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INSIDE

► **BUSINESS:** A New Castle-based credit union has lost \$3.4 million and its overseers have no idea where the money went.
page A-6

► **SPORTS:** D-10 wrestling tourney opens tonight at Sharon High and resumes Saturday.
page B-1

► **OPINION:** Sen. Scott Brown's vote to override a GOP filibuster shows he'll vote his conscience, even if it bucks his party.
page A-4

► **NEWS:** President Barack Obama and Republican leaders fight for their competing visions of health care reform.
page A-3

► **RELIGION:** Americans say Starbucks, Chili's and bars are better places than church to meet new friends, according to a new survey.
page A-8

► **ALSO INSIDE:** TV & Entertainment magazine

WORTH NOTING

Text-A-Tip

Mercer County Crime Solvers and the Mercer County Chiefs of Police Association have created Text-A-Tip for people to anonymously text message tips on police investigations. Text Tip477 and the message to CRIMES — 274637.

DEATHS

Toby Jackson, 90, of 931 Julia Blvd., Farrell.

Joseph P. Monda, 78, of 1330 Kimberly Road, Hermitage, formerly of Hall Avenue, Sharon.

INDEX

Annie's mailbox	A-10
Business	A-6
Classified	B-6
Comics	A-11
Community.....	A-10
Corrections.....	A-2
Crossword	B-8
Dr. Gott	A-7
Horoscopes	A-11
Jumble	B-8
Lotteries.....	A-2
Obituaries	A-5
Opinion	A-4
Police, fire	A-2
Public notices	B-8
Sudoku	B-10
Sports	B-1
Theaters	A-10
TV grid	B-9
Weather	A-2



CLOUDY: 32/22
Autumn McDonough
Artman Elementary



Lift ev'ry voice ...



Tom Davidson/Herald

Children sing "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," also known as the Black National Anthem, at a program celebrating Black History Month at the Robert E. Chavers Center in Farrell. The kids heard a message Thursday from Roland Barksdale-Hall that encouraged them to be dreamers, believers and achievers.

FARRELL

Dream, believe, achieve

Speakers celebrate black heritage

By Tom Davidson
Herald Staff Writer

Farrell Mayor Olive McKeithan has personal memories of America's racist past. Born in Birmingham, Ala., when Jim Crow laws were still in force, Mrs. McKeithan remembers riding on the bus with her mother from the Shenango Valley to Alabama for holidays and having to give up her seat when a white person needed one.

She also remembers going to school in Sharon and hearing about the good things happening at the former Girls

Buhl Club on Sharpsville Avenue and then learning that she, like other African-Americans, wasn't welcome there.

Mrs. McKeithan spoke from a podium in a corner of the gym at the Robert E. Chavers Center on Federal Street in Farrell, the former "black Buhl Club."

Whites were welcome at a Black History Month celebration held Thursday and a few attended. Although racial issues remain, strides including the election of President Barack Obama, have many talking of a "post-racial America."

While that day has yet to come — Mrs. McKeithan agrees — See **DREAM**, page A-3



Tom Davidson/Herald

Quentin Malloy performs a mime routine during a Black History Month program. Malloy was one of several performers at the event Thursday.

MASURY Driver must talk about fatality

School visits part of sentence

By Patrick Cooley
Herald Staff Writer

A judge told Joshua Thompson on Thursday that he will have to visit every high school in the area to talk about the consequences of driving too fast as part of his sentence for crashing his car on an icy road and causing the death of Alessa "Le Le" N. Norris, 16, of Brookfield on Jan. 19, 2009.

Judge Ray Rice, Trumbull County Eastern District Court, ordered Thompson, 19, of 8196 Erie St., Masury, to write a letter of apology to Alessa's family and to finish high school. Thompson was also fined \$1,000 with \$250 suspended, given 180 days in the Trumbull County Jail with 150 days suspended, had his Ohio driver's license confiscated for 10 years and placed on probation for 5 years.

Last month, he pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter charge.

A presentencing investigation found at least two prior speeding tickets on Thompson's record, Rice said, adding that there might have been another one.

Alessa's family had mixed feelings about Thompson's sentence.

"He should have gone to jail longer," said Alyssa Norris, Alessa's sister. She and her mother, Denise Davidson, wore t-shirts with Alessa's picture on it to court.

Alyssa said she didn't think Thompson had expressed remorse after her sister's death.

She tearfully told Rice that she wanted a letter from Thompson saying how sorry he was, and that she wanted See **FATALITY**, page A-3



Alessa

MERCER COUNTY

Deadline looms to get break on property tax

By Matt Snyder
Herald Staff Writer

Are you one of the hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians who hasn't registered your home as a homestead or farmstead exemption so you can get the rebate on your local property taxes?

If you are, get it in the mail. It has to be postmarked by Monday, said the county's Revenue Department chief Michael DeForest.

Pennsylvania homeowners can register their primary resi-

dence and have their annual property taxes reduced by a slice of the state's gambling revenues. But a report from the office of state Auditor General Jack Wagner says hundreds of thousands of residents are missing out.

Statewide, the tax break averages about \$189, Wagner's report said. In Mercer County, it ranges from \$96 to \$225, DeForest said.

Those amounts are deducted directly from your tax bill, so don't expect to see a check in the mail.

How much of a tax break homeowners get depends on what slice of the pie their school district receives, and how many people have filed their application.

If you have filed once for the homestead or farmstead exemption in Mercer County, and your home hasn't changed hands, you should still receive the tax break. DeForest said a school district or county can occasionally hit the "reset" button and require everyone to register again, but

See **TAX**, page A-2

SHARON

Cops: 1 hurt as fracas draws crowd, gunfire

By Courtney L. Anderson
Herald Staff Writer

Police are investigating a fracas Wednesday night in Sharon involving gunfire, more than 20 people and an attempt to barricade a car that left one person injured.

Police Chief Mike Menster said shots were fired shortly after 6 p.m. in the 300 block of Quinby Street, but no one was hit.

The incident started in the 300 block of Mesabi Street as a confrontation among a few people, Menster said. There was a physical fight and someone brandished a gun but did-

n't fire it, he said.

At least some of the people involved made their way to Quinby where the crowd swelled to more than 20 people, Menster said.

The problem involved people in the street and in a car, he said. As the driver of the car tried to leave, members of the crowd started piling garbage toters in front of the car to block it in, Menster said.

The car smashed through the makeshift barricade and a trash toter hit Nehemiah Evans, 38, of Hermitage, with enough force that it caused a See **FRACAS**, page A-2

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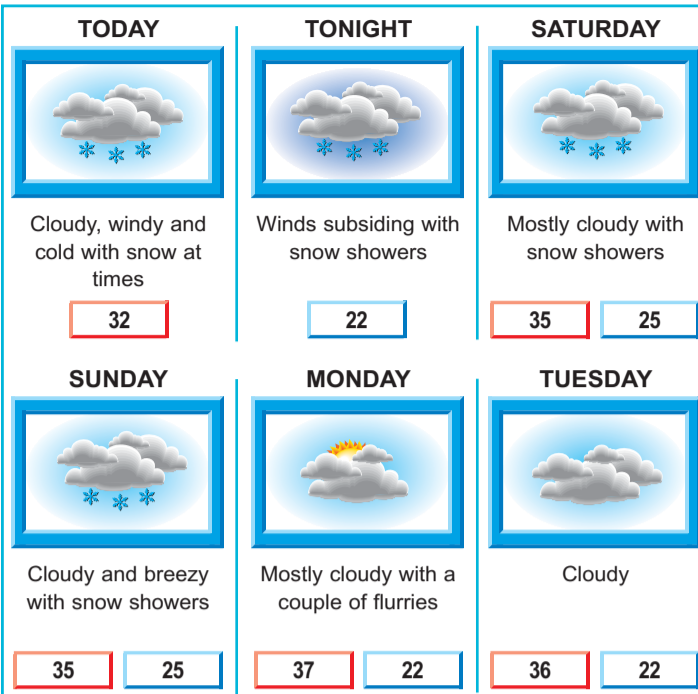
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Monday March 1st Starts @ 8pm

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AccuWeather 5-Day Forecast for Sharon



Almanac Statistics are for Youngstown through 2 p.m. yest. Temperature: High 29, Low 25. Precipitation: 24 hrs. ending 2 p.m. yest. 0.03". RealFeel Temperature: The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature is an exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, pressure and elevation on the human body.

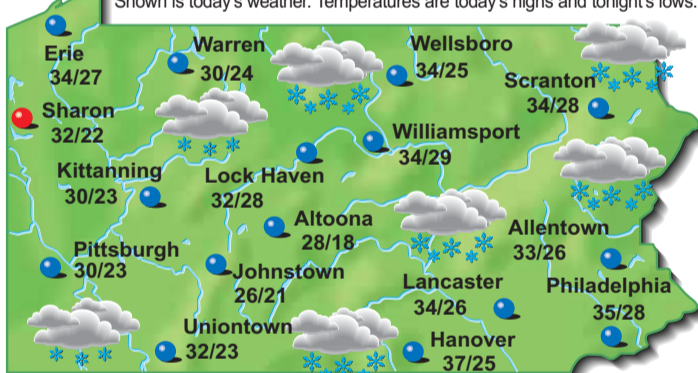
UV Index Today 8 a.m. 0, Noon 1, 4 p.m. 0. 0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme. Sun and Moon Sunrise today 7:01 a.m., Sunset tonight 6:09 p.m., Moonrise today 4:00 p.m., Moonset today 5:32 a.m. Moon Phases Full, Last, New, First. Feb 28, Mar 7, Mar 15, Mar 23.

AccuWeather.com The State table with columns for City, Today Hi/Lo, W, Sat. Hi/Lo, W. Includes cities like Abington, Greensburg, Hanover, Harrisburg, McKeesport, Mansfield, Monroeville, Montrose, Norristown, State College, Towanda, Warren.

The Nation table with columns for City, Today Hi/Lo, W, Sat. Hi/Lo, W. Includes cities like Anchorage, Atlantic City, Boston, Buffalo, Charleston, SC, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas, Denver, Phoenix, Toledo.

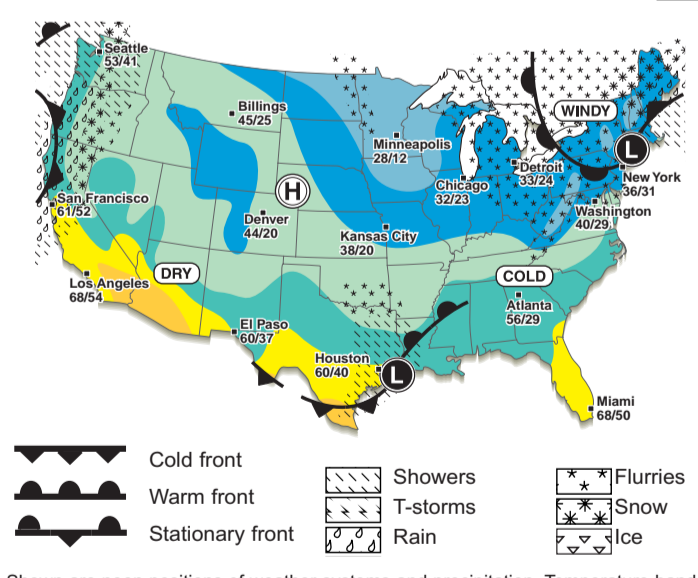
The World table with columns for City, Today Hi/Lo, W, Sat. Hi/Lo, W. Includes cities like Acapulco, Berlin, Jerusalem, London, Mexico City, Moscow, Paris, Rome.

Pennsylvania Weather



Lake Erie Forecast Wind northwest 12-25 knots today. Waters mainly ice covered. Snow showers. Wind northwest 8-16 knots tonight. Snow showers. Wind northwest 8-16 knots tomorrow.

National Weather for February 26, 2010



National Summary A powerful storm will bring damaging winds and areas of heavy snow over the Northeast today. Rain will fall over the southern Plains. Strong winds, rain and mountain snow will affect the Pacific Coast.

Today's Weather brought to you by: LTI COSMETOLOGY CLINIC OPEN TUES. & THURS. CALL FOR APPOINTMENT 724-983-0700. SHARON CAMPUS, MEADVILLE CAMPUS, WWW.LAUREL.EDU

SHARON Man gets up to 10 years for sexual abuse of boy

By Matt Snyder Herald Staff Writer A 13-year-old boy testified before the court Thursday that Jon A. Sloan, the man being sentenced for sexually abusing him, should not be given the chance to molest anyone else. "I don't ever want to see him again," the boy said, reading from a prepared statement. "I don't want Jon Sloan to do what he did to me again, to anyone." Sloan, 50, of 148 W. State St., Apartment 6, Sharon, pleaded guilty to aggravated indecent assault on Dec. 8. Sloan's mother, who described her son as mentally challenged, tried to defend him before the court, but leveled

criticisms at the victim's mother. Common Pleas Judge Thomas R. Dobson would have none of that, and told her they were in court because of her son, not the boy's mother. In spite of Dobson's warning, Sloan's mother continued in trying to portray her son as a victim of women "who know how to work him." "Your son sexually abused (this child)!" Dobson hollered. "He is not a good man! What you're doing does not do anyone good." Dobson told the woman her son would get 5 to 10 years behind bars, and eventually sentenced Sloan to just that. "Given your health situation, you very well won't make it out," Dobson told Sloan. He

told Sloan that while he may have done good in his life, his crimes had erased that. According to police, Sloan began abusing the boy when he was 9 years old. He molested the boy at least 10 times since September 2005, until December 2008, when Mercer County Children and Youth Services notified police, court documents said. Sloan has 275 days' credit. He will also be registered as a Megan's Law sex offender for life, said Dobson. Because of a lack of prior offenses and the nature of the crime, Sloan was not deemed a sexually violent predator, which is a more serious Megan's Law classification.

WEST MIDDLESEX AREA No leads yet on school fire, police say

By Tom Davidson Herald Staff Writer Authorities are searching for leads to find out who started a fire in a storage area of Luther Low Elementary School Tuesday night in West Middlesex. "We don't have any real leads," Southwest Mercer County Regional Police Det. Capt. Doug Long. Meantime, students at the adjacent Oakview Elementary School were scheduled to return to school today — if the weather cooperates, West Middlesex Superintendent Alan Baldarelli said. Classes at both schools had been canceled Wednesday and Thursday because of air quality issues, he said. Police were following up on a few tips, but "we don't really have anything yet," Long said. It's an interesting coincidence that school board members are considering a multi-million dollar renovation at the school and discussed that renovation the night before the fire, Long said.

Anyone with information should call police at 724-983-2720.

Tax Deadline looms to get break on property tax

from page A-1 that hasn't happened yet in Mercer County. Wagner's report criticized the application process as cumbersome and fragmented, saying it has contributed to at least 100,000 Pennsylvanians — and perhaps many more — failing to file and receive their tax break. Wagner's report detailed people who threw out their ap-

plications because it was confusing, it used antiquated words like "homestead" and "farmstead," and lead others to believe they weren't eligible. All Pennsylvania homeowners are eligible for property tax relief, Wagner said. He called for the state to push back this year's filing deadline from Monday to April 15, and to give control over it to a single agency, such as the state Department of Revenue. DeForest said filing is necessary because they need to know whether a property is someone's home. The county

knows how many properties there are, and on which parcels, but not which properties are primary residences, which are businesses, and which are vacation homes. To file, you can get an application at the courthouse or online. Go to the county Web site at www.mcc.co.mercer.pa.us, click on "County Information" on the lefthand list, and then click on "Homestead & Farmstead Application" to get the form. Fill it out and mail it to 6 Mercer County Courthouse, Mercer PA 16137, DeForest said.

Fracas Cops: Fracas draws crowd, gunfire

from page A-1 deep cut to his lower leg, Menster said. Evans was treated at the hospital of Sharon Regional Health System. As the car sped away, shots were fired but no one was hit

by bullets, Menster said. It's unclear at this time if the gunshots came from the car or the street, he said. Because there are so many people involved, police are trying to interview witnesses and sort out the specifics of what happened, Menster said. He said that by the time police were called, most of the group had dispersed. No one has been charged

in the incident, but Menster said police expect to file charges against a number of people soon. Menster said he would reserve comment about what prompted the dispute until police have further investigated. Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call Sharon police at 724-983-3210.

CORRECTIONS

Zoning appeals must be filed within 30 days An aggrieved party in a zoning hearing board matter has 30 days to appeal the decision from the date an opinion is signed by the board members. The Herald published an incorrect appeal deadline in a story Thursday on a man criticizing a Hermitage Zoning Hearing Board decision.

Title of MCAR employee was incorrect in story David Farrand is a supervisor of sales and production manager at MCAR Inc. The Herald incorrectly stated his title in a story Thursday on a lawsuit filed against MCAR. The Herald strives for accuracy. But when factual error does occur in the news or editorial columns, the newspaper's policy is to correct it. To report such an error, call The Herald's news desk at 724-981-6100.

POLICE, FIRE

Hermitage ■ Cori R. Murphy, 39, of 230 Shenango Blvd., Farrell, has been charged with access device fraud, theft and identity theft for using an 83-year-old Hermitage woman's credit card to make \$19,306 in purchases and payments for gasoline, Christmas gifts, car repairs, telephone bills and other items between November and this month, police said. Ms. Murphy used to clean for the woman, police said. ■ Rachael A. Kulka, 20, of 395 N. Maple St., Mercer, has been charged in two cases with two counts each of theft and retail theft for taking a fish filter and four pairs of jeans from store racks and returning them for gift cards, and stealing other items Jan. 31 and Feb. 11 at Walmart, 1275 N. Hermitage Road, police said. ■ Zachary M. Tarpinning, 19, of 494 S. Stateline Road, Masury, has been charged with theft for taking two radar detectors from the store rack and returning them for gift cards Saturday at Walmart, 1275 N. Hermitage Road, police said. ■ Jason J. Stuble, 30, of Wampum, has been charged with retail theft, possessing in-

struments of crime, possession of Suboxone and criminal trespass stemming from an incident at 2:31 p.m. Monday at Walmart, 1275 N. Hermitage Road, police said. Stuble used a folding razor knife to remove a laptop computer from its packaging with the intent to steal it from the store, hid it in the women's department and walked out of the store, police said. When he was arrested, he had the knife and 2½ pills of Suboxone, a prescription narcotic used to treat addiction to opiates, police said. Stuble is not allowed to be in Walmart, police said. ■ Timothy G. Carroll, 46, of 6346 Frogtown Road, Hermitage, was turned over to Southwest after being arrested by Hermitage police at 4:50 p.m. Wednesday on Southwest charges of identity theft, false reports and false identification, police said. Carroll gave police a brother's name, date of birth and other information when he was stopped for a traffic violation at 6:08 p.m. Sept. 15 in the 1000 block of Emerson Avenue, Farrell, police said. ■ Elizabeth Downs, 26, of Mesabi St., Sharon; 10 a.m. Thursday on a warrant for unpaid fines and failing to appear in court.

another 17-year-old boy while at school, police said. Police did not say when the text was sent. ■ Bradley K. Williams, 19, of Greenville, was charged with underage drinking, after he was found to be under the influence of alcohol while a passenger in a vehicle pulled over for a traffic violation at 2:20 a.m. Feb. 13 on North Pitt Street, Mercer, police said. DRUNKEN DRIVING ARRESTS Hermitage ■ Matthew S. McCormick, 48, of 278 Fourth Ave., Sharon; at 8:47 a.m. Sunday on East State Street; also charged with driving under suspension and driving without insurance. State police ■ Merle P. Rodgers Jr., 46, of Mercer; at 8:50 p.m. Saturday on U.S. Route 19, Cool-spring Township, after his pickup hit a utility pole; also charged with a lane violation, speeding and careless driving. He was treated at Grove City Medical Center, Pine Township. WARRANT ARREST Sharpshills ■ Elizabeth Downs, 26, of Mesabi St., Sharon; 10 a.m. Thursday on a warrant for unpaid fines and failing to appear in court.

