinn of St. Mark's in the round-of-16.

Those, however, were just warm-ups for Sunday's highlights. In the quarterfinal round, Welch pinned third-seeded Tony Curto of Wilson (Pa.) and then in the semifinal had a second-period fall over second-seeded Robbie Preston of Blair Academy. Preston is the No. 1 ranked wrestler in the country at 119 pounds.

"He's just so tough on top," said Hodgson coach Stan Spoor of Welch. "He wrestles his best in big matches and that has really showed here. He just kept gaining confidence as he went on. He certainly opened some eyes of college coaches."

See WRESTLE, 15 ▶



NEWARK POST PHOTO BY SCOTT MCALLISTER

Tim Falgowski of St. Mark's battles with Shawn Fendowe of Allentown Central Catholic Saturday at the Beast of the East tournament at the Carpenter Center.

Blue Hens get big road win at Siena

Senior forward Maurice Sessoms came off the bench to score a career-high 21 points and helped the University of Delaware regain its shooting touch from the foul line as the Blue Hens posted an 87-78 non-league men's basketball win over Siena Saturday afternoon at the Pepsi Arena.

Delaware (4-3) won its second straight game as Mike Slattery, coming off a 15-assist game vs.

UNC Greensboro Thursday, recorded his second straight double-double with 17 points and 10 assists and Hens hit on 24 of 27 free throws for the game, including 11 of 12 in the final two minutes. The Blue Hens took the lead for good with 6:01 left to play as Sessoms and senior guard Ryan Iversen hit consecutive baskets to break a 64-64 tie.

Siena (5-2), which advanced to the NCAA Tournament a year

ago after winning the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference post-season tournament as the No. 7 seed, had a two-game win streak snapped despite 21 points and six assists from guard Prosper Karangwa and 13 points from guard Tommy Mitchell.

Sessoms, one of the team's top free throw shooters, struggled at the line in Thursday's 74-71 win over UNC Greensboro by hitting just 3 of 8 shots. But the senior

responded by hitting on 11 of 12 vs. Siena, including three in the final two minutes as the Blue Hens held off the charging Saints. Sessoms also added five rebounds and two blocks.

Delaware shot 54 percent from the field in the second half (14 of 26) and connected on 11 three-pointers, hitting at least five for the 13th straight game. Junior guard Mike Ames added 16

See HENS, 15 ▶

This Beast was toughest ever

Most thought this year's field was strongest yet

By **MARTY VALANIA**

NEWARK POST STAFF WRITER

It was billed as the toughest high school tournament in the country and the 10th annual Beast of the East lived up to that lofty status.

Two coaches from traditionally powerful school in Pennsylvania called the tournament tougher than the Pennsylvania state tournament.

"This was the toughest year ever," said Wyalusing coach Walt Fisk. "It's tougher than states."

Bald Eagle Area coach Don Peters echoed those thoughts.

"This is tougher than our state tournament," He said. "Hopefully, when we get to the state tournament, it will just be another tournament."

Amazingly, just one

Pennsylvania wrestler won a weight class.

Blair Academy (N.J.) crowned two champions and won the team title while St. Edward of Ohio had four champs and finished in second place. St. Paris Graham, also of Ohio, was third. Absegami (N.J.) was fourth and Northampton (Pa.) was fifth.

"Absolutely, this was the toughest," said tournament director Vic Leonard. "The competition was unbelievable. This was our 10th annual and it definitely was the best and toughest."

Long days

With over 80 teams, the consolation rounds ran until nearly midnight Saturday. With surviving wrestlers having to weigh in at 7:30 Sunday morning, it made it tough on the wrestlers, coaches and workers alike.

"This being the 10th one, we had a lot of interest from around the country of coaches wanting to bring their best wrestlers," Leonard said. "We'll cut it back

some next year and make it more manageable."

That will be welcome news to many of the coaches.

"It's a great tournament," said St. Mark's coach Steve Bastianelli. "But it's really tough to go as long as you do on Saturday and then come back on Sunday. I know there are not a lot of options. We have all the mats we can get in here now. You want to have the good competition but maybe they have to cut it back a little."

Sold out

Both days of the tournament were sold out. There were over 3,000 fans in the Carpenter Center both days.

"It was great attendance wise," Leonard said. "We were sold out on Saturday and sold out on Sunday."

Sunday's quarterfinals and semifinals provided the most drama with upsets or near upsets all over the place.