LOTTERIES

PENNSYLVANIA Wednesday Powerball: 4, 17, 35, 50, 57; powerball: 12; power play: 2 Thursday Daily number: 326, 578 Big 4: 2888, 6105 Quinto: 23476, 02729

Treasure Hunt: 6, 8, 13, 16, 28 Cash 5: 5, 13, 31, 38, 41 Mix & Match: 15, 14, 10, 17, 1 OHIO Thursday Pick 3: 594, 108 Pick 4: 1387, 7077 Rolling Cash 5: 8, 16, 24, 28, 36 Midday Ten-Oh Numbers: 4, 6, 11, 12, 15, 29, 31, 33,

37, 39, 41, 42, 43, 49, 52, 58, 68, 74, 79, 80 Evening Ten-Oh Numbers: 5, 6, 17, 19, 24, 25, 32, 39, 43, 45, 47, 50, 51, 53, 59, 65, 68, 75, 76, 78 For more lottery information and previous numbers, contact the state lottery commissions: Ohio, www.ohiolottery.com, 800-589-6446; Pennsylvania, www.palottery.com.

Reaching The Herald

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Health care reform can't wait, Obama says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Giving no ground, President Barack Obama and Republican leaders fought forcefully for their competing visions of historic health care reform Thursday in an exhausting, often-tense live-on-TV debate. Far from any accord, Obama signaled the Democrats were prepared to push ahead for an all-or-nothing congressional vote.

The marathon, 7½-hour session did reveal narrow areas of agreement on the topic that has vexed Congress for months and defied U.S. leaders for decades. But larger ideological differences overwhelmed any common ideas, all but cementing the widely held view that a meaningful bipartisan health care bill is not possible as time grows short in this election year.

Obama rejected Republican preferences for starting over, discussing the issue much longer or dealing with it in a limited, step-by-step fashion.

"We cannot have another yearlong debate about this," Obama declared. "I'm not sure we can bridge the gap."

Party officials said March is probably the last chance to act.

It has been more than a year since he proposed his overhaul, which would be important to virtually all Americans in remaking the way they

"We cannot have another yearlong debate about this. I'm not sure we can bridge the gap."

President Barack Obama

receive and pay for health care. The version he embraces, basically tracking legislation passed by the Senate, would expand health coverage to some 30 million people who lack it and stop insurance companies from dropping people for questionable reasons or denying coverage to people who have certain illnesses.

Obama and the Democrats portray the current situation as a major crisis, with tens of millions of people left with no health insurance at all and health care costs threatening to bankrupt the nation. The Republicans see problems as well, but seek more modest steps to deal with them and say Obama's plan would run up the federal deficit — despite his claims to the contrary.

Obama strongly suggested that Democrats will try to pass a sweeping overhaul without GOP support, by using controversial Senate budget rules that would disallow filibusters. And then, he said, this fall's elections would write the verdict on who was right.

Democratic leaders tried to portray Republicans as hypocrites for denouncing parliamentary tactics they, too, have used. Democratic leaders hope to embolden colleagues who worry about re-election races in the face of polls showing substantial dislike for the party's approach.

The Democrats-only strategy could face particularly strong resistance in the House, where 39 party members voted against an Obama-backed health care bill last year.

Democratic officials confirmed Thursday that the White House has developed a slimmed-down health care plan as a possible "Plan B" fallback.

But that contingency also faces problems, including possible defections from House liberals who insist the overhaul must be expansive. Democratic officials conceded it's possible that no health care legislation will pass this year, which would leave their candidates with little to show while Republicans claimed a big win.

At Thursday's summit, Rep. Eric Cantor, the No. 2 House Republican, agreed with Obama that "we have a very difficult gap to bridge here." But he differed strenuously about resolving it. "We just can't afford this," he said of the \$1 trillion, 10-year proposal.

"That's the ultimate problem."

Cable news networks carried long portions of the summit, which featured 38 lawmakers sitting around a square table heaped with documents and notepads. They spoke of arcane issues such as insurance "rescissions" between sharp partisan exchanges. Moderator Obama, looking annoyed at times, interrupted Republicans fairly often, and a few of them interrupted him back.

Democratic officials said House and Senate leaders will confer with colleagues in coming days or weeks to see if they have enough votes to push a far-reaching bill through both chambers with no GOP help.

Republicans repeatedly pressed Obama to renounce the possibility of using "budget reconciliation" rules to push the Democratic plans through the Senate without allowing GOP filibusters. Obama brushed them off, saying they seemed more interested in process than substance.

Americans want a decision on health care, the president said, and most of them think "a majority vote makes sense." Democrats control 59 of the Senate's 100 seats, one vote short of the number needed to halt bill-killing filibusters.

Republicans repeatedly noted that polls suggest Democ-

rats are on the wrong track. A USA Today/Gallup survey released Thursday found Americans, by 49 percent to 42, lean against Democrats forging ahead without any GOP support. Slightly more than half oppose the idea of Senate Democrats using budget rules to bar filibusters to stop the bill.

Congressional aides said top Democrats will take a few days to gauge the summit's impact on the public and, perhaps more importantly, on moderate House members who are likely to determine whether any health care bill will pass.

If the effort fails, Democrats may try a scaled-back plan to insure about 15 million more Americans, rather than 30 million. Among other things, the plan would require insurance

companies to let people up to age 26 stay on their parents' health plans.

The summit participants noted a handful of areas where the two parties seem largely to agree. They include barring insurers from dropping customers who become sick, ending annual and lifetime monetary limits on health insurance benefits and letting young adults stay on their parents' health policies to their mid-20s or so.

But Republicans stuck to their main talking points. "The American people want us to scrap this bill," said House GOP Leader John Boehner of Ohio.

As darkness neared, McConnell also urged Obama to "start over with a blank piece of paper."

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Fatality

Driver must talk about fatality

from page A-1

him to visit Alessa's grave and the funeral home where services were held for the Brookfield High School junior so he would know the emotional toll her death had taken on her family.

"I wanted to talk to the family, but I was scared," Thompson told Rice before he was sentenced. He admitted that he had been driving too fast.

Ms. Davidson and Alyssa described Internet posts Thompson had made on Myspace, where he said he was

going out and partying.

Keith Gunther, a Trumbull County probation officer, read from about a dozen recent posts from Thompson's Myspace page that said he was either going to a party or looking for a party.

"It continues to amaze me that young people think they can put things on Myspace and no one will see it," Rice said.

He added that he didn't think Thompson's behavior was consistent with that of someone who was sorry for what he did.

Charles Mickens, Thompson's lawyer, told the court that every time he had talked to Thompson about the incident, he seemed to be on the

verge of tears and was just afraid to talk to Alessa's family.

Ms. Davidson said she had forgiven Thompson, but said there needed to be serious consequences for what he did.

"He needs some serious help," she said.

Thompson's mother, Christine Belotti, said after the sentencing that her son has had a difficult time showing any emotion since his father died, but that he did regret causing the fatal crash.

"He'll have some time to think about it and let it out," she said.

Ms. Belotti said she felt her son's sentence was a fair one.

The restitution was "a serious thing," Ms Davidson said.

Dream

Speakers celebrate black history

from page A-1

knowledge that some racial issues remain in the Shenango Valley — Thursday's program was a celebration of African-American history, culture and food and people of all kinds came together to organize it and make it a success.

"This is what you can do when you collaborate with one another," Mrs. McKeithan, the first African-American — or female — mayor of Farrell, said.

"I thank each and every one of you," she said.

Roland Barksdale-Hall, a scholar, genealogist and writer was the featured speaker.

He encouraged the kids who sitting at tables in the gym to be dreamers, believers and achievers. He also told them there's no reason they can't be successful here and help improve the Shenango Valley's future.

"Farrell, Pa. is a special place," he said, clueing the kids in on the Great Migration of blacks from the rural South to the industrial North: a movement that turned what was then South Sharon into the boomtown Farrell, keystone of the Shenango Valley's steel industry.

The strong work ethic of Farrell residents, along with superior athletic ability, put the Steel City on the map. Farrell's finest state championship basketball teams in the 1950s and 1960s were anchored by

African Americans, Barksdale-Hall said.

"Now the question is, are we going to pass the baton to the next generation," he said. "We want you to be dreamers, we want you to be believers, we want you to be achievers."

In today's world the key to doing that is getting a good education, he said.

"Achieve in school. Play the books so you can achieve," he said. "That is the dream for the next generation."

He also encouraged the youth to mark their success here.

"Don't go to Washington D.C., do it here," he said. "Live in Farrell, go to school, bring the wealth back to Farrell."

LEAN CHAMPION CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

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End Date:	May 14, 2010
Location:	Clarion University/Venango Campus Montgomery Hall; Room 403/404 1801 West 1st Street, Oil City, PA
Cost:	\$1,995 per person
Contact to Register:	Jean Miller - jmiller@nwirc.org 814-456-6299
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- Mar. 19:** Principles of Lean Manufacturing (8 Hrs)
Intro of Lean 101 w/Live Simulation
- Mar. 26:** Value Stream Mapping (8 Hrs)
Definition, Tools and Case Studies
- Apr. 09:** Value Stream Mapping Continued (8 Hrs)
Achieving the Future State
- Apr. 16:** Kaizen/A-3 Problem Solving (8 Hrs)
Application; The Right Side of A3
- Apr. 23:** Kaizen/A-3 Problem Solving Cont (8 Hrs)
Lean Tools Expanded; The Left Side of A3
- May 07:** Kaizen/A-3 Problem Solving Cont (4 Hrs)
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Sen. Brown an independent thinker in Republican party

HAVING INDEPENDENT-MINDED Yankee Republicans in the U.S. Senate is a tradition almost as old as the party. One thinks of Vermont Sen. George Aiken and his terse solution for the Vietnam War: Declare victory and come home.

Their numbers seemed to have dwindled to two: Maine Sens. Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins. But now there is a hopeful sign that the tradition will survive in the person of newly elected Massachusetts Sen. Scott Brown, although his embracing manner and playmate background hardly fits the stereotype of the flinty New Englander.

In his first major vote, Brown bucked the GOP leadership by voting for a successful override of a filibuster, thus allowing a \$15 billion job creation bill to come to a vote. He was joined by Snowe and Collins and retiring GOP Sens. Christopher Bond and George Voinovich.

It was not totally a profile in courage. The Republicans largely favored the bill, but the leadership was irate at Democratic leader Harry Reid unilaterally substituting it for a much larger \$85 billion jobs bill crafted with bipartisan support. Among the provisions Reid cut out were \$33 billion in Republican-backed tax breaks. These will come up again, and very likely pass, but in today's Senate no slight gets by without retaliation.

Brown said he voted for the bill because it might help the people of Massachusetts. It may, but not much. The heart of the bill is \$13 billion to exempt employers from the

■ **THE ISSUE:** Independent-minded politicians

■ **A SUGGESTION:** Newly elected Sen. Scott Brown's recent vote to override the GOP filibuster shows he plans to vote his conscience, even if it bucks his party.

Social Security taxes for any new hire for the rest of 2010 and a \$1,000 tax credit if the new job lasts a year.

What this bill will largely do is to reward employers for hiring workers they would have hired anyway as the economy picks up. But with the jobless rate hovering perilously close to the double figures, any little bit helps.

Brown's show of independence is encouraging on two counts. A small band of intractable Obama opponents believe that with Brown on board and reliably voting their way they could score political points by preventing the president from getting anything at all passed. And it may derail another group of intractable Republicans who are determined to purge the party of any lawmakers who do not vote in lockstep on their agenda, politicians they dismissively call "RINOs," Republicans In Name Only.

Brown campaigned more as an independent than a Republican. His hard-core Republican colleagues must be wondering this week: What if that Yankee really meant it?

Scripts Howard News Service



MEANWHILE AT THE HEALTH CARE OLYMPICS...

Bayh's goodbye missed point

Senator Evan Bayh of Indiana is a likeable, more or less reasonable Democrat who believes we're now in a time of "national peril," that Congress is proving more problem than solution and whose own solution is to get the heck out of Dodge.

Well, out of Congress, actually. He is retiring because he thinks the place is a mess. His thesis expressed in a New York Times op-ed piece is that it has ceased to function because of ideological fixations, partisanship, abuse of rules, special interests and a lack of comity between the two major parties. He believes a greater effort at consensus is crucial.

To some, all of this makes him something of a hero. The intellectual fad of the moment, coming at us chiefly from the left, is that the nation has become "ungovernable," and because Bayh is beating this drum, he is being cheered.

But since when is it heroic to retreat when you perceive your country is in need? Why not fight the good fight to fix whatever he thinks is broken? He may not be morally obligated to try to hang on in difficult circumstances, but heroic? Not a minute of it.

Nor does his thesis do more than nibble at the edges of the central issue in Washington these days, which is that incompetent leaders in Congress and the White House are attempting to jam a disastrous agenda down the throat of a reluctant nation.

This is the chief ideological issue - a sense by the Democrats that their control of both



Jay Ambrose

Congress and the White House is a chance at last to give us a society imitating the crumbling semi-socialist societies of Western Europe. The arrogance has been as unbelievable as the incompetence of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and President Barack Obama, who now has a new health care proposal that is pretty much same o' same o'.

It is still a sweeping new entitlement that could worsen joblessness through its demands on businesses, unconsciously strips liberties from the people and comes on top of old entitlements - Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security - that pose a ruinous debt threat without any assistance from the White House, thank you. It would address Medicare through benefit reductions to current recipients instead of making adjustments for future recipients and does very little to address some current problems that could in fact be relieved by inexpensive, prudent ideas.

That's where the Republicans come in. They have such ideas, among them tort reform, selling health insurance across state lines and giving refundable tax credits to individuals instead of insurance tax breaks to employers. Instead of \$1 trillion the first 10

years and \$2.5 trillion each 10 years after that, this approach would cost very little depending on the method of implementation, would not risk massive unintended consequences and would not push us toward a day when the government controls every aspect of health care from maternity ward to hospital death bed.

Stopping this kind of complicated, involved, thousand-page legislation that Reid and Pelosi initially aimed to rush through Congress with minimal discussion or revelation is not a lack of government. It is government at its very best. It is government protecting us from doom. It is government responsive to analyses of experts and an increasingly skeptical public, and you might hope we could have more of that.

We'll see. Obama and gang have not given up. For them, it's full speed ahead.

And here is where Bayh is also amiss. He deems it time to re-jigger a filibuster rule that Democrats loved when they were in the minority so that Republicans cannot use it as easily to block the health bill and various other major, controversial measures. And yes, you can reduce various checks and balances aimed at limiting government, and some will applaud as long as it's their side in power. But there are those of us who would argue that you have not thereby made Congress a better, more responsible institution.

Scripts Howard News Service

Bayh shouldn't jump ship

In an essay titled, "Why I'm Leaving the Senate," Evan Bayh brilliantly explains what's wrong with the Senate and how to fix it. If only the headline had read, "Why I'm Not Leaving the Senate" — or better, "Things I Will Do If Indiana Voters Give Me Another 6 Years."

Bayh is a heartland moderate with many attractive qualities and high poll numbers. After the Hoosier declared that he could not bear another term of senatorial dysfunction, pundits instantly speculated that Bayh might run for president. Hmmm.

One recalls New Jersey Democrat Bill Bradley's announcement in 1995 that he would not seek re-election because the Senate is "broken" but that he'd consider the presidency.

A politician who lacks the intestines to do battle in the Senate might not seem an ideal choice for the presidential hot seat. (Bradley's 2000 campaign for the Democratic nomination fell flat.)

Only senators can make the Senate work as it should, and Bayh has excellent thoughts on that subject.

On bringing "honest dialogue" back to the Senate, he suggests, "Why not have a monthly lunch of all 100 senators?"

They could pick a topic, and "each side could make a brief presentation followed by questions and answers." Capital idea! Why doesn't Bayh hang around and start those lunches?

On the "distorting influence of money," Bayh suggests requiring corporate donors to



Froma Harrop

put their names on the political ads they finance. He would also bar beneficiaries of government contracts or bailouts from spending money on political campaigns. Go for it, I say.

On filibusters, Bayh writes that legislative hijackings by the minority have proliferated "because under current rules just one or two determined senators can stop the Senate from functioning."

He has great proposals for curbing the filibuster while affording the minority some say.

For example, he would require that 35 senators commit "to continually debate an issue in reality, not just in theory." As Jimmy Stewart does in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," they would have to inconvenience themselves and pull all-nighters.

He would reduce the number of votes needed to overcome a filibuster to 55 from the current 60.

Bayh ends his piece with a pledge to spend his final 11 months in the Senate trying to make these reforms a reality.

That's nice, but a lame duck advocating for changes that might take years to achieve is unlikely to produce much success.

One often overlooked detail in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" is that the Stewart character was never elected. He was appointed by the governor to replace a senator who

Only senators can make the Senate work as it should, and Bayh has excellent thoughts on that subject.

had suddenly died.

The political operators assumed that Jefferson Smith would be easy to manipulate. He was "a simpleton of all times" who had never been in politics, they said.

"He wouldn't know what it was all about in two years, let alone two months." But what Smith lacked in political sophistication, he made up for in courage.

A two-term senator and son of a three-term senator, Birch Bayh, Evan Bayh has the experience and smarts to direct a needed repair of the legislative body.

He repeated the saying from his father's day — that "a senator legislates for four years and campaigns for two" — and notes that senators now campaign all the time.