Local wrestlers run into strong competition

► **WRESTLE, from 14**

Welch's run ended in the championship match where he met top-seeded and No. 1 ranked Brandon Hardy of Western Branch High (Va.). Welch fell 6-3 in a tough match.

"It was a good tournament," said Welch, who has a 4.0 grade-point-average. "To pin my way through was pretty tough, but I was in some close matches and just was able to work my moves."

Welch was also aware of the recognition he was gaining nationally.

"It was a great opportunity," he said. "I knew coaches were here and had talked to my coaches and family."

Welch's effort helped Hodgson to a second-place finish among Delaware schools. St. Mark's, which finished No. 28 overall, won the Governor's Cup as the top finishing Delaware high school.

Blair Academy (N.J.) crowned two champions and won the team title while St. Edward of Ohio had four champs and finished in second place. St. Paris Graham, also of Ohio, was third.

St. Mark's had a good opening day, advancing five of its wrestlers into the round-of-16. Pat Atkinson, however, was the only one to advance to the quar-

terfinals.

Atkinson then lost a tough 5-4 decision in the quarters and his first consolation bout 30 minutes later to be eliminated.

"We're not real happy with the way we wrestled," said Bastianelli. "It was an extremely tough tournament that showed us a lot of things we have to work on. But we also had two guys lose in double overtime. We were making some little mistakes, but when you wrestle this kind of competition, it kills you." Atkinson, nationally ranked at 130 pounds, was looking to advance to the final.

"The way this is set up, when you lose in the quarters, you have to come back and wrestle pretty quickly in the consolations," Bastianelli said. "Pat lost a tough one-point match and then immediately had to wrestle again. Now, you're coming off a loss and the kid you're wrestling is coming off a couple of wins."

"Plus, his dream was getting to the final and that was over. It's tough mentally."

Hodgson suffered some upsets of its own with Larry Cyle, also nationally ranked, getting knocked out Saturday.

"It's good experience for all our guys," Spoor said. "They need to know what it's like to wrestle with the kind of intensity that the best have. This showed us that."

Hens hold on to beat UNCG

Sophomore guard Mike Slattery scored 11 points and dished out a career-high 15 assists and fellow guard Mike Ames recorded a season-high 26 points, including 19 in the second half, as the University of Delaware held on down the stretch to post a 74-71 non-league men's basketball victory over UNC Greensboro Thursday night at the Bob Carpenter Center.

Slattery, the Colonial Athletic Association leader in assists with 5.8 per game, set a BCC records and dished out the second highest assist total in UD history as the Blue Hens (3-3) snapped a two-game losing streak. UNC Greensboro, which got a team-high 19 points and seven rebounds from forward James Maye, lost its fifth straight game to fall to 3-6.

Delaware led by as much as 11 points in the second half and were up by 10 points with 5:50 remaining but needed to withstand a spirited comeback by the Spartans to hold on for the win.

Slattery, who played all 40 minutes, hit two free throws with 20 seconds left, after the Hens had missed three straight from the line in the final minute, to clinch the win.

Blue Hen swingman David Lunn added a career-high 11 points and Calvin Smith contributed a team-high eight rebounds. Delaware was playing without senior guard Ryan Iversen, the team's leading rebounder and second leading scorer who missed the game due to back spasms. UNC Greensboro, which shot 55 percent from the field in the second half (17 of 31), also got 13 points from guard Jay Joseph while forward Ronnie Burrell came off the bench to add 11 points on five of six shooting from the field.

The Spartans used an up-tempo game to jump out to a 17-9 lead seven minutes into the first half, but Delaware chipped away at the lead and took a 30-26 advantage into halftime as Slattery converted a layup with one minute remaining in the stan-

za and Dave Hindenlang scored inside with five seconds left for the lead.

Delaware never trailed in the second half, going up by as much as 11 points at 41-30 with 15:49 left when Lunn connected on a three-pointer to complete a 11-4 run. The Spartans never got closer than five points until the final four minutes, closing the gap to one point at 66-65 when Maye hit a jumper at the 2:59 mark. The Hens got the lead back up to five points, but UNCG came back again and pulled to within 71-69 on two free throws by Ronnie Taylor with 26 seconds left.

Slattery converted two free throws with 20 seconds remaining to give the Hens a 73-69 lead, but Taylor converted a layup with five seconds left to pull back to within two at 73-71. Ames hit one of two free throws to ice the win but the Hens couldn't breathe easy until Taylor's potential game-tying 30-footer at the buzzer rolled in and out to end the game.

Young Delaware wrestlers dream of Beast title

► **POST GAME, from 14**

or tapping referees with towels to notify them of the end of a period. While the action was going on, they worked. When it wasn't, they were wrestling amongst each other on the open mats.

It's a good sign when kids get together on their own and play a sport. Whether it be baseball,

basketball, football, soccer or whatever; you know there's a passion when they do it on their own and not because adults are directing them.

No, wrestling isn't as popular as other sports. But, judging from the number of kids at youth tournaments, it's a growing one.

Young Delaware wrestlers, aided by CYM programs and clubs are being trained by good

coaches. Former NCAA champion Sheldon Thomas — a four-time Delaware high school state champ — runs a club.

The Beast was created not only to be one of the best tournaments in the country (which it is), but also to help Delaware wrestlers. It has done that as well. It may not have showed up in this year's results, but it won't be long before it does.

UD gets big road win

► **HENS, from 14**

points, including four three-pointers, and freshman guard Rulon Washington added a career-high 10 points. Iversen had eight points and a game-high eight rebounds.

"I'm extremely proud of our guys because we beat a very good team today," said Delaware head coach David Henderson, who will next take his team to the Wisconsin-Green Bay

Tournament Dec. 27-28 and will take on Eastern Washington in the opening round. "We really played smart today, especially down the stretch. I could not have asked for a better effort. We played with a purpose and got a great outcome. We hope we can build on this one."

Siena took a 42-39 halftime lead and led for much of the second half, going up by as much as five points inside the eight minute mark. But the Blue Hens stayed close and eventually took the lead for good after Sessoms scored off a rebound for a 66-64 lead then got a big block on the defensive end to set up an Iversen

basket with 5:17 left to give the Hens a 68-64 lead.

Karangwa answered with a three-pointer to cut the lead to one, but Sessoms answered with a basket and then Delaware's Washington and Iversen connected on consecutive three-pointers for a 76-69 Blue Hen lead. Washington, who entered the game having connected on just one of 20 three-point attempts, connected on two big treys to give the Hens a lift. Iversen played despite back spasms that forced him to miss the UNC Greensboro game.

Siena then cut the Delaware lead to 76-73 on a steal and layup by Mitchell with 2:30 left to play. The Hens would not score a field goal the rest of the way, but did the job at the line. Despite entering the game as the Colonial Athletic Association's ninth-ranked free throw shooting team at 59.6 percent, the Hens hit 11 of 12 to finish the game including four by Slattery.

Siena ruined its comet chance by turning the ball twice in the final two minute

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 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
www.forministry.com/19701RLUMC
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 ~ Pastor James E. Yoder III
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- Divine Worship 10:00 am
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 Rev. Carl Kruelle, Pastor www.orlcde.org
 10 Johnson Rd., Newark (near Rts. 4 & 273)
 737-6176

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"Alcanzando a la comunidad hispana con el mensaje de Jesucristo."
DOMINGO:
 1:00 PM - Escuela Dominical
 2:00 PM - Culto de Adoracion
MIERCOLES
 7:00 PM - Oracion y Estudio Biblico
VIERNES
 7:00 PM - J.N.V. Youth Group
 Reuniones mensuales de Grupos de Damas y Caballeros
 E-mail: JNV Ministry@aol.com
 En la esq. De la Ruta 8 & y 71
 1545 Church Rd., Bear, DE 19701
 302-838-5705
www.gbgm-umc.org/nuevavida/
 E-mail - vidaumc@aol.com
Pastor: Haydee Vidot-Diaz

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BAPTIST CHURCH**

2 Cor. 3:17
"...where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."
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 Sun School 9:30 AM
 Worship at 10:30 Am
 Sunday Evening - 6:00 pm
 AWANA Children Program
 ISI Teens
 Wed. Bible Study/Prayer - 7:00 pm
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**Unitarian
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 Service 10 a.m.
 Child Care &
 Sunday School
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 Newark
 420 Willa Rd.
 Newark, DE
 (302) 368-2984
 Topic: The Day the Universe Changed
 Speaker: Doug Harrell & Cindy Lewars