But suppose that Bayh, rather than quit the Senate, were to secure another six years in which he wouldn't campaign at all.

Suppose he were to use the opportunity to push, push, push for rules to restore the Senate's ability to serve the people.

This is no time for reformers to jump ship. To borrow from another 1939 movie classic, American politics needs lions with courage more than scarecrows with brains.

Creators Syndicate

Letter policy

The Herald encourages and welcomes letters to the editor from its readers on subjects of timely interest.

Letters should:

■ Be mailed to The Herald, c/o Letters to the Editor, Box 521, Sharon 16146, or faxed to 724-981-5116.

■ Be limited to about 350 words. Be signed by the

writer. Include the writer's address and a daytime telephone number.

The writer agrees to publication of his or her name. Pseudonyms will not be accepted.

Except in the interest of clarity and length, editing will be minimal.

Letters must be free from offensive language, personal

attacks, obvious errors in facts and libelous or potentially libelous statements.

Poetry and third-party letters (when The Herald is sent a copy of a letter mailed or written to another party) will not be accepted.

The Herald reserves the right to reject letters that are repetitive or do not address a timely topic.

OBITUARIES

Margaret V. 'Sis' Kirsch

Sharon resident was homemaker, mother of 12

A funeral service will be held Saturday for Margaret V. "Sis" Kirsch of 959 E. State St., Sharon. She passed away of natural causes at 12:51 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010, in Clepper Manor, Sharon. She was 90.

Mrs. Kirsch was born Thursday, Aug. 14, 1919, in Sharpsville to George and Martha Coxson Wasilko.

She worked as a homemaker and attended Shenango Valley Baptist Church in Hermitage.

Mrs. Kirsch enjoyed traveling.

Margaret will be missed by her family and her loving sister, Mary Jane.

Her husband, Charles W. Kirsch, whom she married in 1938, passed away Oct. 25, 1972.

Surviving are six daughters, Betty Collins, Southington, Ohio; Sherry A. and her husband William Frantz; and Charlette Shaffer, all

Greenville; Vivian Kirsch, Fredonia; Diana Ginnery, Hermitage; and Janet and her husband Brian Thomas, Sharon; and four sons, Eric E. Kirsch and his wife Linda; and Kim Kirsch and his wife Susan, all Sharon; and Daniel Kirsch and his wife Paula; and Calvin Kirsch and his wife Carol, all Hermitage.

She also leaves her sister, Mary Jane Bowser, Hubbard; 28 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Besides her husband, Margaret was preceded in death by her husband; two sons, Charles Kirsch Jr. and Kenneth B. Kirsch; and three sisters and two brothers.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family through the funeral home.

KIRSCH

Mrs. Charles W. (Margaret V. "Sis"), 90, Sharon.

Calling hours: 10 a.m. to time of service Saturday (2-27-10) in DONALDSON-MOHNEY FUNERAL HOME, 124 Main St., Sharpsville. Condolences may be sent to sjs_dmf_funeralhomes@verizon.net

Service: Funeral service at noon Saturday in the funeral home with the Rev. Gordon Thomas officiating.

Interment: Cornerstone Christian Cemetery, Hubbard Township, Trumbull County.



Joseph P. Monda

St. Joseph's member was avid sports fan

Joseph P. Monda of 1330 Kimberly Road, Sharon, formerly of Hall Avenue in Sharon, passed away at 10:05 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010, in the hospital of Sharon Regional Health System. He was 78.

Mr. Monda was born May 25, 1931, in Thomas, W.Va., a son of Joseph and Mary Combine Monda. His family moved to Sharon in 1949.

He was a member of St. Joseph's Church, Sharon.

Joseph was a true fan of all sports and enjoyed learning and knowing the statistics of the teams and players.

Survivors include his aunt, Pauline Combine, Hermitage, who lovingly took care of him for the past 18 years; an uncle,

Paul Monda, Missouri; and many cousins.

Besides his parents, Joseph was preceded in death by numerous maternal and paternal aunts and uncles.

Memorial contributions can be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

MONDA

Joseph P., 78, of 1330 Kimberly Road, Hermitage.

Calling hours: 9 a.m. to time of service Saturday (2-27-10) in St. Rose Cemetery Chapel, Hermitage. Friends may send condolences by visiting our Web site at www.McGonigleFuneralHomeandCrematory.com

Service: Mass of Christian burial at 10 a.m. Saturday (2-27-10) in the cemetery chapel with the Rev. J. Thomas Dugan, senior associate pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Sharon, as celebrant.

Interment: St. Rose Cemetery. Arrangements by J. BRADLEY MCGONIGLE FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY Inc., 1090 E. State St., Sharon.



Toby Jackson

Toby Jackson, 931 Julia Blvd., Farrell, died at 1:40 a.m. Thursday (2-25-10) in the hospital of Sharon Regional Health System. He was 90.

Obituary information was

incomplete.

JACKSON

Toby, 90, of 931 Julia Blvd., Farrell.

Arrangements will be announced by WILBERT L. SHANNON FUNERAL HOME Ltd., 33 Broadway Ave., Wheatland.



Calling hours: 5 to 8 p.m. today (2-26-10) in J. BRADLEY MCGONIGLE FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY Inc., 1090 E. State St., Sharon, with a Rosary recited at 7:45 p.m. Friends may send condolences by visiting our Web site at www.McGonigleFuneralHomeandCrematory.com

Service: Mass of Christian burial at 10:30 a.m. Saturday (2-27-10) in Our Lady of Fatima Church, 601 Roemer Blvd., Farrell, with the Rev. Donald E. Berdis, pastor, as celebrant. A brief prayer service will be held in the funeral home at 9:45 a.m. prior to leaving for the church.

Interment: St. Anthony's Cemetery, Hermitage.

PAVCIK

Michael, 82, of 1829 Buckeye Drive, South Pymatuning Township.

Obituary was published 2-25-10

Calling hours: 4 to 7 p.m. today (2-26-10) in DONALDSON-MOHNEY FUNERAL HOME, 124 Main St., Sharpsville. Condolences may be sent to sjs_dmf_funeralhomes@verizon.net

Service: Funeral service at 10 a.m. Saturday (2-27-10) in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Hermitage, with the Rev. Donald Hake, pastor, officiating. Those attending are asked to meet at the church.

Interment: Holy Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Hermitage.

MERCER COUNTY

County's drug dog Brutus dies

Helped sniff out \$2 million in drugs

By Matt Snyder
Herald Staff Writer

Brutus, the county's long-time drug dog, died last week after his retirement in January. In his career, the golden retriever helped take more than \$2 million in drugs off the streets.

First and foremost, Brutus was a cop, said Sheriff Bill Romine. He wore a badge and went to work for Mercer County Sheriff's Department, sniffing out drugs in cars and schools. He worked with the district attorney's office, state attorney general, and federal agencies.

Brutus died Feb. 16.

Capt. Eric Garrett, who has served with the sheriff's department since 1990, trained and raised Brutus and his predecessor, Wiley.

Brutus took part in more than 400 searches, but Garrett said he was also an educator — accompanying deputies into schools or other community events to give anti-drug messages.

"He was extremely friendly," Garrett said. "He was the type of dog, he could basically be a lap dog type of thing, lay on your couch." Kids liked him because he reminded them of their dogs at home.

But Brutus wasn't a pet,



Contributed

Sheriff's Deputy Capt. Eric Garrett helped train and raise his canine partner, Brutus, who died Feb. 16 after a decade of service to the county. Brutus helped sniff out more than \$2 million in drugs and educate the county's youth.

said Romine. He was a law enforcement dog who reported to work every day.

In the schools, Brutus was particularly adept at showing students just how powerful a canine's nose is, Garrett said.

He could track down a single marijuana cigarette in a student's locker.

But the dog was involved in large busts, too. His first month on duty, he helped find more than \$50,000 in drug

money hidden in a vehicle, Garrett said. Less than a week later, he helped uncover 12 kilos of cocaine in a hidden compartment in a truck.

But whether it was a five-figure bust or a small amount of marijuana, Garrett said Brutus was equally happy. Efforts by criminals over the years to deter him with oils, perfume, detergent, or other scent-maskers were to no avail. He had a good nose, Garrett said.

Garrett worked with the sheriff's department and the county's District Attorney's office in 1992 to put the department's drug-sniffing dog program together. They were funded through the years by state grants, Romine said.

When the county's first drug-sniffing dog, Wiley, retired in 2001, Garrett had already bred Wiley with another drug-sniffing dog and chosen Brutus as the pick of the litter. He trained him and right after Wiley's retirement, Brutus was trained and ready to go.

But there is no replacement for Brutus, Romine said. Money is tight in the county and the state, and the future of the Sheriff Department's drug-sniffing dog program is in question.

As for Brutus, who died at the age of 12, Garrett said he lived a long life and was well cared for. Romine said he will be missed by the whole department.

SANDY LAKE

Charges dropped against 4 in beating case

By Matt Snyder
Herald Staff Writer

Charges were withdrawn against four Sandy Lake area men after police said they beat up a man Jan. 20 in Wright Village over a dispute that began two days before.

Charges were dropped against the four because a witness was uncooperative, said Assistant District Attorney Ryan Bonner.

The four men are Michael Shane Love, 32, of 21 Dunn St., Apartment 19, Sandy Lake; Gary "Little Gary" Lee Blair Jr., 31, 1550 Butler Pike, Springfield Township; Jason "Biscuit" Lee Morrow, 25, of

20 Jones St., Lot 11, Sandy Lake; and Terry "Butch" Lee Reagle Jr., 38, Franklin.

Love, Blair and Morrow had been charged with aggravated and simple assault and intimidation of witnesses. Reagle had been charged with criminal conspiracy and intimidating witnesses.

According to police, two days before the beating, Frederick John Herzog, 37, of 2562 Mercer St., Sandy Lake, approached Love and told him he was sent to "take care of business," and drew two guns.

State police later caught Herzog, and he has since been charged. But a man riding in Herzog's truck, Jeffrey

Reagle, was the victim of a beating Wednesday night by Love and the three others, police said. Jeffrey Reagle suffered cuts, bruises and severe swelling to his face.

Police did not say whether Jeffrey and Terry Reagle were related.

According to Jeffrey Reagle's girlfriend, she and he were visiting a friend and the four other men wanted him to come outside. He locked himself in his pickup so they wouldn't come into the friend's apartment.

Blair allegedly broke the truck's window, and Jeffrey Reagle fled out the other side. He was cornered, knocked

down, beaten and kicked, she told police.

The four men — who are no longer charged — said Jeffrey Reagle was outside, made threats against them and when they went out to meet him, he appeared to be rummaging for a weapon under the seat.

Herzog, who had been charged with terroristic threats, possession of a gun without a license, and disorderly conduct, had charges held to court before District Judge D. Neil McEwen, Pine Township. He remains in Mercer County Jail.

BRIEFLY

Man sends gift card scheme charges to court

HERMITAGE — An Ohio man facing charges in Ohio and Pennsylvania for allegedly producing counterfeit gift cards has allowed the Pennsylvania charges to proceed to Mercer County Common Pleas Court.

The attorney for Anton Pyatetsky, 20, who is charged as Anton Pyateysky in Mahoning County, faxed a stipulation Wednesday that, if a preliminary hearing scheduled for Thursday had been held, prosecutors could show that crime occurred and Pyatetsky might have been involved.

Pyatetsky was charged by Hermitage police with three counts each of producing or trafficking in unlawful device making equipment, possessing device making equipment and possessing instruments of crime.

Hermitage police said they were called for assistance by Austintown, Ohio, police Sept. 4, the day Ohio police and an informant allegedly bought 15 counterfeit Giant Eagle gift cards from Pyatetsky.

Pyatetsky was indicted about a year ago by a Mahoning County grand jury on charges of theft, criminal solicitation and possession of criminal tools. Those charges are pending.

Hermitage police said searches of homes in Hermitage and South Pymatuning Township and Pyatetsky's business, Anton's Computer Services and Repair, 3638 E. State St., Hermitage, turned up computers Pyatetsky used

to make fake gift cards, and associated paraphernalia.

He has been free on bond.

Some charges withdrawn against alleged molester

WOLF CREEK TOWNSHIP — A 20-year-old Knox, Pa., man accused of fondling a 5-year-old girl while they watched a children's television show together had some charges held to court and some withdrawn on Wednesday.

Jason Brian Meals had charges of indecent assault, corruption of minors, and indecent assault held to court before District Judge D. Neil McEwen, Pine Township.

However, the most serious charges against Meals — three felony counts of aggravated indecent assault of a child — were all withdrawn by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Bonner. Bonner added one count of unlawful contact with a minor, which was held to

court.

The new charges fit the facts of the crime better, Bonner said.

Police said Meals fondled the kindergarten-age girl Oct. 2 while staying in a Wolf Creek Township home last year. They were watching "Scooby Doo" together.

The girl told Meals to stop, and when he didn't she told her mother she went upstairs.

Two days later, police in Knox investigated a separate allegation of child molestation against Meals there, and on Oct. 14 he was charged there with indecent assault and corruption of minors. He is awaiting trial in Clarion County on that matter. He was later charged in Mercer County in the Wolf Creek Township case.

Police said Meals admitted touching the girl in an interview.

Staff and wire reports

PREVIOUS DEATHS

MILLER
Dorothy M., 72, of 470 Ormond Ave., Sharon.

Obituary was published 2-23-10

Calling hours: With family from 10 to 10:50 a.m. Saturday (2-27-10) in Community Missionary Baptist Church, 1013 Emerson Ave., Farrell. Friends may also call in the home of Rodrick W. Miller, deceased's former husband, 627 Hamilton Ave., Farrell. Condolences may be sent by fax to 724-347-1917 or by e-mail to SharonFHLtd@netscape.net

Service: Funeral service at 11 a.m. Saturday in the church with the Rev. Robert E. Chavers, pastor, officiating.

Interment: Morefield Cemetery, Hermitage.

Arrangements by WILBERT L. SHANNON FUNERAL HOME Ltd., 33 Broadway Ave., Wheatland.

NIGRO

Mrs. Aneillo "Bill" (Millie Scarnack), 79, of 25 Besco Drive, Shenango Township, formerly of Hamilton Avenue, Farrell.

Obituary was published 2-25-10

COURTS

District Judge

Dennis M. Songer, Sharon

ARRAIGNMENTS

Richard M. Hunyadi, 300 W. State St., Sharon; charged by state police with escape; preliminary hearing set for Wednesday; taken to Mercer County Jail after failing to post bond.

Brian E. Ondic, 408 Brooklyn St., Sharon; charged by Sharon police with propulsion of missile into an occupied vehicle, terroristic threats and disorderly conduct; preliminary hearing set for March 5; released on his own recognizance.

Christopher M. Dickson, 523 Wilson St., Sharon; charged by Sharon police with theft by deception; preliminary hearing set for March 5; released on his own recognizance.

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

Daily Dow Jones



Table of Stock market indexes including 52-Week High/Low, Name, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD %Chg, and 12-Mo %Chg for various market indices.

Table of Stock exchange highlights for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, showing current values and percentage changes.

Table of Most Active stocks, categorized by NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, listing Name, Vol, Last, and Chg.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Large table listing various local stocks with columns for Name, Ex, Div, Yld, PE, Last, Chg, and YTD %Chg.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table listing mutual funds with columns for Name, Total Assets, NAV, 4-wk, 12-mo, Rank, 5-year, Pct Load, and Min Inv.

Stock Footnotes: g = Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h = Does not meet continued-listing standards. i = Late filing with SEC. n = New in past 52 weeks. of = Preferred. rs = Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50 percent within the past year. r = Right to buy security at a specified price. s = Stock has split by at least 20 percent within the last year. un = Units. vj = In bankruptcy or receivership. wd = When distributed. wi = When issued. wt = Warrants. Mutual Fund Footnotes: b = Fees covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d = Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. f = front load (sales charges). m = Multiple fees are charged. NA = not available. p = previous day's net asset value. s = fund split shares during the week. x = fund paid a distribution during the week. Gainers and Losers must be worth at least \$2 to be listed in tables above. Most Actives must be worth at least \$1. Volume in hundreds of shares. Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

GREENVILLE Auction at Thiel to benefit Chamber, United Way

Area businesses and individuals seeking to obtain recognition as well as doing something to benefit the community are invited to contribute items for auction at the 11th Annual Benefit Auction, scheduled for May 7 in the Howard Miller Center at Thiel College in Greenville. Proceeds from the event benefit the Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce and United Way of Mercer County. The event features a large display of auction items for which guests can bid, and in-

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Credit union trying to 'avoid panic'

Assets available but \$3.4 million lost in 3 months

By Patrick E. Litowitz New Castle News

A New Castle-based credit union lost \$3.4 million during the last three months of 2009.

"We have endured some losses. I can't confirm the total amount," said Kenneth W. Cotton, president of the credit union's board of directors. "The entire situation is really a complete shock to the whole board."

Federal auditors uncovered irregularities with Lawrence County School Employees' Credit Union finances in late September.

The credit union, chartered in 1937, serves about 1,900 clients. Its members consist of county school district employees and their relatives.

"As of right now, we're still in business," Cotton said. "I want to reinforce that (members) accounts are insured to \$250,000. We're trying to avoid panic at any cost."

"We currently have assets available to our members."

Cotton said the credit union is working with the National Credit Union Administration and First Choice Federal Credit Union, located in Union Township, to assist with operations. The NCUA is a federal agency that regulates and charters credit unions.

"All we know is there are accounting irregularities," Cotton said. "We had to write off some loans."

Financial information obtained from the NCUA highlights problems in the fourth quarter of 2009.

Cash assets fell from \$2.6 million in September to \$152,000 at year's end. During the same period, loan write-offs jumped from \$6,600 to

\$770,000. Loss on investments reached \$2.4 million in December. Conversely, no losses were reported between December 2008 through September 2009.

Cotton said the board is waiting for an auditor's report, which will detail what took place and will recommend what actions the credit union should take.

Cherie Umbel, NCUA spokeswoman, said the report's contents will not be made public.

A volunteer board oversees the credit union's operations. Joining Cotton on the board are Joseph Croach, Brian Glass and Donna Pezzuolo.

"I'm just a figurehead," Croach said. "We're ignorant of what's going on."

Today, the credit union's staff consists of a teller, who declined to be identified. She said that the credit union's chief executive officer, Holly Cowan, has not been in the of-

fice for the last five months. Cowan also served on the board.

"She no longer works for us," Cotton said.

Stating that it was a personnel issue, he declined to discuss her departure.

Attempts to reach Cowan by phone and at her Slippery Rock Township home were unsuccessful.

There have been 185 bank failures since 2008, according to federal regulators. In comparison, credit unions have proved to be stable operations.