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Worldwide Ministries, Inc.**
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 (302) 286-6862 Fax (302) 268-6748
 Bishop Marian L. Rudd, Pastor & Founder
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"Lighting The Way To The Cross"
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 (302) 322-1029
Carlo DeStefano, Pastor
 Schedule of Services
 Sunday School 9:45 AM
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM
 Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM
 (Nursery Provided for all Services)
www.fairwindsbaptist.com
 Home of the Fairwinds
 Christian School
"Pioneer Gospel Hour"
 Comcast Cable Channel 28
 Thursday 8:00pm
"He Keeps Me Singing"
 Comcast Cable Channel 28
 Thursday 8:30pm

**Highway Word of
Faith Ministries**
 (an extension of Highway Gospel
 Community Temple, West Chester PA)
New Order of Services
 Sunday: 8:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship: 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday evening worship: 1st
 & 3rd Sundays @ 4:00pm
Bible Enrichment Class:
 Wednesday @ 7:00pm
The Way Bible Institute:
 Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm
 All services will be held at the
 Best Western Hotel
 260 Chapmans Rd., Newark, DE
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 Mailing Address
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 Bear, Delaware 19702-0220

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 Service Time: Sundays, 9:15am • Pastor Tom Lloyd



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 Wednesday @ 7:00pm
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 All services will be held at the
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 (across from Burlington Coat Factory)
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Pastor Carl A. Turner Sr. First Lady Karen B. Turner
 For further information or directions please call:
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Pastor**
Luke Brugger, Pastor Intern
**Lucie Hale, Children's Ministries
Director**
 Visit us online at
www.praiseassemblyonline.org





Have a safe & happy holiday!

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Reverend Alan Basmeny

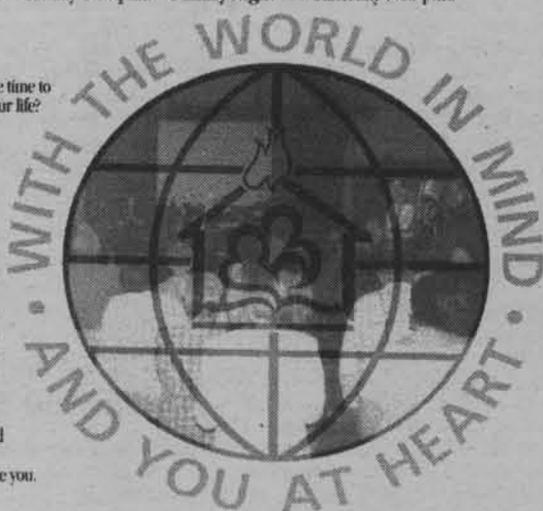
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 www.newark-umc.org

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 Rectory Office: 731-2200

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 (410) 398-1626

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 302-737-2511

Pastor: Dr. Drew Landrey
 Sunday Services:
 9a.m. -10a.m.- Contemporary service
 10:30a.m -11:30a.m.- Traditional Service
 Sun Sch 9a.m -10a.m, 2nd Sun Sch 10:30a.m -11:30am
 Wed. Evening Family Activities 5:15- 9p.m.



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 (302) 368-4644 Church Office (9:00-1:00 Mon.-Fri.)
 (302) 366-0273 Parish Information Hotline
 www.stthomasparish.org

Sunday Worship
 8:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite One
 9:30am Education Hour Incl. Godly Play & Adult Ed.
 10:30am Family Worship-Holy Eucharist
 5:30pm Holy Eucharist, Inclusive Language
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 The Rev. Suzannah L. Rohman, Assistant
 The Rev. Jay Angerer, Episcopal Campus Minister
 Ms. Lynne Turner, Director of Children's Ministries

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 Wednesday Testimony Meetings 7:30 PM
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- Dec. 22 - God's Gift of Hope
- Dec. 29 - God's Gift of Purpose

Meeting at:
 Hodgson Vo-Tech School
 Old 896 just south of Rt. 40,
 near Peoples Plaza, Glasgow

Richard Berry, Pastor
 Ministry Center: 410-392-6374

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 9:00 AM..... Church School for All Ages
 10:30 AM..... Traditional Worship Service
 5:30 PM..... Alpha Adult Study - Memorial Hall
 7:00 PM..... Junior and Senior High Youth Groups

Infant & Children's Nursery Provided
 Ramp Access for Wheelchairs
 Pastor: Rev. Dr. Stephen A. Hundley
 Associate Pastor: Rev. D Kerry Slinkard

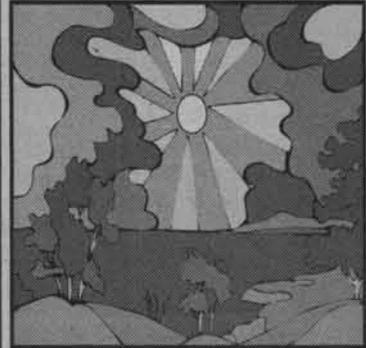
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NEWARK POST ❖ OBITUARIES

■ Obituaries are printed free of charge as space permits. Information usually is supplied to the newspaper by the funeral director. For more information, call 737-0724.

Joshua H. Hamilton, funeral home asst.

Newark resident Joshua H. Hamilton died on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2002.

Hamilton, 31, worked as a funeral home assistant with the Strano and Feeley Family Funeral Home and had

previously worked in the health care industry.

A 1998 graduate of Ohio State University, Hamilton had also served as a medic in the U.S. Marines.

He was a member of Ogletown Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Susan L. Hamilton; sons, Joshua E.S. Hamilton, Christian L.A. Hamilton, and Elijah A.E. Hamilton; daughters, Devon D.J. Hamilton, Gabrielle A. Hamilton, Amanda L. Nave, and Brigitte E. Nave; two grandchildren; parents, Robert and Pamela Hamilton; and his maternal grandparents.

Services were held at the Ogletown Baptist Church in Newark.

Nancy Martin, 43, assistant at Citibank

Newark resident Nancy Martin died on Monday, Nov. 18, 2002.

Martin, 43, was an administrative assistant at Citibank for 12 years.

She is survived by her sons, Christopher M. Sr. and his wife Melissa of Newark, and Joseph L. of Newark; brothers, Francis J. of Wilmington, Robert "Bob" of New Castle and David of Newark; sister, Patricia Shetzler of Hawaii; one grandson; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the Mealey Funeral Home in Wilmington.

Interment was in Silverbrook Cemetery, also in Wilmington.

Mark Young, driver for Marmon Keystone

Newark resident Mark Douglas Young died on Monday, Nov. 18, 2002, ending a five-year battle with Hodgkin's disease.

Young, 39, had lived in Delaware for the past 13 years and was a 1981 graduate of Sharon Hill High School in Sharon Hill, Pa.

He was a truck driver for Marmon Keystone in New Castle. He loved working on cars and trucks, working with his hands and playing baseball with his son.

He is survived by his wife and high school sweetheart, Alison Terese Young; son, Mark D. Young Jr.; mother, Linda S. Johnson and her husband Alfred of Folcroft, Pa.; brother, Dennis W. Young and his wife Donna of Sharon Hill, Pa.; sisters, Melanie C. Wood and her husband Rick of Bethany, W.Va., and Kimberly S. Johnson of Glenolden, Pa.

Services were held at the Strano and Feeley Family Funeral Home and at Holy Family Church, both in Newark. Burial was in All Saints Cemetery in Wilmington.

She is survived by her daughter, Cindy L. and her husband Thomas L. Panchisin of Bear; son, Thomas A. David and his wife Deborah of Seaford; brothers, Robert Brierley of Middletown, Jack Brierley of Kirkwood, William Brierley of Bear, and Donald Brierley of Rehoboth; sisters, Alberta Timko of Newark, Melba Hill of Kimblesville, Pa., and Dorothy Wilson of Wilmington; and five grandchildren.

Services were held at the Red Lion Evangelical Free Church in Bear. Interment was in St. George's Cemetery in Bear.

Laura K. Lindley, long-time resident

Newark resident Laura K. Lindley died on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2002.

Lindley, 90, was born in Wernersville, Pa. She had been a resident of Newark for 31 years. Lindley was a homemaker who loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by her sons, Robert and his wife Stella R. Lindley of The Village, Fla., and Kenneth and his wife Shirley Lindley of Newark; sisters, Pearl Bailey and Ruth Ettinger, both of Lawrence Township, N.J.; five grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the Saul Memorial Home in Trenton, N.J. Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery in Hamilton Township, N.J.

Peter Baich, 70, worked as a baker

Former Newark resident Peter Baich died on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2002.

Baich, 70, had been a baker for most of his life, working as a young man for small, family-owned bakeries, then at Huber's Baking Company in Wilmington for 20 years. Although Baich's handwriting was almost illegible on paper, his handwriting was perfect when he wrote on a cake with icing.

Baich was a veteran of the Korean War. He and his wife were stationed in Anchorage, Alaska, when it was little more than a frontier town. They lived in a log cabin outside the army base and loved the experience.