Just 15 were liquidated in 2009 in addition to one this year. Of those, 13 had their assets purchased by other credit unions.

The New Castle Area School District said the number of employees making deposits to the Lawrence County School Employees' Credit Union dropped from 115 to 79.

CNHI News Service

Too big to fail? That's not the case with Hummer

NEW YORK (AP) — Unless a last-minute buyer steps forward, General Motors Co.'s Hummer brand is fading into history.

The sale of the SUV brand with military roots to a Chinese heavy equipment maker has collapsed. GM said it would still hear offers for the company, but potential investors would have to move fast.

"In the early phases of the wind-down, we'll entertain offers and determine their viability, but that will have to happen in pretty short order," said GM spokesman Nick Richards.

GM said Wednesday that its bid to sell Hummer to Sichuan Tengzhong Heavy Industrial Machines Co. fell through. The Chinese manufacturer said it failed to get clearance from regulators in Beijing within the proposed timeframe for the sale.

GM will continue to honor warranties for current Hummer owners.

"We are disappointed that the deal with Tengzhong could not be completed," said John Smith, GM vice president of corporate planning and alliances. "GM will now work closely with Hummer employees, dealers and suppliers to wind down the business in an orderly and responsible manner."

GM did not disclose a timeframe for winding down the brand, which employs 3,000 people in the U.S. Hummer will be the second division after Saturn that GM failed to sell as planned. Its one successful sale was Swedish car brand Saab, which is going to Dutch carmaker Spyker Cars NV in a \$74 million deal.

That sale came together at the last minute after a deal with a group led by another Swedish car manufacturer fell apart. A similar outcome for Hummer would be its only hope of survival, but no new buyers had emerged as of Wednesday evening, Richards



A man looks into a new GM 2010 H3 Hummer on sale at a dealership in Pasadena, Calif. Hummer, the off-road vehicle that once symbolized America's love for hulking sport utility vehicles, faces a shutdown after its sale to a Chinese heavy equipment maker collapsed.

said.

Hummer, which traces its origins to the Humvee military vehicle built by AM General LLC in South Bend, Ind., acquired a devoted following among SUV lovers. But Hummer was always a polarizing brand with a fuel-thirsty lineup that many saw as symbols of excess.

Hummer sales peaked at 71,524 in 2006. But they collapsed when gas prices shot above \$4 a gallon in the sum-

mer of 2008 and never recovered. In December 2009, only 325 Hummers were sold, down 85 percent from the previous year, according to Autodata Corp.

Sticker prices start at more than \$42,500 and run to about

\$63,000, according to data posted at the Hummer.com Web site. The H3, the most fuel-efficient vehicle in Hummer's lineup, averages about 16 mpg. The vehicles are built at GM's factory in Shreveport, La.

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Public Input Hearing Re: Water Rate Increase The Public Utility Commission (PUC) will hold a telephonic public hearing concerning the Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. request for an increase in rates. The PUC has scheduled this hearing to provide customers the opportunity to testify on: Monday, March 9, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. To testify at the telephonic public input hearing, you are required to sign up with the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) before 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, and provide your name, telephone number and the topic of your testimony. To contact the OCA, call toll free 800.684.6560.

ASK DR. GOTT



Peter M. Gott, M.D.

If, however, you see a "shower" of floaters, which may be accompanied by flashes of light, you should see an ophthalmologist immediately. These symptoms are often a sign

that the vitreous is pulling away from the retina or that the retina itself is detaching from the back of the eye. If this occurs, an eye surgeon must work quickly to repair or reattach the retina to prevent permanent vision loss.

The only treatment available is surgical removal of the vitreous, which is usually replaced with saline solution. Eye doctors consider this drastic treatment only when floaters severely hamper vision.

If your floaters continue to worsen, see an ophthalmologist. If everything checks out OK, you will just have to adjust to them unless the physician agrees that your vision is obstructed severely.

Dear Dr. Gott: I have an embarrassing problem and hope you can offer some advice. I seem to have a social anxiety that causes me to basically have an irrational fear of speaking to people out in public. The worst part is that my

face turns red in many situations.

I am 40 years old and have no other health problems. I eat well and exercise regularly. I don't want to be on medication. Is there any vitamin supplement I can try first?

Dear reader: Based on your statement of "fear of speaking to people out in public," I take this to mean fear of one-on-one or small-group conversations. I must admit that this is a first for me, with fear of speaking in front of audiences being much more common.

There are several anti-anxiety nutrients that might be of assistance, including kava kava, valerian, St. John's wort in low doses and ashwagandha. I commend you for considering alternative remedies, but I do not feel qualified enough to recommend any of the possibilities and recommend you speak with your primary-care physician to determine which one might be appropriate for you with the fewest side effects.

Dr. Peter Gott is a retired physician and author.

United Feature Syndicate, Inc.



Contributed

CPR anytime

Jeff Hull, president of Hermitage Kiwanis Club, second from left, presents \$1,000 to Raymond Olsen of Hermitage School District to assist in purchasing "CPR Anytime Kits" for students. Olsen will teach the program in seventh-grade health classes.

With them are, from left, Dr. Dan Bell, schools superintendent; Eric Trosch, principal at Delahunty Middle School; and Wendy Karlovic, registered nurse, Kiwanian and committee member of "CPR Anytime."

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BIRTHS

She is a granddaughter of Barry E. Miller, Hermitage; Rose Deleon, Pittsburgh; and Brian and Gina Getsie, Farrell.

Addison Leigh Crown

A daughter, Addison Leigh Crown, was born to Christopher Corey and Melissa Ann Thompson Crown, 6649 Saranac Drive, Transfer, on Feb. 17, 2010, in The Women's Center of Sharon Regional Health System. She weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces.

Addison has two sisters, Kylie Nicole, 6; and Lauren Michelle, 4.

She is a granddaughter of Debra and Terry Thompson, Transfer, and Victor and Linda Crown, Martinsburg, W.Va.

Kaley Rae Bowers

A daughter, Kaley Rae Bowers, was born to Steven E. and Amy K. Price Bowers, Mercer, on Feb. 20, 2010, in UPMC Horizon, Farrell. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces.

Kaley has a sister, Alaina Renee, 3.

She is a granddaughter of Tom and Judy McSkimming, Ashtabula, Ohio; Raymond and Debra Bowers, West Middlesex; and the late Robert Price.

Gianna Renee Brandt

A daughter, Gianna Renee Brandt, was born to David Allen Brandt II and Krista Rose Miller, Hermitage, on Feb. 20, 2010, in UPMC Horizon, Farrell. She weighed 5 pounds.

Gianna has a sister, Alaina Lynn Brandt, 4; and a brother, Tyler Edward Kolsky, 3.

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First, when responding to ads offering free services...BE CAREFUL. You usually pay for them somewhere along the line.

Secondly, be leery of doctors that run different ads every other week claiming to be the only doctor in town with breakthrough treatments for multiple ailments. Usually these treatments are not covered by insurance and end up costing you thousands of dollars out of your pocket. Besides, if it was that big of a breakthrough and worked, don't you think most doctors in town would be offering it?

Third, think twice before giving up your bank account, checking account or credit card numbers. Patients are usually unaware that when you do this, it gives the doctor a chance to go in and drain your bank accounts after the first visit.

Finally, be aware of high pressure sales tactics. If a doctor sounds like a door-to-door salesman, and he makes your condition seem like you have one foot in the grave...get a SECOND OPINION. Furthermore, if they state that they are the only one that can help you, but it's going to require months of treatment and cost thousands of dollars...get a SECOND OPINION. These types of tactics are not only unethical, but they are illegal.

When choosing a chiropractor, ask around. Ask your medical doctor. Most doctors work well with chiropractors and know which ones are reputable. A typical visit should include consultation, exam, x-rays if needed, a report of findings, a treatment plan and finally an explanation of your financial obligation. Most insurances cover chiropractic care. Typical treatments offered by chiro-

practors include manipulation, therapy, massage and nutrition. Though chiropractors treat the whole body, the main focus is on neuromuscular and skeletal conditions. There shouldn't be a need to sign contracts to commit to care. If you are being asked to do so, you might want to reconsider.

There are plenty of good and ethical chiropractors around from which to choose — so choose wisely. The doctor should be willing to answer any questions you might have about your chiropractic care. Remember, it doesn't cost anything to ask questions before you choose, but it may cost you more than you expected if you don't.

This information provided by: Brennan Chiropractic

Brennan Chiropractic

Dr. Nick J. Brennan, Board Certified Rehab Physician

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MERCER COUNTY AREA

World Prayer services at 3 sites

World Day of Prayer community services, part of an observance celebrated in more than 170 countries, are scheduled locally in three churches next Friday, all at 1 p.m.

Services are slated in North Liberty Presbyterian Church, on North Liberty-Plain Grove Road in Liberty Township; First United Methodist Church in Sharon, at 237 W. Silver St.; and St. Patrick Church in Hubbard, at 357 N. Main St. The public is invited to attend the services.

Women of Cameroon have written the program around the theme of "Let everything that has breath praise God."

Those attending at North Liberty Presbyterian are asked to bring non-perishables to donate to Grove City Food Pantry. Child care will be provided and the church is handicapped-accessible.

Church Women United will sponsor the service at First United Methodist. Members and friends are invited to wear typical African dress and participate in a processional during the praise and worship program. Refreshments will follow the worship service and information will be given regarding the Book project to raise funds for the homeless.

At St. Patrick's, a luncheon at noon will precede the service.

Offerings will be received to support the work of World Day of Prayer USA and help meet the needs of families who are victims of poverty, violence and human trafficking.

local churches are invited.

Salem Youth Chorus to present concert here

SHARON — The Salem Youth Chorus presents "Darkness to Morn," a concert of contrasting and reflective sacred choral music, at 2:30 p.m. March 7 in First Presbyterian Church, 600 E. State St.

Selections by the Ohio chorus will include those by Palestrina, Parry, Vaughan Williams, Holst, Finzi, Mathias and Rutter, with a complete performance of Chichester Psalms by Leonard Bernstein.

A free-will offering will be accepted to benefit SYC.

The youth chorus was founded in 2007 by Jon Simsic, artistic director of youth music and theater for Salem Community Theatre. The program attracts young persons from throughout Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull counties.

SYC has recorded three CDs and sang in Colonial Williamsburg and at Choral Evensong at The Washington National Cathedral in 2008 and in New York City in 2009. This summer they plan to visit Ireland and England.

Speakers set for 'Fruit of the Spirit' service

SHARON — New Life Covenant Church, 807 Spruce Ave., will present "The Fruit of the Spirit" at 4:30 p.m. March 7.

Scheduled speakers are Diane Barnett, Patricia Sharper-Moore, the Rev. Willie Jefferson, Pastors Carla Robinson and Russell Penn, Junior Pastor Lynda Haynes, Elder Greg McCulley, Evangelist Peggy Scott Styles and Ministers James Hosey and Elmer Lowe

Finding new friends

Bars, restaurants top churches as meeting places

Religion News Service

Americans say Starbucks, Chili's and bars are better places than church to meet new friends, according to a new survey.

Restaurants, bars or pubs attract 18 percent of Americans as a place to meet people, while churches draw 16 percent and online venues like Facebook pull 11 percent, said the survey released in late January by Group Publishing, a nondenominational Protestant publishing house in Colorado.

The online survey polled

nearly 800 respondents, more than three-quarters of whom identified themselves as Christians, and has a plus or minus error rate of 4 percentage points.

Group Publishing commissioned the survey in order to "determine where the church ranks as compared to other 'around-town' venues when measuring the places, people and attributes that define friendly to Americans today."

Why would people choose a restaurant or bar over church? Chris Howley, director of research of Group Publishing, said many people feel "compelled" to be in church. They go as a sense of obligation and therefore have no spiritual motivation for attending. The social atmosphere of

a pub or restaurant draws people in without the feeling of obligation, he said.

The church may not be America's favorite spot to meet new people, but it is one of the friendliest. Americans said church is the second-friendliest place in town, behind, unsurprisingly, home. Restaurants and bars came in third, followed by grocery stores and coffee shops.

While the results did not conclude churches are unfriendly, Howley said the results could have been better. In particular, pastors could be friendlier. A list of the friendliest people in town revealed a close friend at the top, followed by a family member, neighbor, co-worker, minister or religious leader.

The 'friendly index' of pastors was not much higher than hairstylists and store clerks, said Jon Vaughan, Group Publishing's corporate marketing director.

Social media, the third favorite place to meet new people, may be a new way to boost the friendly quotient. "We don't think the church should see (social media) as a threat at all, but they should embrace the Internet. It's a way to engage people and bring people in," Howley said.

Vaughan concurs. "Since the Internet has become an integral element of our daily lives, pastors and church leaders must be more creative in facilitating social networking — both face-to-face
See **FINDING**, page A-9

Journey mercies



Jason Kapusta/Herald

With a soft snowpile in the foreground, the sign at First Baptist Church in Sharon carries a message of hope for better things to come than what our present circumstances may indicate. If you see a sign that catches your attention, call 724-981-6100 ext. 234, or e-mail a photo to religion@sharonherald.com or mail a glossy print to The Herald in care of the religion editor at 52 S. Dock St., Sharon 16146.

BRIEFLY

Valley for Christ meeting in Sharpsville

SHENANGO VALLEY — The public is invited to participate Saturday in the first mobilization of "Shenango Valley for Christ," an ecumenical prayer initiative that formed earlier this year.

The group will gather at 9:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Sharpsville, located at 603 W. Ridge Ave. The group plans to meet monthly at set times and places to pray for specific communities.

Participants will pray together, then divide into groups to travel to various "Pressure Points," identified by initiative leaders as centers of government, education, business/finance, media, and faith.

Those involved will stand outside those locations to pray for those who work, participate, contribute, or make decisions in those places.

The purpose of the movement is to pray for change, specifically in the areas of poverty, violence, addiction, crime and hopelessness, initiative leaders said.

Info: Rev. Adam Trambley, 724-347-4501; or Art Reagle, 724-342-7811.

Valley clergywomen's group meeting Saturday

FARRELL — The Shenango Valley Interdenominational Clergywomen's Alliance will hold its monthly meeting at 10 a.m. Saturday in Hour of Power Full Gospel Tabernacle, 1126 Fruit Avenue.

The speaker will be Licentiate Fontineese Royce.

Annual agape luncheon at Ruth A.M.E. Zion

SHARON — The Annual Bobby Barnett Agape Luncheon is set for 11:30 a.m. Saturday in Ruth A.M.E. Zion Church, 95 W. Connelly Blvd. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Donna Ulrich of Hour of Power Full Gospel Tabernacle in Farrell.

Answers in Genesis speaker at Lakeside

PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP — A dinosaur sculptor, author and musician will make a two-day stop at Lakeside Evangelical Congregation Church, 3203 N. Hermitage Road.

Buddy Davis of Answers in Genesis will speak at 7 p.m. Saturday on "Hunting in the Last Frontier," and at sessions from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday on "The Relevance of Genesis."

The public is invited and the programs are intended for all ages. Info: 724-962-4222.

Founders of ministries at Living Word Christian

WEST SALEM TOWNSHIP — Pastors Les and Sheila Bowling will minister Sunday and Monday in Living Word Christian Church, 21 S. Maysville Road. The meetings, focusing on training church leaders, will be at 10 a.m. Sunday and at 6:30 p.m. Sunday and Monday.

He is founder and president of Eagle Rock Ministries in Columbus, Ohio, and has more than 25 years of full-time ministry experience. She is founder of Gritty Women of God to encourage a warrior's spirit and a mother's heart.

Childcare will be provided.

Ecumenical choir asked to report early for festival

HERMITAGE — Ecumenical choir members are asked to report to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 3325 Morefield Road,

at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Christian Associates of the Shenango Valley are sponsoring Music Festival Sunday, at 3:30 p.m. that day.

Choir Day service set at Friendship Baptist

FARRELL — The Angelic Voices of Friendship Baptist Church will celebrate their Choir Day at 4 p.m. Sunday in the church at 339 Spearman Ave.

Guests will be the choir of Second Baptist Church of Sharpsville.

Black History program theme is church unity

PINE TOWNSHIP — Several local churches are scheduled to participate in the annual Black History program at 4 p.m. Sunday in Mount Olive Baptist Church, 663 Barkeyville Road.

Theme is "Go and be ye reconciled." Guest minister will be Bishop Joseph McNeal, who will speak on church unity. Participants will minister in praise and worship, drama, dance and speech. A fellowship meal will be served at 2 p.m.

Church to celebrate Bishop McCoy's birthday

FARRELL — A birthday celebration honoring Bishop Alvin J. McCoy, pastor of New & Living Way Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, 927 Lee Ave., Farrell, will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday in the church.

The public is invited to attend.

Hickory U.M. schedules concert for mission trip

HERMITAGE — Hickory United Methodist Church, 240 N. Hermitage Road, is holding a concert fundraiser at 6:30 p.m. Sunday for their summer mission trip to Lithuania.

Featured will be the Dixie Doodlers from Meadville, a pro-

gressive jazz ensemble.

A free-will offering will be received and refreshments will be served following the concert.

Harpist to perform Lenten recital at St. John's

SHARON — St. John's Episcopal Church, 226 W. State St., will present the second of its Lenten Meditation-Recital series March 2 in the church with carillon music at noon, followed by a meditation and a recital by Kirk Kupensky, "Harper Kirk" of Youngstown.

A harpist for nearly 30 years, his music ranges from classical to pop and jazz music and healing music on Celtic harp for patients at St. Elizabeth's Health Center, Youngstown. He has been a frequent recitalist at St. John's.

The event is free to the public with a light lunch to be served after the recital. The church is wheelchair-accessible.

Georgetown educator to lead St. Joe's mission

SHARON — The Rev. Ray Kemp will direct the Lenten mission at St. Joseph's Church, 79 Case Ave., set for March 6-10.

Rev. Kemp, who teaches at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., will give the homily at each Mass on March 6 and 7. The mission will begin at 7 p.m. March 7-10. Those attending will progress from conversion through reconciliation. The mission will conclude March 10 with a Mass.

Rev. Kemp is an author and a research fellow at Georgetown's Woodstock Theological Center. His areas of interest include pastoral theology, liturgy, preaching, Christian initiation, community organizing, urban development and urban politics.

Refreshments will be served each evening. Members of all

See **NEGLECT**, page A-9

Sister needs better coping skills

Dear Annie: I adore my husband of 20 years, and we have the best kids on earth. The problem? My parents. My older sister is divorced and has several small children. She is also an alcoholic and a horribly toxic person.