Baich loved to practice home improvement and his family described

See OBITUARIES, 19 ▶

Dorothy S. Sackner, 46, former realtor

Newark resident Dorothy S. Sackner died on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2002.

Sackner, 46, was a former realtor, homemaker and loving mother. She volunteered for the Wilmington Flower Market, The Ronald McDonald House and the LPGA Golf Tournament.

She is survived by her daughter, Alexis M. Sackner; sister, Sally and her husband Jeff Alaburda; four nephews; and her former husband, Howard A. Sackner.

Services were held at the McCreery Memorial Chapel in Wilmington. Burial was in Silverbrook Cemetery, also in Wilmington.

Margaret L. David

Bear resident Margaret L. David died on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2002.

David, 67, was born in Philadelphia, Pa. She was a member of Red Lion Evangelical Free Church. She enjoyed horseback riding, crafts, cooking and her grandchildren.

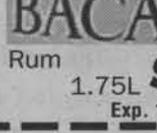
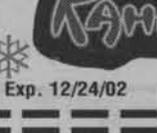
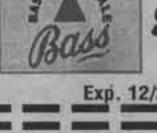


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 \$24.99 <small>Exp. 12/24/02</small>	 \$26.99 <small>Exp. 12/24/02</small>	 \$13.99 <small>Exp. 12/24/02</small>
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FRI., DEC. 27th
Blarney

SAT., DEC. 28th
Benny Preston

TUES., DEC. 31st
Christina Harrison

SAT., JAN. 4TH
Benny Preston

▶ OBITUARIES, from 18

him as the original "Tool Man." Home construction was his hobby and creative outlet.

He took pride in his home in Newark, where extended family members gathered most Saturday evenings for cards, conversation and laughter. Even though a stroke in 1988 left him unable to speak, it did not deprive him of the ability to find joy and excitement in the simplest of things, and always in the company of his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Irene; daughters, Terry and her husband Matthew Hoffman of Newark, and Diane and her husband Joseph Arcidiacono of Bear; two grandchildren; brothers, Paul and John Baich, both of Wilmington; sister, Helen Clark of St. Petersburg, Fla.; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Services were held at Holy Angels Church in Newark. Interment was in the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear.

Carolyn G. Brooks, 55, homemaker

Newark resident Carolyn G. Brooks died on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2002.

Brooks, 55, was a homemaker. She enjoyed dancing, reading, cooking, crossword puzzles and having fun.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel P. Brooks; and her sisters, Barbara Russo, Ana Bohme and Sheila M. Fabiano.

Services were held at the Strano and Feeley Family Funeral Home in Newark.

Joseph A. Banning

Newark resident Joseph A. Banning died on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2002.

Banning, 90, is survived by his wife Vashtie "Judy" Banning.

Services were held at Beeson Memorial Services of Newark. Committal was held privately.

Margaret Campbell

Former Newark resident Margaret T. Campbell died on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2002.

Campbell was 92. Services were held in the Second Presbyterian Church in Carlisle, Pa.

George E. Lloyd, worked for UD

Newark resident George E. Lloyd died on Friday, Nov. 22, 2002.

Lloyd, 86, worked at the University

George W. Angalet, research entomologist for U.S. Department of Agriculture

NEWARK resident George W. Angalet died on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2002.

Angalet, 84, was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from West High School in Cleveland in 1935 and the Ohio State University in 1949. He was an ardent supporter of Buckeyes football.

Angalet was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with the 81st Chemical Mortar Battalion. He landed at Omaha Beach during the Normandy invasion and participated in the Battle of the Bulge, the Rhineland campaign and the liberation of Central Europe.

He was a recipient of the Purple Heart.

In 1947, Angalet began a 33-year career with the United States

Department of Agriculture as a research entomologist, which took him to many parts of the world, including India, South East Asia, the Middle East, and Europe.

His final duty station was the Beneficial Insects Research Laboratory at the University of Delaware.

His numerous contributions toward eliminating crop damage using natural predators made a deep and lasting contribution to insect pest management programs worldwide.

He was a member of the Organization of Professional Employees of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Entomological Society of America.

Following his retirement in 1980, Angalet moved to North

Conway, N.H. There, he devoted his time to traveling around the country, visiting every state except Alaska, and was active in the Appalachian Mountain Club, Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 11557, Conway, N.H.

His passions included hiking, botany, ornithology, philately, numismatics, reading, classical music and sports.

One of his proudest achievements was climbing Mount Washington in New Hampshire at the age of 67.

He returned to the Newark area in 1993 to live with his son, Charles.

He is survived by his son, Charles W. Angalet of Newark; one nephew and one niece.

Funeral Home in Pike Creek. Burial was in the Head of Christiana Cemetery in Newark.

Ann E. Lawson, 73, local homemaker

Newark resident Ann E. Lawson died on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2002.

Lawson, 73, was a homemaker. She enjoyed shopping, cooking, and pet sitting.

She is survived by her sons; Albert O'Neill Jr. and his wife Rhoby of Newark, James O'Neill and his wife Joyce of Orange, Texas, John J. O'Neill and his wife Audrey of Wilmington, and Joseph P. O'Neill and his wife Tina of Las Vegas, Nev.; daughters, Linda H. Kellner of Smyrna, and Peggy O. Enslin and her husband James of Middletown; brothers; Richard Kuhlman, Conrad Kuhlman, Edward Kuhlman, Fred Kuhlman and James Kuhlman, 15 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held at the Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home in Newark. Burial was in Lawn Croft Cemetery in Linwood, Pa.

of Delaware for over 20 years and was an avid sports fan.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Mildred Lloyd of Newark; son, Gene Lloyd of Elkton, Md.; daughters, Dolores Dixon of Cambridge, Md., and Carole Robinson of Atlantic, N.C.; sisters, Dorothy Anemone of Townsend, and Patricia Kirchner; stepchildren, Barbara Mullins of Newark, Helen Williams of Wilmington, Mary Mitchell of Raleigh, N.C., James P. Davis of Newark, Bill Davis of Seaford, Carol Thompson of Laurel, Elizabeth DuHadaway of New Castle, and Robert Davis of Newark; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Services were held at the R. T. Foard and Jones Funeral Home. Burial was private.

Steven B. Nelson, 40, top salesman

Newark resident Steven B. Nelson died on Friday, Nov. 22, 2002.

Nelson, 40, was formerly from Seaford. He graduated from Seaford High School in 1981. He had previously been employed at Penco in Seaford and was currently the top salesman of the year for the Robert Burton Company. In his younger years, he excelled at karate and won several trophies.

He is survived by his daughter, Kristin L. Nelson; one grandson; parents, James and Phyllis Nelson, all of Seaford; brothers, Daniel J. Nelson of Auburn, Ga., and Jeffrey S. Nelson of

Seaford; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services were held at the Cranston Funeral Home in Seaford. Burial was in Odd Fellows Cemetery.

Woodie L. Witham, surgical nurse

Former Newark resident Woodie Louise Witham died on Friday, Nov. 22, 2002.

Witham, 85, was born in McConnellsville, Ohio. She graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Parkersburg, W.Va., and worked as a surgical nurse prior to marrying and becoming a full-time mother and

homemaker.

Witham loved doing jigsaw puzzles, fishing, feeding the birds, light-houses and most of all, her family.

Witham was a member of the Newark Baptist Church, where she was Lady of the Year in 1989. She had lived with her daughter, Judy "McAdam" Reich for over 30 years in the Newark area, Elkton, Md., area, West Grove, Pa., area and most recently with Judy and her husband, Ralph Reich in the Long Neck area.

She is survived by her children, Larry Witham of Charlotte, N.C., Douglas Witham of Elk Creek, Mo., and Judy Reich of Long Neck; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Services were held at the Doherty