In the past few years, "Hettie" has pulled several stunts where her drinking has put herself and her children in extreme danger. She insists she is sober, but I know from several reliable sources that she is not. She won't admit that her cheating and drinking drove her husband away, and she has my parents snowed into thinking it was all his fault. She swindled her ex and my parents out of enough money to net her a nice income, yet she twists everything so that she comes out the victor.

I do not allow my teenagers to baby-sit for her or get in her car because she allows strange men in her home and drives drunk. She only calls when she wants something, and if I don't drop everything (I work full time), she screams at me.

My parents believe I am a horrible person because I don't buy in to Hettie's lies or



Kathy Mitchell & Marcy Sugar
Annie's Mailbox

give her money. I've tried to help in the past, and it brought nothing but trouble. She is a mean, lying drunk. My parents say I need to look past this because she is "family." I cannot deal with the drama anymore. I am cordial to Hettie, but won't make her our charity poster child like my parents do.

I have done my best, but I am still the "disappointing daughter." Last year, their intense disapproval sent me into the hospital with a major anxiety attack. Talking to them doesn't help. This is breaking my heart. - Refuse to be an Enabler

Dear Refuse: Your parents have blinders on when it comes to Hettie. Accepting that she is a "mean, lying drunk" makes them fear it's their fault, and that is why they blame you instead. You cannot change the way they think, but you can change how you deal with it. If you

need help, get some counseling to learn better coping skills.

Dear Annie: I have repeatedly told my daughter to remove her things from my home because we no longer have room for them, but it does no good. We plan on moving soon and cannot take along 10 boxes of our daughter's books and clothes. She lives out of the country and visits two or three times a year. Each time she visits, she buys more than she can possibly take back and leaves the rest here. It is prohibitively expensive to ship boxes of books to her. What do we do? - Out-of-Space Mom

Dear Mom: Notify your daughter that you will pack up her things and put them in a storage facility for six months or until her next visit, whichever comes first. After that, you will stop paying storage fees. She can then decide whether she wants to keep paying the fees herself, ship the items to her current location, sell them or make other arrangements that don't involve you. The important thing is that you stick to your guns.

Dear Annie: "Might As Well Be Single" said her husband

couldn't hold on to a job. Thank you for mentioning the possibility that he is suffering from Attention Deficit Disorder. The fact that he has had many jobs could mean he is making an effort to be employed.

I am 70 years old. I had job and school problems all my life and only recently discovered that I have ADD. I always managed to make a decent living, but might have done a lot better had I known earlier what I was up against. And my wife would have had a happier life. - Wish I'd Known

Dear Wish: ADD was not a realistic diagnosis when you were younger, but we're glad you know now.

To our Baha'i Readers: Happy Ayyam-i-Ha.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. E-mail your questions to anniesmailboxcomcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate Inc.

ON CAMPUS

Joseph Pleso, son of Mark F. Pleso, Hermitage, and Nancy S. Cody, Williamson, Mich., received his master's degree in advanced mathematics from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and has accepted a teaching position at the University of Pittsburgh, while pursuing his doctorate there.

Pleso is a graduate of Kennedy Catholic High School, Hermitage, and Pennsylvania State University.

Hillary Christy, daughter of Kendra Christy, Brookfield and the late Mark Christy, was named to the dean's list at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

The graduate of Brookfield High School is a freshman majoring in pharmacy.

Katie Tomko, Hermitage, and **Nicole Crumbacher**, New Wilmington, both stu-

dents at Westminster College, New Wilmington, will participate in Habitat for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge alternative spring break March 6-13 in Birmingham, Ala.

From February to April, Collegiate Challenge participants from across the country will volunteer in 200 Habitat locations.

Katie, a daughter of Ernest and Susan Tomko, is a junior elementary education major and a graduate of West Middlesex Area High School.

Nicole, a daughter of Kenneth and Kimberly Romig, is a sophomore public relations major and a graduate of Wilmington Area High School.

Cassandralee Fill, Hermitage, and **Cristen Dalessandro**, Sharpville, have been named to the fall dean's list at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind.

A student must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.4 on a 4.0 scale to earn academic honors.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Hermitage Commissioners Wednesday:

Introduced a new parks and recreation board ordinance to expand the board from seven members to nine; require that one member be from the arts community; remove a commissioner as a voting member, making the board purely advisory; and create a slot as a nonvoting member for a Hickory High School student. If the ordinance is adopted, the original 1975 ordinance will be repealed.

Created a committee to study whether the city should enact legislation to regulate wind power. Commissioners Rita L. Ferringer and Rhonda L. Paglia were appointed to the committee, which also will include members of the Hermitage Planning Commission, Hermitage Community and Economic Development Commission and city staff.

Revised the official sewage plan to include a small flow treatment facility proposed for 1605 Winner Road, the home of Jack and Korine Guthrie.

Consented to the fire protection agreement already in place between Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department and Lackawannock Township. Commissioners need to consent because the city owns some of the VFD's equipment and city employees respond to calls.

THINGS TO DO

FUNDRAISERS

Wheatland-Farrell United Methodist Church, 75 Mercer Ave., Wheatland, will hold an **all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage breakfast** from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children ages 4 through 12 and free for children younger than 3.

Hendersonville United Methodist Church, state Route 965, is having a **community potluck supper** beginning at 6 p.m. March 15.

Mercer County Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a **benefit dinner** from 5 to 7 p.m. March 31 at The Wave Italian restaurant in Sharon. Dinner and door prizes available.

All proceeds will go to Mercer County Habitat for Humanity to help support safe and affordable housing for families of Mercer County.

Tickets for the dinner are \$20 and are available at ERA Johnson Real Estate at 1620 E. State St., Hermitage, or 140 S. Diamond St., Mercer.

Volant Volunteer Fire Co. is having a **buckwheat pancake and sausage day** from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. March 6.

Cost for the all-you-can-eat meal is \$7 for adults; \$6 for seniors; \$5 for children ages 6

to 12; and free for children ages 5 and younger.

Regular pancakes will also be served.

Wheelchair access available. Info: 724-533-2673 or 724-748-5591.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sharon High School Advanced Culinary Arts Students, Sharon Teachers' Association and Sharon City School District will hold the **fourth annual senior citizen dessert cafe and districtwide art show** from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. March 24 in the commons area of Sharon High School. Dress rehearsal for the high school spring musical "Guys & Dolls" will be at 7 p.m.

Free admission for senior citizens.

Reservations: 724-983-4030, ext. 1319, or e-mail ann_uhalie@sharon.k12.pa.us by March 17.

The kettle will be on from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. every first and third Tuesday of the month at the Hour of Power Founders Hall, 1126 Fruit Ave., Farrell.

Free meals will be prepared for the hungry. Come and bring your children and enjoy what's in the kettle.

MEETINGS

Farrell High School class of 1952 meets for lunch at

noon Wednesday at The Hickory Grille, 1645 N. Hermitage Road, Hermitage.

All classmates and spouses are welcome.

AARP Shenango Valley Chapter 3616 meets at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Shenango Valley Senior Center, Hermitage. There will be a program and fellowship.

Blood pressure screenings will be held at 12:30 p.m. prior to the meeting by McGonigle Ambulance Personnel.

Lizette Olsen, director of Mercer County AWARE, which shelters women and children, will speak on the programs planned and information on the newly opened shelter in Greenville.

A bus trip to the Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh is planned for March 31. Bus departs from the west end parking lot of Hermitage Towne Plaza at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$25 and includes \$20 in coins and \$5 in food. *Reservations: 724-962-9456 or 724-981-8438.*

Members may bring a friend. Non-members are welcome to attend and see what the group is all about.

Events of interest to the community are published as space permits. Send written information to The Herald, Box 51, Sharon 16146. Information is not taken over the phone.

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The Crazyies (R) (12:45)-3:15-5:20-7:35-10:00	Dear John (PG-13) (12:10)-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:30
To Save A Life (1:45)-4:15-6:45-9:15	Avatar 3D (PG-13) (12:20)-3:25-6:30-9:35
Shutter Island (R) (1:20)-4:05-6:55-9:50	Tooth Fairy (PG) (12:15)-2:20-7:10
Crazy Heart (R) (12:00)-2:15-4:30-6:50-9:05	Edge of Darkness (R) (7:30)-10:05
Valentine's Day (PG-13) (2:05)-4:35-7:05-9:45	Alvin & the Chipmunks (PG) (12:55)-3:00-4:55
The Wolfman (R) (12:50)-3:05-5:15-7:20-9:25	The Blind Side (PG-13) (4:40)-9:20

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The Lovely Bones (PG-13) (4:25)-9:00-
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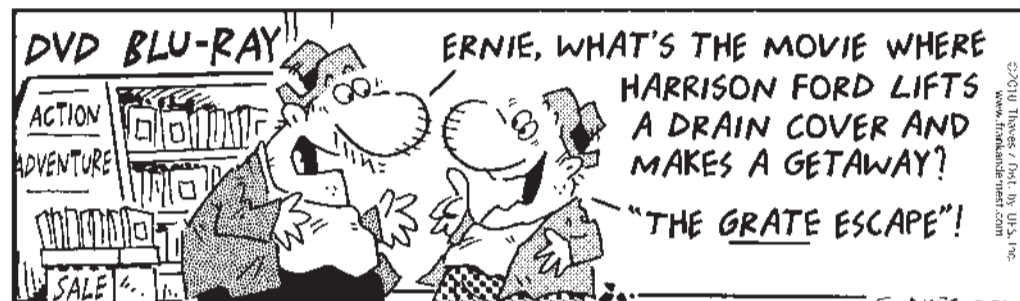
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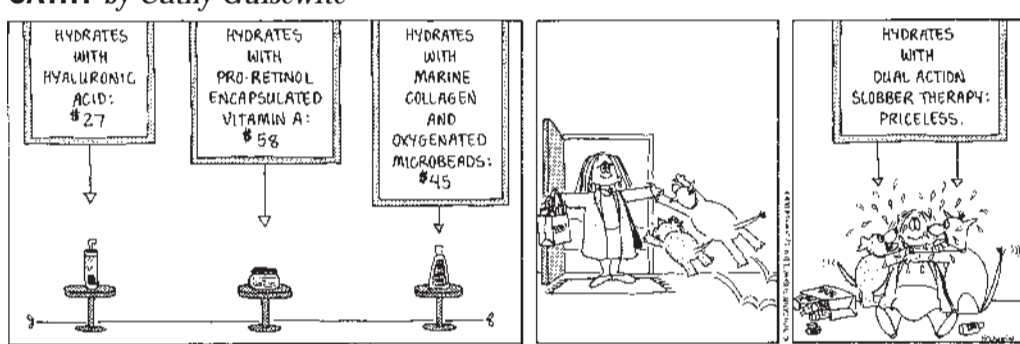
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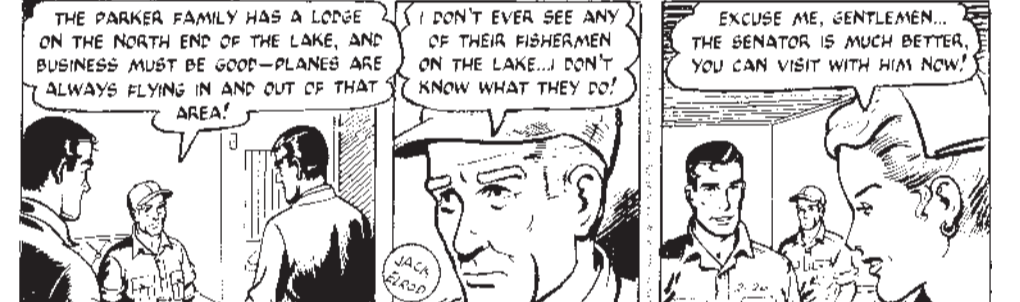
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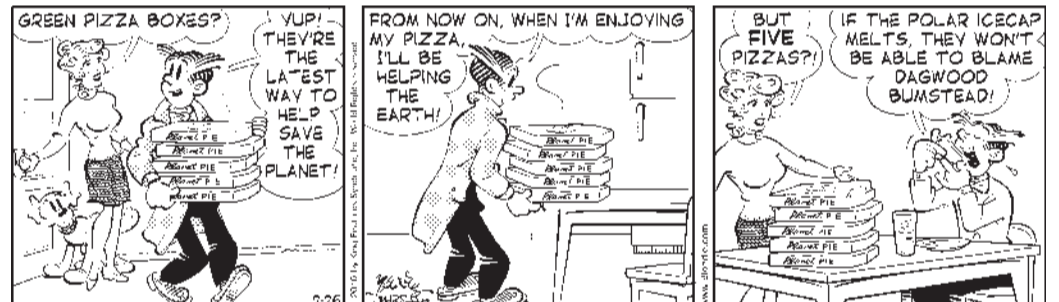
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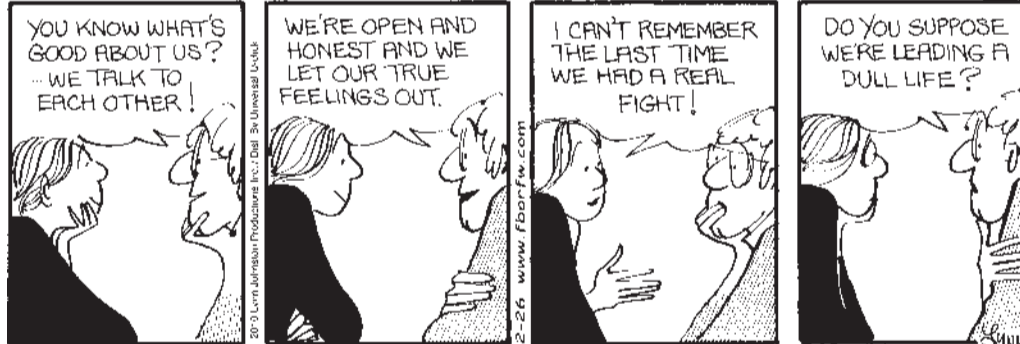
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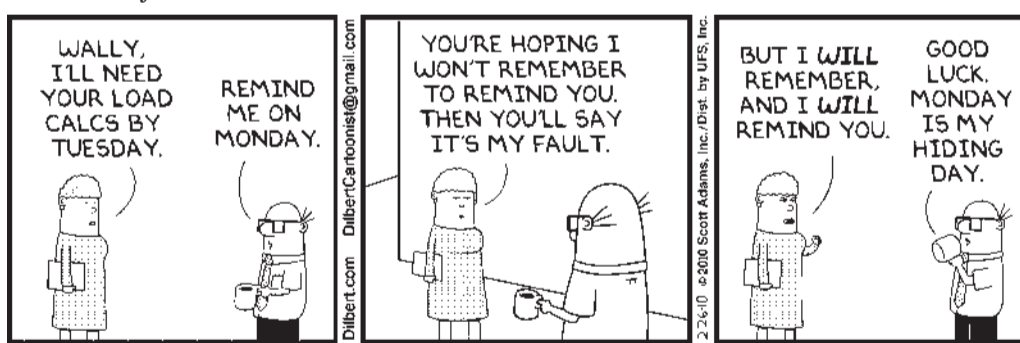
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WIN AT BRIDGE

and if responder has a strong hand, it makes slam exploration easier.

Your hand's loser count is very high: none, one, or two in spades; none or one in hearts; two in diamonds; and one or two in clubs.

First, you need to realize that the heart finesse must win.

And assuming it does, you should also be able to establish a long heart, giving you three tricks in the suit. But to accomplish that, you need dummy entries.

With this layout there is only one way home. You must duck the first trick, immediately setting up a diamond-ruff dummy entry.

Then, after a diamond to the ace, a heart to dummy's queen, two top trumps, a heart to the ace, and a heart ruff, you can trump your last diamond in the dummy.

You ruff a heart, lead a club to dummy's ace, and play the

North			
♠ J 7 2			
♥ A Q 7 5 4			
♦ 8 5			
♣ A 6 3			
West		East	
♠ 9 6	♠ Q 10 3	♥ J 10 9 8	♥ J 10 9 8
♥ K 3	♥ K 3	♦ J 6 3	♦ J 6 3
♦ K Q 10 9 2	♦ K 9 7 5	♣ J 10 8	♣ J 10 8
South			
♠ A K 8 5 4			
♥ 6 2			
♦ A 7 4			
♣ Q 4 2			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Neither			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♦ K			

fifth heart, discarding a club loser.

The defense is held to three tricks: one spade, one diamond and one club.

United Feature Syndicate

ASTROGRAPH

Friday, Feb. 26, 2010

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20): Regardless of how ambitious the goal, it can be achieved if you are properly motivated.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Just be yourself, and don't be afraid to show your feelings toward others as to who and what you are. If someone is appreciative, it might be time to reconsider the relationship.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A difficult personal situation may finally conclude itself, and with little effort on your part. Whether the conclusion is to your liking could be another story.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you are involved in a cause or idea you want to promote, this may be a better-than-average day to pursue it. People are more willing to listen to innova-

tive thinking and are apt to follow your lead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's OK to want to protect what's yours, but if you become too cautious, you could cause some severe problems for yourself, especially if you try to box in a family member.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The secret to being a good leader is to lead by example. You shouldn't have to tell others what to do; simply emphasize your points through demonstration, and that should do the trick.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): When making an assessment of something important, be logical and realistic - but don't discount any hunches or perceptions you may have about things.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You're in a momentary period of gratification and fulfillment, but you must act on what you want. There is plenty of justification for having high hopes and expectations that everything will go well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22): Whether you want it or not, you could stand out in a crowd, so don't do anything that puts you in a bad light.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21): If your innermost beliefs are attacked, don't let it get to you. In reality, who cares what others think? This person's assault will only strengthen your faith, views and opinions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You're in a good earning cycle and should be able to generate more funds than usual, especially from joint efforts. Do what you can to add to your resources.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): The secret to attracting admirers is to appreciate the attributes in others. People are drawn to those who recognize and respect who and what they are. Get your mind off yourself and onto others.

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"It's Become a Family Tradition"

Social networkers may be inviting burglars

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — As more people reveal their whereabouts on social networks, a new site has sprung up to remind you that letting everyone know where you are — and, by extension, where you're not — could leave you vulnerable to those with less-than-friendly intentions. The site's name says it all: Please Rob Me.

Launched last week, Please Rob Me is exceptionally straightforward. Pretty much all it does is show posts that appear on Twitter from a location-sharing service, Foursquare. Please Rob Me puts these posts into a long, chronological list it refers to as "Recent Empty Homes."

Please Rob Me assembles its list by taking information that Twitter makes freely available so that many Web sites can show tweets. But the point of Please Rob Me could be made with data that flows on dozens of other sites as well.

People are comfortable sharing all kinds of personal details on social sites such as Facebook. And now people are flocking to location-based Web services, such as Foursquare, Gowalla or Loopt, that let them use their cell phones to alert friends to where they are.

Some people choose to show their whereabouts only to approved buddies. But plenty push these very specific updates through public Twitter profiles that anyone can see.

This phenomenon is what motivated the creators of Please Rob Me, according to one of them, Boy Van Amstel, 25. Van Amstel said from Holland, where the site is based, that technology has become so easy to use that people are sharing too much online without even realizing it. He and his co-founders want people to think twice about it.

To drive the point home, Please Rob Me's Web page shows a scruffy-looking, loot-lugging burglar. Below that, it indicates that the site is "listing all those empty homes out there."

It doesn't really show empty houses, or even people's home addresses. Instead the posts on the list show Twitter users' photos, their Twitter usernames, how long ago they "left home" (which is determined by when they checked in with Foursquare) and where they went, along with a link to their destination on Foursquare's Web site.

Some of the posts on Please Rob Me have come from Christopher Lynn, who often publishes his Foursquare updates on his Twitter feed.

Lynn, director of sales and marketing for the Colonnade Hotel in Boston, was a little unnerved to realize his location was also being shared on Please Rob Me as it automatically captured the data. He said knowing that would make him more cautious about posting on Foursquare when he's far from home. He also plans to keep details about where he lives off the Web.

But Lynn doesn't think Please Rob Me — or the second thoughts it is trying to spark — will hamper the rise of location-based services.

"I think the power of wanting to share where you're at and what you're experiencing at the time is going to trump most people's wariness," he said.

Foursquare co-founder Dennis Crowley said he can imagine that sharing where you are could have bad consequences.



This screen shot shows the Please Rob Me Web site.

But he said it hasn't come back to haunt him and isn't something Foursquare has heard complaints about.

Indeed, there doesn't appear to be any evidence that saying you're not home on

Foursquare, Twitter, Facebook or a similar site significantly increases your chance of becoming a burglary victim. FBI spokesman Jason Pack said that his organization's cyber division wasn't aware of any

cases of home break-ins linked to people advertising their locations online.

After all, there are many ways, including low-tech ones, to determine that someone isn't home. Pack said burglaries are usually crimes of opportunity — that is, they're often

not planned in detail.

Regardless, Kevin Bankston, a senior staff attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, said the message of Please Rob Me is still important. "There is clearly a privacy issue here — one they are trying to shed light on."

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SPORTS IN COURTS

Judge approves settlement at SRU

By Joe Pinchot
Herald Staff Writer

A federal judge has approved a settlement over renewed allegations that Slippery Rock University violated Title IX, the law that bars discrimination in federally funded education programs.

The settlement with a group of female athletes requires the university to

- Alter and improve the dugout and bleachers at the softball field, upgrade the soccer field, and buy and install nets to surround the hockey and lacrosse fields.

- Provide softball players equal access to the enclosed batting cage as men, and buy new softball helmets.

- Improve awareness of the Hunkler Water Polo Scholarship.

- Buy light weights, plyometrics and weight machines for use by female athletes in the weight rooms, and ensure that women have the same access to the weight room as men.

- Provide the Women's Law Center more financial information concerning sports expenses.

- Better notify coaches of scholarship and aid money available to women athletes.

- Create a job description for the senior woman administrator so that she will act as a spokesperson for the needs and interests of women athletes and monitor Title IX compliance.

- Require all athletic department members to undergo Title IX training.

U.S. District Court Judge Donetta W. Ambrose, Pittsburgh, approved the settlement earlier this month, following a hearing at which no one objected.

The athletes initially sued May 11, 2006, after the university announced a number of cuts to men's and women's sports.

The university reinstated one women's sport and a federal judge ordered the reinstatement of two others, and the sides eventually reached a settlement calling for the university to pump more money into female athletic programs, update athletic facilities and give women athletes the same opportunities as men in terms of training, publicity, travel, equipment and other factors.

On June 30, the women, represented by the Women's Law Project, asked to reopen the suit for compliance problems.

The university, represented by the state Attorney General's Office, denied the allegations, but suggested the parties meet with Magistrate Judge Lisa Pupo Lenihan because she had been helpful in the first settlement.

After a couple of mediation sessions with Judge Lenihan, the parties reached the latest settlement.

Jury asks for another day

ALLISON, Iowa (AP) — Jurors in the first-degree murder trial of a man accused of killing an Iowa high school football coach say they've reached a stalemate.

The jury gave Iowa District Court Judge Stephen Carroll a note Thursday saying they couldn't reach a verdict and requesting one night to "sleep on our discussion."

Mark Becker is accused of
See **COURTS**, page B-5

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

D-10 tourney to open

Moss and Beckman seek 3rd titles

By Lynn Saternow
Herald Sports Editor

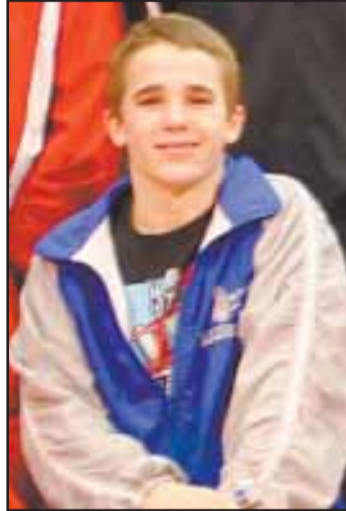
Sharon's Jordan Moss and Reynolds' Mason Beckman have their eyes set on the top of the medal stand at Hershey in a few weeks, but don't think they're overlooking a place in history this weekend.

Moss and Beckman, both undefeated this season, have a chance to secure their third District 10 Class AA titles Saturday at Sharon High, a feat accomplished by only 35 previous Mercer County matmen in the long annals of the D-10 tourney.

The tournament opens at 5:30 p.m. today, including preliminary and quarterfinals. The tourney will resume at 9 a.m. Saturday. Consolation finals are set for 3:30 p.m., with parade of champions at 5, fol-



Jordan Moss



Mason Beckman

lowed by finals.

Besides Moss (145) and Beckman (119), two other matmen are hoping to defend their D-10 titles won last season. They are: Reynolds' Dylan D'Urso (125) and Greenville's R.J. Malson (189).

The top five place-winners in each weight will move on to the regional tournament the following week at Sharon.

The Reynolds-Fort LeBoeuf rivalry will be resumed here

as both teams eye the D-10 team title, although Greenville, Commodore Perry, Sharon and Saegertown also could have a say in the final outcome. Reynolds has won 9 straight D-10 titles and brings 13 wrestlers into the fray.

In the team duals earlier, Reynolds defeated the Bison to cop the D-10 crown, but LeBoeuf turned the tables in the state finals.

Following is a look at how

the weight classes shake out this weekend:

103 — Harbor Creek Tyler Pier (31-7), the Section 1 champ, is the only senior in a field of mostly sophomores and freshmen. Pier, a 4th place finisher last season, is favored to reach the finals against either Section 2 winner Jonas Reaugh (33-5) of Jamestown or Cambridge Springs ace Nick Hart (31-3).

112 — There could be a rematch here of the exciting Section 2 finals won by Commodore Perry's Nate Dias, 5-4, over Jamestown's Tyler Roberts. Roberts, however, will probably see a matchup with Section 1 champ Shane Rankin (38-1) of Union City in the semis. Roberts lost in the D-10 finals last season, while Rankin was 5th at 112, beating Roberts' brother Aaron in the consolation match to advance to regions.

119 — Beckman (39-0), a junior, is a huge favorite to threepeat. He'll probably meet up with Section 1 champ Sean Byham (31-4) in the finals.

Beckman scored a major decision over Byham when they met in the D-10 duals this season and notched a tech fall over Byham in the 2009 D-10 semis.

125 — D'Urso (32-6) has grown considerably since his 103 crown in 2009, which jump-started him to a state medal. His experience makes him a favorite to repeat here, although there will be some other serious contenders. In the semis, the Raider sophomore will probably face Matt Graff of Maplewood, third at this weight last year. The other semi will probably be a battle between Section 1 champ Dylan Simmer (15-1) of Iroquois and Cochran's Matt Bryer.

130 — This weight should be a real battle and one of the top quarterfinals matches of the tournament should come here tonight as Greenville's Luke Marshall will meet LeBoeuf Kody Pace. Pace was the hero of LeBoeuf's win over Reynolds in the state duals
See **D-10**, page B-5

D-10 playoffs: Sharpsville beats NE; Greenville falls to Ike



David E. Dale/Herald

Sharpsville's Ben Davis is fouled while driving to the basket during Thursday's District 10 Class AA playoff game vs. North East at Sharon High School. Sharpsville advanced with a 64-56 win. See page B-3 for game stories.

CLASS AA

Who: Greenville (20-2) vs. Mercer (13-9).

What: Quarterfinals.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Kennedy Catholic High School.

Players to Watch:

Greenville—Brooklyn Taylor, 6-0 Soph. guard/forward (17.3); Hannah Horne, 5-8 Sr. forward/center (14.5); Kami Rodgers, 5-7 Sr. guard/forward (5.9); Allison Pfaff, 5-7 Sr. forward (4.5); Morgan Marshall, 5-6 Soph. guard/forward (3.2). **Mercer** — Claire Creasy, 5-8 Sr. guard (11.5); Cassie Flannery, 5-10 Jr. forward (8.6); Megan Frydrych, 5-5 Jr. guard (6.6); Danielle Addicott, 5-7 Sr. guard (6.1); Kassie Burton, 5-8 Sr. forward (3.8).

Bonus Shots: Greenville went 12-0 to win the Region 2 title. ... Taylor, the coach's

daughter, has already accumulated 676 points in 2 seasons for the Lady Trojans. ... The team's 2 losses came against Sharon (67-45) in the Rick Fragle Lady Tiger Classic and Bishop McCort (40-25) in the Cranberry Christmas Tourney. Sharon faces Warren in the D-10 playoffs while McCort is 18-5 and won its D-6 playoff opener on Monday vs. Bald Eagle Area. McCort lost to Bishop Guilfoyle in the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference title game. ... Greenville has won 13 straight games. ... Greenville beat Mercer (57-38 and 37-31) in both games this season. ... Last year, Greenville advanced to the 2nd round of the PIAA playoffs. They were ousted by Bishop McCort (50-27). Their D-10 playoff run was a 54-38 win over Saegertown in the quarterfinals, a 62-35 loss to Villa



David E. Dale/Herald

Greenville's Nate Houpt shoots over Eisenhower's Cody Crosby (22) and Jon Schrecongost during Thursday's game at Tiger Gymnasium. Greenville suffered a 52-46 loss to Ike.

Maria in the semis, a 47-34 victory over Reynolds in the consolation game and then a 41-34 win over Seton LaSalle in the 1st round of the PIAAs. ... Mercer's 9 losses this season have come against Conneaut Valley (53-37) at the Commodore Perry Jared Snyder Memorial Tourney, West Middlesex (33-30), Sharpsville twice (51-29 and 45-37), Neshannock (44-37 in OT), Farrell (52-47), Kennedy Catholic (48-37) and the 2 games to Greenville. ... Last year, the Lady M's went 7-5 in Region 2 and 14-8 overall and weren't selected for the D-10 playoffs.

Who: Sharpsville (16-6) vs. North East (18-4).

What: Quarterfinals.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: Fairview High School.

Players to Watch: Sharps-

ville — McKenzie Popatak, 5-8 Fr. forward (12.2); Jenna Grandy, 5-9 Jr. forward (9.3); Kristen Scurpa, 5-5 Fr. guard (8.1); Katelyn Scurpa, 5-7 Soph. forward (6.3); Ashley Shuttleworth, 5-4 Soph. guard (5.8). **North East** — Alex Artise, 5-7 Fr. forward/guard (11.7); Jordan Artise, 5-5 Sr. guard (10.0); Jessa Tinko, 5-6 Jr. guard/forward (8.7); Chelsea Lyngarkos, 5-8 Sr. forward (8.7); Cassie Jordan, 5-6 Jr. guard (7.9).

Bonus Shots: Sharpsville went 9-3 in Region 2 play. ... The Blue Darlings' 6 losses came against Greenville (47-43 and 38-31), Sharon (50-42), Farrell (57-46), Kennedy Catholic (48-38) and Wilmington (50-47) in overtime. ... Sharpsville only has 1 senior (Kelley Thompson) on its roster. ... Last year, Sharpsville
See **PREVIEW**, page B-5

DISTRICT 10 GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFF BOXES

Saturday's Games CLASS A

Who: Kennedy Catholic (18-4) vs. Cochranon (14-7).

What: Quarterfinals.

When: noon.

Where: Slippery Rock University.

Players to Watch: Kennedy Catholic — Alex Ricketts, 5-10 Fr. guard/forward (13.6 ppg.); Marina Wareham, 5-0 Soph. guard (11.9); Rachel Burns, 5-9 Fr. guard/forward (10.0); Victoria Harrison, 6-1 Soph. center/forward (7.4); Brie Dickson, 5-6 Fr. guard/forward (6.9). **Cochranon** — Nicole White, 5-5 Sr. guard, (10.2); Becca Saunier, 5-6 Jr. guard/forward, (8.5); Amanda Mosier, 5-4 Sr. guard, (7.2); Krystal Kline, 5-11 Sr. forward/center (6.2), Kelli Loper, 5-7 Soph. forward/center, (4.2).

Bonus Shots: KC is the defending District 10 champion. Last year, the Lady Golden Eagles earned a 1st-round bye in the D-10 playoffs. They beat Cochranon (51-39) in the semifinals, edged Eisenhower (36-34) in triple-overtime for the D-10 crown and then bowed out in the 1st round of the PIAA playoffs to West Forest (53-38). ... The KC girls have won 16 D-10 Class A titles. ... KC's 4 losses this season have come against Ursuline (62-35), Farrell twice (70-64 and 51-48) and Greenville (49-36). ... KC has no seniors or juniors on its roster. ... Among Cochranon's 7 losses this season, one was against Reynolds (37-35) in the Cochranon Tipoff Classic consolation game. Kennedy Catholic opened the season with a 39-27 win over Reynolds, but the two teams didn't play a second time.



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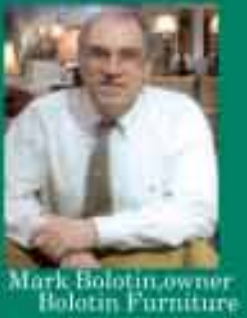
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Mark Bolotin, owner
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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Sharpshville advances, Trojans, GJR out

Herald Staff reports

There's no substitute for experience, and that served Sharpshville skipper Jim Smiley well during Thursday's District 10 Class AA playoff opener with North East.

"I watched this team on film, and I knew exactly what kind've game this was going to be. ... I'd like think I can keep my head when all about you are losing their's and blaming you. I'd like to think I have a little bit of calmness about me," Smiley summarized following Sharpshville's 64-56 success.

Thursday's lidlifter at Sharon High's Tiger Gymnasium did not go as well for Mercer County's other AA contingent, as Eisenhower eliminated Greenville, 52-46.

At Gannon University's Hammermill Center, George Junior Republic was routed by Strong Vincent for the 3rd time this season, this time 91-68, in the Quad-A semifinals.

CLASS AA Quarterfinals

■ **Sharpshville 64, North East 56** — Smiley spent 3½ decades on Neshannock's bench, once leading his Lancers to the PIAA western regional finals.

"This is, probably, a half-hundred playoff games that I've coached through the years," Smiley explained. "But like I told the kids, There'll be something special about the atmosphere. But when the game starts, it's still the game."

Against North East Smiley directed his Blue Devils to an upset of the perennial playoff participants as Sharpshville shot 13-for-13 from the free-throw line during the decisive 4th frame. Overall, the Blue Devils drilled 22 of 23 charity tosses, led by Chad Piccirilli's 11-for-11 precision.

"Good teams make free throws; bad teams watch from the bleachers. We made 'em, so we're still playing," Smiley assessed.

After trailing 13-12 at the quarter Sharpshville secured a 27-24 margin at intermission, then extended its edge to 43-38 through 3 periods. However when Jimmy Bailey fed Jordan Kitchen, North East nudged within 48-47 with 3:20 remaining.

But Ben Davis delivered one bucket and passed for another, then Piccirilli produced a pair of 1-and-1 bonus free-throw situations as well as a double-bonus, while Jon Wilson and Anthony Sloan silenced the Grapepickers with a pair apiece. North East did not draw closer than 4 points for the duration.

For the Blue Devils (15-8), Davis delivered a game-high 19-point performance and snared a team-high 7 caroms, while Piccirilli produced an 18-point, 6-assist, 3-rebound line and Wilson went for another 15 markers. Sharpshville shot only 19 for 49 from the floor (38.7 percent) — identical to North East's total — but the Blue Devils did not turn over the ball during the 4th frame and finished with just 6; conversely, the Grapepickers were guilty of 10 miscues, 4 during the final 8 minutes.

Bailey and Sean Bogart bucketed 18 and 14 points, respectively, for North East (13-10), while Kitchen collected a game-high 10 caroms as the Pickers pounded the boards for a 34-29 edge. But North East ended 15 for 19 from the free-throw line.

Sharpshville will face Fairview — a 49-28 winner over Cambridge Springs — next week in the semifinals at a site and time to be announced.

"It's better than the alterna-



Sharpshville's Chad Piccirilli cuts between North East's Jimmy Bailey (22) and Kyle Regan.



The Blue Devils' Matt Totin releases a shot.

tive," a smiling Smiley quipped, "so we're very happy."

Note: The name of Matt Totin was inadvertently omitted in the "Players to Watch" section of the Sharpshville preview story in Thursday's Herald.

■ **Eisenhower 52, Greenville 46** — Fourteen 1st-half Trojans' turnovers enabled the Knights to close the half on a 15-2 spree, erasing a 22-18 deficit while assuming a 33-24 margin at intermission.

Then during the 3rd period Eisenhower's leading scorer, Cody Crosby, collected his 2nd and 3rd personal fouls within seconds of one another. When he exited, Eisenhower enjoyed a 41-34 advantage, but even in his absence Greenville got no closer than 43-37 entering the final frame as the Knights knocked almost 3 minutes off the clock by running motion.

Kevin Benson bucketed 5 fourth-period points, helping Greenville get within 43-41 with 6:07 remaining. But Garrett Fiscus and Dan Lane lent both ends of 1-and-1 bonuses during the final 54.9 ticks.

The Gannon University-bound Crosby connected for a game-high 19 points and hauled down 9 caroms and Todd Rudolph rifled in another 14 points as Eisenhower (16-7) ended 21 for 54 (38.9) from the field and 8 for 12

from the line. And the Knights notched just 3 turnovers.