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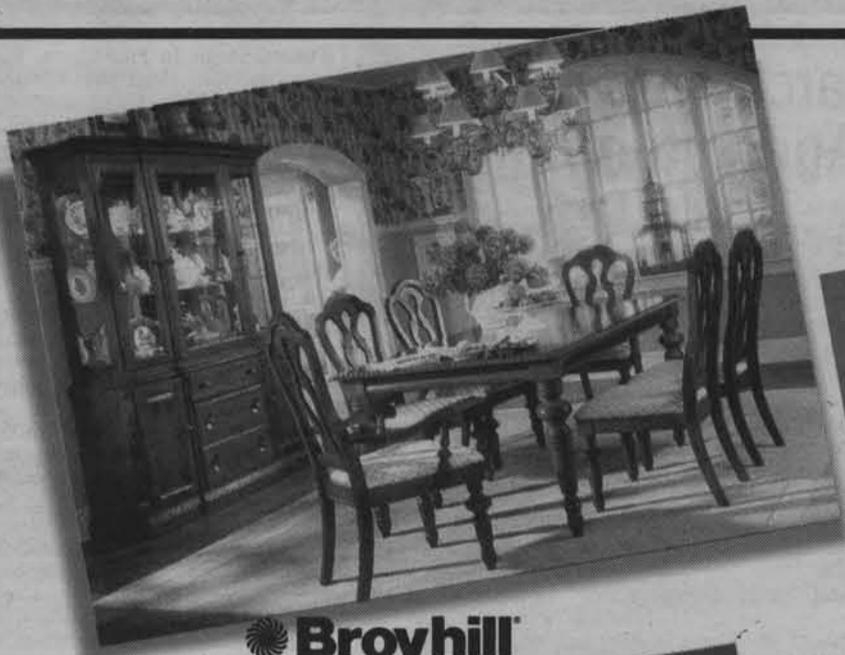
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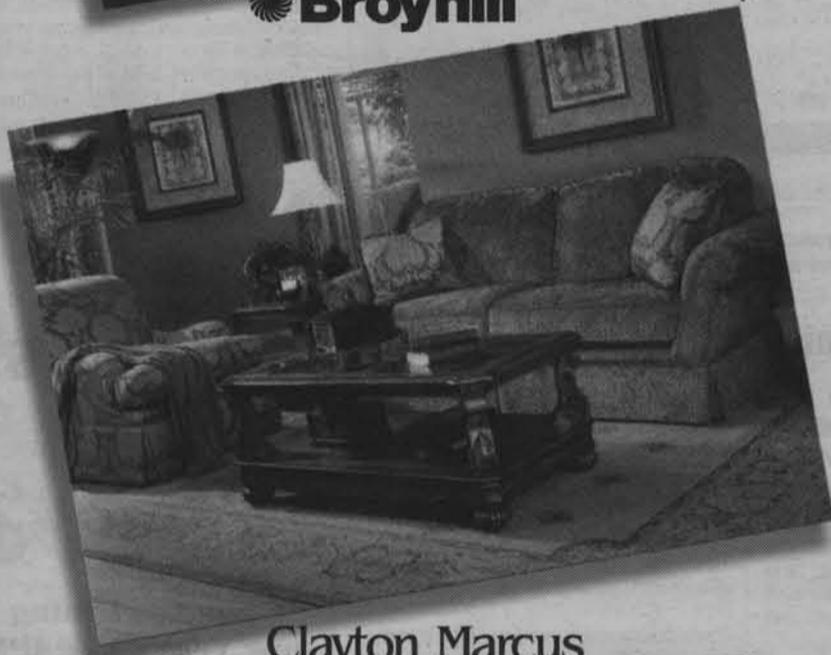
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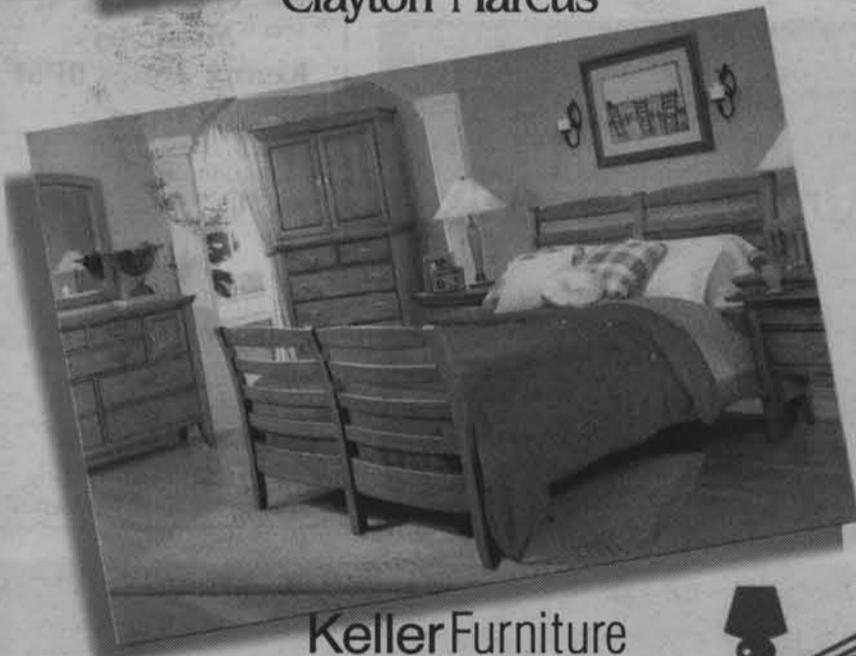
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