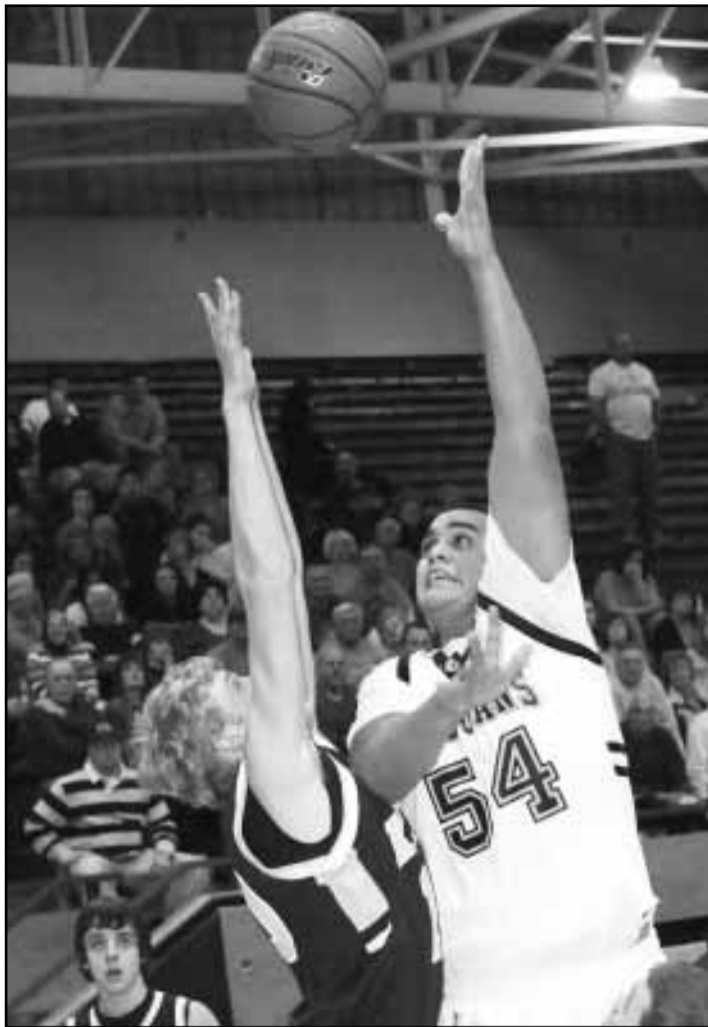
Nate Houpt tallied 15 points for the Trojans (14-9), while Benson bucketed a dozen and boarded 8 times. Jordan Batt — playing with a partially torn labrum in his right (shooting) shoulder and on one surgically repaired knee and another that also will require post-season surgery — ended with 8 points and 4 assists and led Greenville to a 38-29 edge over Eisenhower on the boards. Despite just 2 Trojans' 2nd-half turnovers, Greenville was guilty of 16 for the game and converted just 10 of 17 freebies.

Houpt, Batt, Cody Marshall and Ethan Leary concluded their scholastic cage careers, and 2nd-year Trojans' taskmaster Mark Batt praised, "The community of Greenville and the entire school has gotta thanks thos kids for giving it everything they had, every day in practice, every game. We're gonna miss all of them." — By Ed Farrell, Herald assistant sports editor.

Class AAAA Semifinals

■ **Strong Vincent 91, George Junior Republic 68** — At Gannon University's Hammermill Center, the Colonels (18-5) ousted the Tigers (8-14) from the D-10 playoffs.

Strong Vincent led 26-6 after the opening quarter and cruised past GJR as the



Greenville's Kevin Benson releases a shot.



Greenville's Jordan Batt cuts around a defender.

Colonels had 6 players score in double digits.

Courtney Harden-Pullium and Deandrye Henderson led ESV with 14 points each while Ashton Pullium-Jones contributed 13 markers.

Also for the Colonels, Deuel Pacley drained 3 treys en route to 11 points and Cordell Ratliff also had 11 while Dalton Eimers registered 10 markers.

Hansel Delacruz led the way for GJR with 14 points. Also, Marquise Lawrence posted 13 points and Shamir Harper added 12 points.

Strong Vincent advances to play Cathedral Prep for the District 10 title. Prep beat McDowell, 57-49, on Thursday night at Edinboro University.

Regular Season

■ **Brookfield 50, Girard 36** — At Brookfield, the Warriors (5-5, 12-8) closed out their regular season schedule with a 14-point All-American Conference Blue Tier Division win over Girard.

Brookfield led 14-6 after the 1st quarter, 19-17 at the break and outscored Girard 31-19 in the 2nd half to notch the win.

Pablo Diaz (15) and Anthony Uberti (10) scored in double digits for Brookfield.

Matt Pagno bucketed 10 to lead Girard.

Brookfield begins post-season play at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Howland Sectional vs. Cortland-Lakeview.

DISTRICT 10 PLAYOFFS

Class AA

EISENHOWER	12	21	10	9	52
GREENVILLE	15	9	13	9	46
EISENHOWER — Crosby 8-1-2-17, Schrecongost 1-0-0-2, Fiscus 3-2-4-8, Lane 2-4-4-9, Rudolph 6-1-2-14, Shield 1-0-0-2. 3-pt. goals: Lane 1, Rudolph 1. Totals: 21-8-12-52.					
GREENVILLE — Marshall 3-0-0-8, Houpt 5-4-5-15, Batt 3-2-2-8, Blaschak 1-0-0-3, Benson 4-4-10-12, Zahniser 0-0-0-0, Leary 0-0-0-0. 3-pt. goals: Marshall 2, Houpt 1, Blaschak 1. Totals: 16-10-17-46.					

NORTH EAST	13	11	14	18	56
SHARPSHVILLE	12	15	16	21	64

NORTH EAST — Stiles 2-1-2-5, Regan 2-0-0-4, Kitchen 2-2-4-6, Williams 1-3-4-5, Bailey 7-2-2-18, Bogart 4-5-5-14, Cornelius 1-2-2-4. **3-pt. goals:** Bailey 2, Bogart 1. **Totals: 19-15-19-56.**

SHARPSHVILLE — Wilson 4-5-5-19, Sloan 2-2-2-6, Davis 7-4-5-19, Falconi 1-0-0-2, Piccirilli 3-1-1-11-18, Alberty-Brown 0-0-0-0, Sike 1-0-0-2, Totin 1-0-0-2. **3-pt. goals:** Wilson 2, Davis 1, Piccirilli 1. **Totals: 19-22-23-64.**

Class AAAA

GEORGE JUNIOR	6	17	23	22	68
STRONG VINCENT	26	21	33	11	91
GEORGE JUNIOR — Bumpess 1-0-0-2, Bullock 3-2-2-9, Davis 2-0-0-4, Harper 4-3-3-12, Delacruz 6-1-1-14, Lawrence 6-1-4-13, Leaf 1-1-1-3, Harling 1-0-0-2, Spry 3-3-4-9. 3-pt. goals: Bullock 1, Harper 1, Delacruz 1. Totals: 27-11-15-68.					
STRONG VINCENT — Pullium-Jones 6-0-1-13, Harden-Pullium 6-2-3-14, Henderson 6-2-3-14, Benjamin 1-3-3-5, Ratliff 5-1-2-11, Eimers 3-4-4-10, Pacley 4-0-0-11, Jones 2-0-0-4, Clark 1-0-0-2, Hamilton 1-0-0-2, Horton 0-0-0-0, Wells 1-0-0-2, Davis 1-1-2-3. 3-pt. goals: Pacley 3, Pullium-Jones 1. Totals: 37-13-20-91.					

Regular Season

BROOKFIELD	14	5	15	16	50
GIRARD	6	11	4	15	36

BROOKFIELD — Mulligan 0-2-2-2, Pascale 0-0-0-0, Diaz 6-2-5-15, Shugarts 0-1-4-1, Taylor 1-4-4-6, Uberti 3-3-5-10, Hawley 2-4-4-9, Johnson 3-1-3-7. **3-pt. goals:** Diaz 1, Uberti 1, Hawley 1. **Totals: 15-17-27-50.**

GIRARD — Pagano 4-2-2-10, Charles 2-2-3-6, Bornemiff 0-3-6-3, Delbene 2-1-2-6, Augustine 2-1-3-5, Byrd 1-0-0-2, Eggleston 2-0-0-4. **3-pt. goal:** Delbene 1. **Totals: 12-1-9-16-36.**

JV: Brookfield, 43-33. Cameron Derr 15 for Brookfield.

GOLF

Nike is sticking by Tiger

LONDON (AP) — Nike will continue to support Tiger Woods even though the world's best player has taken an indefinite leave from golf to deal with personal issues.

Nike brand president Charlie Denson said Thursday he does not want Woods back on the course until he sorts out his private life, which has been in the public spotlight since a bizarre car crash outside his Florida home last November revealed allegations of marital infidelity.

Woods issued a public apology last week and has sought inpatient treatment.

"Under the circumstances, the more he deals with the issues and the better he deals with them, the better off he'll be when he does return," Denson told The Associated Press.

The sports giant's \$650 million golf sector has been one of the hardest-hit segments of its business during the global recession, but Nike is standing by Woods despite any damage done to its image by his high-profile transgressions.

AT&T and Accenture dropped Woods from their roster of sponsorships, and others like Procter & Gamble Co.'s Gillette and Swiss watch maker Tag Heuer de-emphasized him in their marketing.

"We've been supportive of Tiger since the story broke and we continue to be supportive," Denson said. "He's got issues he needs to deal with and he's dealing with them. We are looking forward to him getting back on the golf course."

Woods said last week that he spent 45 days in treatment and he planned to seek additional therapy. He did not say when he'll return to the course.

"We've been in touch with his camp," Denson said. "We're very comfortable with where he's at, how he's dealing with it and we're looking forward to his return."

GOLF CAPSULE

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — The memory of a missed 3-foot putt did nothing to diminish Camilo Villegas's game Thursday in the Phoenix Open.

The 28-year-old Colombian tied the tournament first-round record with a 9-under 62 to take a one-shot lead over former Florida teammate Matt Every.

Villegas regrouped with a bogey-free round Thursday after making the semifinals of the Match Play Championship last weekend, but missing the short putt that would have put him in the final. He beat Sergio Garcia in the third-place match.

Justin Rose, Mark Wilson, Ryuji Imada, Rickie Fowler and Pat Perez were three strokes back at 65 in near-perfect conditions at TPC Scottsdale.

Phil Mickelson and defending champion Kenny Perry were in a large group at 68. Match Play champion Ian Poulter struggled to a 72.

Playing the back nine first, Villegas wrapped up his round by chipping in from 21 feet on the par-4 ninth for his ninth birdie.

A two-time winner on the PGA Tour in 2008, he credits a more relaxed approach to the game to his strong start to this season.

"I was getting a little too concerned with my world ranking position and money list and this and that," Villegas said, "and I just got a little tight on the golf course. So I needed to put all those things aside and remember that I'm playing golf for a living."

Villegas' 9-under round tied the first-round tournament record shared by Steve Jones (1997) and Harrison Frazier (2003).

TOP 25 CAPSULES

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Nolan Smith had 18 points, Kyle Singler added 17 and No. 5 Duke pulled away to beat Tulsa 70-52 on Thursday night.

Jon Scheyer finished with

15 points for the Blue Devils (24-4), who used a big run early in the second half to break open a surprisingly tight game and extend their decade-long nonconference winning streak at Cameron Indoor Stadium to 77.

Jerome Jordan had 12 points to lead the Golden Hur-

ricane (19-9), who lost their fourth straight and finished with a season-low point total.

Leading scorer Ben Uzoh, who entered on a streak of three straight 20-point games, finished with eight on 3-of-15 shooting.

Brian Zoubek, a 7-foot-1 senior who has emerged lately

as one of Duke's most valuable players, had 10 points and 11 rebounds.

No. 16 Vanderbilt 96, Georgia 94, OT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Jermaine Beal scored a career-high 28 points and Vanderbilt overcame a five-point deficit in the final 33 seconds of regula-

tion.

A.J. Ogilvy's tap-in with 15 seconds left in regulation tied the game at 77. Georgia's Travis Leslie then missed two chances to win the game.

Ogilvy had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Commodores (21-6, 10-3 Southeastern Conference).

Preview

from page B-1

lost to eventual state champion Villa Maria (52-37) in the 1st round of the D-10 playoffs at Gen. McLane High School. ... North East's 4 losses this season have come against Villa Maria (67-40 and 59-43), Strong Vincent (51-40) and Girard (41-38).

Who: Wilmington (14-8) vs. Villa Maria (20-2).
What: Quarterfinals.
When: 3 p.m.
Where: Fairview High School.

Players to Watch: Wilmington—Stephanie Kish, 5-4 Sr. guard (11.5); Haley Maret, 5-4 Jr. guard (9.4); Ashley Gardner, 5-2 Sr. guard (7.7); Julie Burns, 5-7 Jr. forward (7.3); Mariah Burns, 5-4 Soph. guard (6.0). **Villa Maria** — Kayla McBride, 5-11 senior guard (21.0); Ashley Prischak, 5-9 Sr. guard; Jillian May, 5-5 junior guard; Abbey Steudler, 5-7 Soph. guard; Karlee McBride, 5-10 Fr. guard; Kaylyn Maruca, 5-6 Sr. guard.

Bonus Shots: Wilmington went 7-5 in Region 2 while Villa captured the Region 4 championship. ... The 8 losses the Lady 'Hounds have suffered in 2009-10 have come against Grove City (57-38) in the GC Kiser Classic title game, Neshannock (52-37), Greenville (59-45), Kennedy (71-45), Mercer (50-46 and 50-47 in OT), Sharpville (41-33) and Greenville (37-34). ... Wilmington was 3-9 in Region 2 last season and 9-13 overall and did not qualify for the playoffs. ... Coach Scott Dibble's Villa Maria squad is the defending PIAA champion and are currently ranked No. 1 in the state in Class AA. ... They went 27-3 to win the school's first state title last year. ... They have also won the past 3 District 10 titles. ... Kayla McBride was The Associated Press Class AA player of the year for Pa. She received college offers from many Div. I schools, including UConn and Tennessee, but decided to play hoops for Notre Dame. ... Kayla has 1,571 career points and is the school's all-time leading girls scorer. She needs 37 to break the school record held by 2003-04 graduate Kevin Buczynski (1,607). ... Kayla is also the 1st-ever player from D-10 named a McDonald's All-American. Only 48 from the nation are chosen for the boys and girls teams. The 2 games are March 31 at Ohio State University's Value



David E. Dale/Herald

Sharon's Brittany Benedetto hustles after a loose ball in a game against Hickory earlier this season. The junior standout and the Lady Tigers face the Lady Dragons of Warren at 6 p.m. Saturday night at Kennedy Catholic High School.

City Arena. ... Villa's 2 losses this season have come against Regina in South Euclid, Ohio (55-44) and perennial national powerhouse Oak Hill Academy (64-52), which is located in Mouth of Wilson, Va. ... Villa always competes in great tournaments and plays tough competition. Three of their wins came against 2 schools from Florida and Archbishop Wood (Warminster, Pa.) at the Aspire Elite Classic in Fort Myers, Fla.

CLASS AAA

Who: Sharon (18-3) vs. Warren (10-11).
What: Quarterfinals.
When: 6 p.m.
Where: Kennedy Catholic High School.

Players to Watch: Sharon — Brittany Benedetto, 5-7 Jr. forward (19.0); Karlesia Edwards, 5-5 Jr. guard (14.2); Annie Carpenter, 5-6 Sr. guard (8.9); Kristen Johnson, 5-7 Jr. forward (5.1); Marketta Jackson, 5-9 Soph. forward (4.3); Brittany Johnson, 5-4 Jr. guard. **Warren** — Jaime Eaton, 5-5 Fr. forward (11.4); Erika Siliano, 5-6 Sr. guard/forward (8.3); Kristin Hultquist, 5-10 Soph. forward (7.9); Emily Sherman, 5-9 Soph. guard/forward (5.0); Sabrina Anderson, 5-7 Fr.

guard/forward (4.4).

Bonus Shots: Coach Gene Sarazen has his Lady Tigers in the playoffs for the 6th straight year. ... Sharon went 11-3 in Region 5. ... They won their first 9 games, lost 3 and then won their last 9. ... They notched some impressive road wins to wind down the season with region victories at Grove City (55-46), Franklin (56-53), Slippery Rock (74-61) and Meadville (61-45). ... The Lady Tigers' 3 losses this season have come against Franklin (69-57), Slippery Rock (66-44) and Hickory (53-51). ... Benedetto leads the team in rebounds with 170, while Kristen Johnson has 136 and Carpenter has 133 boards. ... Last year, Sharon lost to Gen. McLane (68-39) in the D-10 quarterfinals at Edinboro University. Sharon was forced to play without 4 players due to a melee, which led to ejections, that broke out in their regular season final vs. Meadville. ... The 11 losses coach Lisa Ruhlman's Lady Dragons have suffered have come against Eisenhower (49-23 and 47-36), Central Tech (51-39), McDowell (61-41), Oil City (56-39), Titusville (51-31), Erie East (48-7.9), Mercyhurst Prep (78-47 and 59-23), Gen. McLane (63-27) and Corry (45-36).

D-10

from page B-1

when he pinned Raider Adam Matthews. Section 2 champ, Reynolds' freshman Austin Matthews, can expect a semis meeting with the winner Saturday. Section 1 winner Levi Morton of North East, 4th at this weight last year, should reach the finals on the other side of the bracket.

135 — This is another wide open weight class. Section winners Tim Clark of Saegertown and Grove City's Kirby Buchanan, could see competition from any number of other contenders, including Mercer Countians Cam Cianci of Reynolds and Nate Harrah of Lakeview.

140 — Greenville sophomore Cody Copeland (31-1) decked Fort LeBoeuf's David Church (27-3) in the District 10 Duals a few weeks back. In all probability it will be another meeting of the two in the D-10 finals. Church was 3rd at 135 and Copeland 3rd at 140 last season.

145 — Moss (36-0), former state champion, is the huge favorite here for his third D-10 crown. Even though LeBoeuf's Shawn Stancliff is Section 1 champ, the finalist from the other side of

the bracket will probably be and Commodore Perry's Matt Reynolds' Luke Taylor or Greenville's Randy Perkins.

152 — LeBoeuf senior Jeremy King (32-0) is expected to be top dog here, however he's probably headed for a finals matchup with a familiar foe, Commodore Perry's Brandon Collins (28-3). Collins defeated King in overtime last year in the D-10 quarterfinals at 145, however, King came back to edge Collins, 4-3, in the 3rd place consy match.

160 — This could be a repeat of the Section 2 finals clash between champ Wes Phipps (28-1) of Grove City and Hickory's Tyler Gargano (41-1). The only loss on each of their records came against the other. To get to the finals, Gargano will probably face Seneca's Section 1 titlist Nate Smith (36-3) in the semis.

171 — Sharon's Lewendo Teague (35-1) lost in the finals at 160 last season, 3-2 to Chris Reitz of Iroquois, and is favored to climb to the top of the medal stand this week. In the finals, he'll probably face a sections semis rematch with Reynolds' Greg Baptiste, won by Teague, 3-2. Baptiste will probably meet LeBoeuf's Sec. 1 champ Craig Cihon in tonight's quarterfinals, who Baptiste beat 7-2 in the D-10 Duals. Greenville's Ryan Kuhn

and Commodore Perry's Matt Reynolds' Luke Taylor or Greenville's Randy Perkins. **189** — Unbeaten Stephen Ceremuga (32-0) of Commodore Perry is odds-on favorite here. He'll probably see another finals meeting with defending champ Malson of Greenville, who Ceremuga defeated in a tough bout, 6-3, at sections. Malson will probably face Sec. 1 winner Jared Merritt (29-5) of Northwestern in the semis. Ceremuga pounded Merritt, 11-4, earlier in the Fred Bell tourney finals. Merritt was fourth at 215 last year here.

215 — If all goes as expected, this could bring an interesting finals match between section champions, Union City's Jared Burger (39-0) and Commodore Perry's Brian Hooks (32-1). Burger copped a tech fall over Hooks last year in the D-10 semis, before bowing in the finals to Sharpville's Justin Buchanan.

285 — Union City has another unbeaten matman here in Greg Reinke (22-0), who will probably face West Middlesex's Ryan Benson in the semis. Greenville's Dillon Sarcinella (31-3), Sec. 2 champ, is favored to reach the finals from the other side of the bracket. Sarcinella lost to Reinke, 6-3, in the D-10 quarterfinals last year.

MAJOR LEAGUES

Branyan reports to Tribe camp as starter

GOODYEAR, Ariz. (AP) — It took a decade longer than expected, but Russell Branyan finally has an everyday job with the Cleveland Indians.

Branyan, known for his towering home runs and massive strikeout totals, signed a one-year, \$2 million contract with the Indians on Wednesday. The 34-year-old veteran will get the majority of playing time at first base.

"There are a lot of good, positive things in coming back," said Branyan, who reported to camp Thursday. "This is where I started. To get this opportunity, it was hard to turn down. It means a lot to me."

Branyan came through Cleveland's minor league system in the late 1990s. It was thought he would join the list of sluggers the Indians produced during the decade, which included Jim Thome, Manny Ramirez and Richie Sexson. Standing 6-foot-3 with a big swing, Branyan hit 30 or more homers in three minor

league seasons, including 40 in 1996.

The comparisons to the other sluggers ended when Branyan reached Cleveland. Unable to make consistent contact, he was never able to stay in the lineup. After giving Branyan numerous chances, the Indians, weary of the strikeouts and lack of production, traded him to Cincinnati during the 2002 season.

Eight years and eight organizations later, Branyan believes he's learned from his experiences.

"I think I understand the game a lot better," he said. "I understand people a lot better. I don't let small things bother me as much anymore."

General manager Mark Shapiro was the Indians' director of minor league operations while Branyan, Cleveland's No. 7 pick in 1998, came through the system. When Branyan was released by teams during the 2004 and 2007 seasons, Shapiro signed him to minor league contracts

so he could get some playing time until a big league opportunity came about.

The relationship between the club and player is a big reason Branyan chose the Indians over Tampa Bay, which he played for in 2006 and was also interested in him.

"He's a guy who wants to be here, which I think is a great asset to this team," Shapiro said. "He's faced adversity and challenges. He's had to claw his way back from the minor leagues when no one believed in him. He has a chance to impact a lot of the younger players."

Branyan landed with Seattle in 2009 and produced career highs in home runs (31) and RBIs (76) before a herniated disk ended his season on Aug. 28. The back injury probably cost him a chance at a multi-year deal with the Mariners. The Indians gave Branyan an extensive physical before finalizing the contract, which includes a \$5 million mutual option for 2011.

Courts

from page B-1

gunning down Aplington-Parkersburg High School coach Ed Thomas on June 24.

McGwire saddened by brother's book on steroids
 JUPITER, Fla. — Mark McGwire said he's saddened his estranged brother wrote a book that chronicles their use of performance-enhancing drugs and reiterated his claim that he only took them to heal from injuries.

McGwire said Thursday he's so up set with his brother, Jay McGwire, that he doesn't believe reconciliation is possible.

"I don't plan on ever seeing him again," said McGwire, the new hitting coach for the St. Louis Cardinals.

The youngest of the five McGwire brothers and Mark's junior by more than six years, Jay McGwire lived with Mark and was a frequent clubhouse visitor during McGwire's time in Oakland.

His book, "Mark and Me: Mark McGwire and the Truth Behind Baseball's Worst-Kept Secret," is scheduled for publication Monday by Triumph Books.

Mark McGwire used the word "sad" seven times to describe the book in his 8-minute question and answer session with the media on Thursday.

"You try to be a good person, you try to take care of somebody, be a good brother," said McGwire, trailing off. "It's sort of sad. It's a sad day for my family. I don't know how a family member could do something like that."



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The Canadian women's hockey team and fans celebrate a goal against the United States during the first period of Thursday night's game in Vancouver.

OLYMPICS

Canada women beat U.S. for gold

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Canada beat its American rival 2-0 to win the women's hockey gold medal in a third straight Olympics.

Marie-Philip Poulin scored two goals and Shannon Szabados made 28 saves Thursday before a raucous crowd ringing cowbells and waving thousands of maple leaf flags.

After Poulin's two first-period scores, the Canadians dominated every aspect of the biggest game in this young sport, earning their 15th straight Olympic victory.

Playing with a consistency and passion its men's team would do well to emulate this weekend, Canada remained unbeaten at the Olympics since 1998, when the Americans won the first women's gold.

The Canadians kept nearly the entire game in the Americans' end — outpassing, outshooting and simply outworking the only team in women's hockey with a chance of standing up to them.

Earlier, Finland won the bronze medal, beating Sweden 3-2 in overtime. The victory gave the Finns their first medal in women's hockey.

Canada got two first-period goals from Poulin, the super-speedy 18-year-old forward from Quebec who claims she feels no Olympic pressure. Their smooth, graceful goalie did the rest, with Szabados capping her first Olympics with flawless netminding in a win that sometimes seemed just as one-sided as Canada's 18-0 victory over Slovakia to open the Olympics 12 days ago.

Much of the Canadian men's team, which faces Slovakia in the semifinals Friday, watched the game from press box seats above the ice, while Michael J. Fox, Wayne Gretzky and several Canadian gold medalists from other sports were in the stands. Several members of the American men's team also attended before their meeting with Finland.

When the puck went to center ice and time expired, the Canadians skated into a massive pile-up near their goal. Cheering fans threw flags to the players, and they raised the banners or wrapped them around their shoulders as capes.

Jessie Vetter made 27 saves for the Americans, whose offense evaporated in front of Szabados and the Canadian defense. The potent power play that produced 13 goals in the last four games went 0-for-6, and the Canadians consistently won most of the battles in a physical, grinding game.

The only matchup that matters in women's hockey was set up in Monday's semifinals, when the Americans routed Sweden and Canada clobbered Finland to finish two dominant runs through the field. Canada outscored its opponents 46-2, starting with an 18-0 rout of Slovakia. The Americans had a 40-2 advantage, with neither team winning by fewer than five goals.

Roundup

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Part ski jumping,

part cross-country skiing — and almost all Americans on the podium.

Billy Demong and Johnny Spillane finished 1-2 in a Nordic combined race Thursday, a surprising medal haul in a sport that's been part of the Winter Olympics since 1924 but never had an American medalist until these games.

Spillane became the first on Sunday — and now he has three, all silver. Demong's victory is the first gold and his second overall. Both were part of a second-place finish in the team event Tuesday.

"I think it has been building over the past five to 10 years," Demong said. "We knew we had three guys who could medal on any given day."

This race involved ski jumping on the large hill, then a 10-kilometer race. Weather was another obstacle.

A driving, wet snow and tail wind late in the ski jumping portion ruined the distances for many of the top competitors, forcing them to start way back in the cross-country race.

Demong and Spillane were among those to win the weather "lottery," as World Cup leader Jason Lamy Chappuis of France called it.

The Americans weren't the only lucky ones, though. And Demong did rise from sixth to first, outlasting Spillane and Bernhard Gruber of Austria after they distanced themselves from everyone else. So don't put too much of an asterisk on this.

"These Olympics are the combination of years of hard work and hard breaks," Demong said.

This pair of medals jumped the U.S. count to eight golds and 30 overall, nudging closer to the record hauls of 10 gold of 34 total, both set at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

Germany had a 1-2 finish in giant slalom to reach eight golds and 26 overall medals.

Norway's Marit Bjoergen became the top medal-winner thus far, becoming the first with three golds and with four overall medals by leading the winning team in the women's cross-country relay.

GIANT SLALOM

Julia Mancuso was third fastest in Thursday's second run of the giant slalom, which wasn't enough to overcome a frustrating performance in the first run a day earlier.

"It just wasn't enough," said Mancuso, who finishes these Winter Olympics with a pair of silver medals.

Viktoria Rebensburg won the race, giving Germany a winner in it for the first time since 1956.

Also, Lindsey Vonn plans to ski the slalom Friday with a hard, plastic brace protecting her right pinkie. She broke it during a tumble in the giant slalom Wednesday that left her "a ball of hurt right now," according to her husband, Thomas.

BOBSLEDDER DETAINED

American bobsledder Bill Schuffenhauer was detained and released by Canadian police after an argument with his fiancée, a person with direct knowledge of the investigation told The Associated Press.

Schuffenhauer, a silver medalist in 2002, resumed Olympic training Thursday and is expected to compete in Friday's four-man bobsled.

Police released him after finding no evidence of a crime, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

"I don't foresee any way that he would not race, regardless of how things progress," said Darrin Steele, chief executive of the U.S. Bobsled and Skeleton Federation.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Bjoergen joined the growing trend of skiers pausing on the way to the finish to grab a flag. Like the others who did it, she was well ahead.

Norway won its first women's relay gold since 1984, having settled for silver five times.

Bjoergen also won the individual sprint and 15K pursuit, and took bronze in the 10K freestyle.

The Americans were 12th.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Finland beat Sweden 3-2 in overtime for the bronze medal in women's hockey, which was essentially the prize for being best of the rest after the dominating duo of the U.S. and Canada.

Finland hadn't won a medal since taking bronze when women's hockey debuted at the 1998 Winter Olympics. The Finns celebrated as if they'd won gold, throwing their gear and sharing a group hug. Finland President Tarja Halonen happily looked down from a luxury box, sporting a team jersey.

There's such a drop after the top two teams that there's been speculation about cutting women's hockey from the Olympics. Unlikely, says IOC president Jacques Rogge, adding the sport will get another Winter Games or two for the rest of the world to catch up.

MEN'S HOCKEY

In the ongoing dispute over whether the NHL will let its players participate in the 2014 Sochi Games, the head of Russia's pro hockey league says it would be a serious mistake for the NHL to stand in their way.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman is concerned about shutting down the NHL season during the Olympics and has doubts about an Olympics in which the hockey would be played when many North American fans would be asleep.

CURLING

It'll be Sweden vs. Canada in the women's finals.

The defending gold medalists from Sweden KO'd the reigning world champion Chinese in one semifinal, and the hosts took out Switzerland on a late shot.

On the men's side, Norway will meet Canada in the gold-medal match after beating Switzerland 7-5 in the semifinals Thursday.

Canada, trying to become the first Olympic curling team to go unbeaten at the games since the sport returned as a medal event in 1998, earned its own spot in the final by beating Sweden 6-3.

MAJOR LEAGUES

Milledge wants a breakout year

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — Lastings Milledge is determined to make this his breakout season.

"I have a lot of expectations," The Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder said Thursday. "I could set up myself for a long career. I want to show this organization that I'm able to play every day and that I can be productive."

Lofty expectations have followed Milledge throughout his brief career. But the Pirates are the third team Milledge is trying to impress enough to stick around. He was hampered before by limited production and a bad reputation.

A first-round draft pick in 2003, Milledge spent only a bit more than two seasons in the minors before making his major league debut with the New York Mets. He played in 115 games over two seasons, and batted .257 with 11 home runs and 51 RBIs.

But he was criticized by some Mets players for not behaving like a major leaguer after he high-fived a fan.

The Washington Nationals traded for Milledge after the 2007 season and penciled him in as their everyday center fielder. Last season he appeared in seven games, getting four hits in 24 at-bats, before being demoted to the minors.



Lastings Milledge

He angered the Nationals by twice being late for meetings and he took casual routes to fly balls. He was labeled as being too cocky and too lazy to succeed in the majors.

"Some of the talk wasn't fair," Milledge said.

In May, Milledge broke his right ring finger when he was hit by a pitch while bunting. After sitting out a month to recover, Milledge was traded to the Pirates, who gave up popular left fielder Nyjer Morgan.

"Here, it's a little bit smoother environment," Milledge said. "Everybody's not after you."

Milledge, who felt hounded by the fans and media in his previous stops, said he is more relaxed in Pittsburgh.

"It's always good to start out your career on the chill,

instead of being compared to David Wright, (Carlos) Delgado and guys like that," Milledge said. "I was moving through the system so fast, I was on different teams so fast, that I kind of missed out on instruction."

After the trade, Milledge spent about a month in the Pirates' farm system to rehab his finger and his attitude.

"I sat him down and told him our rules: wearing pants up (high stirrups), no facial hair, clean locker and how we go through each day," Pirates farm director Kyle Stark said. "He jumped right in and took accountability with it. As he started to get stronger and started to show more discipline in different things, it started to carry over onto the field."

In 58 games last season with the Pirates, Milledge hit .291 with four homers and 20 RBIs. He was switched to left field and his defense improved dramatically. That was partly due to getting intense, daily instruction from bench coach Gary Varsho.

"Everybody knows how I am in the clubhouse, how I go about my business," Milledge said.

"The difference between me last year and now is my work ethic level is better. I know myself better and what I have to do to get better."

Helping White Sox next on Vizquel's list

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Omar Vizquel's wish list is impressive: he's already held an anaconda by the tail and donned a matador's outfit in a first step toward bullfighting.

Flying in an F-16 and sky diving are also on his radar.

First, though, there's more baseball ahead for the 42-year-old infielder — this time with the Chicago White Sox, who are managed by his fellow Venezuelan Ozzie Guillen.

Vizquel can't wear his familiar No. 13 because Guillen has it and won't give it up. So he went to yet another countryman who played shortstop in Chicago, Hall of Famer Luis Aparicio, and got his blessing and his permission to unretire No. 11 and wear it this season.

"I was intimidated a little bit to ask him," Vizquel said Thursday as he reported to spring training.

Aparicio was named American League Rookie of the Year as a member of the White Sox in 1956 and the 10-time All-Star played 10 seasons with Chicago. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1984, the same year the team retired his uniform number.

"It's not easy just to ask a legend like him to wear that number," Vizquel said. "But I think the good relationship I have with him made me pop the question. ... He hesitated a little bit, he thought about it and he gave me a little smile and said, 'Well, if there is somebody that I want to wear my number, I think that person can be you.' It was like a shock and it made me feel good."

As he did last season with the Texas Rangers, 11-time Gold Glove winner Vizquel's assignment with the White Sox will be as a backup infielder at shortstop, third and second while perhaps serving as a mentor to shortstop Alexei Ramirez. Most of Vizquel's 21-year career has been spent at shortstop and he's regarded as one of the best fielders to ever play the position.

"I think I can really help him (Ramirez) to be confident,



Omar Vizquel watches spring training practice on Thursday in Glendale, Ariz.

to know what it's like to go through a slump and try to come out of it," Vizquel said. "I'm pretty sure I can help out, not only him but everybody around here."

Guillen told Vizquel to offer advice and tips only when asked, to let the young players seek him out. And he advised both Ramirez and second baseman Gordon Beckham that they should pick Vizquel's brain, starting in spring training.

"If I was those guys in the middle infield, I'd try to get everything I can from him," Guillen said.

Vizquel has kept himself in shape and during batting practice Thursday against Jake Peavy he lined several balls into the outfield.

Guillen, who turned 46 last month, is not that much older than Vizquel, who will be 43 in April. Guillen's playing career ended in 2000.

"I got more hair than he does. But he looks great and swings the bats real well," Guillen said. "He moves like he's still in his 20s."

Vizquel hit .266 with one homer and 14 RBIs in 62 games with Texas last season and had no errors. A switch-hitter, he has 2,704 career hits.

He acknowledged that as you get older, it's sometimes

harder to bounce back for a day game after playing the night before. And how long he'll play, he's not sure — a lot of it will depend on his skill level.

"You have to show that you can still play," he said. "I was wondering last year if I could do it, but every time I step on the field I give it my best and I have some great results and it makes me think that I can give it another chance."

Vizquel's interests go well beyond the game that's so shaped his life.

He and some friends went to a wildlife refuge in Venezuela last offseason searching for anaconda and to see other wildlife. They found a huge snake and Vizquel was able to take it by the tail and eventually by the head before it was released unharmed.

Now there are other experiences ahead. Bullfighting could be one.

"I didn't do the bullfight, but I took a picture with a bullfighters uniform, which was great ... pretty amazing," he said, adding that it's still on his list.

Note: White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf celebrated his 74th birthday Thursday and gave a tour of the team's state-of-the-art spring training facility to former Illinois governor Jim Edgar.

Green Monster at Red Sox's new digs

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — The future spring training home of the Boston Red Sox will have a replica Green Monster and duplicate the dimensions of Fenway Park.

The Red Sox, Lee County and Populous released preliminary renderings Thursday of the 11,000-capacity, \$75 million ballpark, which is scheduled to open in 2012 about 10 miles from the current stadium. Five practice fields will be outside the main stadium, combining training camp for the Red Sox into one facility from the cur-

rent two.

The Green Monster will have a manual scoreboard and seats atop the wall, which will be 310 feet from home plate down the line. The right-field fence will be 302 feet from the plate, and the bullpens will be beyond the fence in right-center, just as they are at Fenway.

Boston's spring training clubhouse will be 50,000 square feet clubhouse. The seating capacity will be up from 7,575 at City of Palms, the team's current spring home near downtown Fort

Myers.

"It's still a work in progress so people shouldn't leap to conclusions about it," Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said. "I like the Fenway similarity. It's meant to be different and lighter and airier and breezier and more Florida-like."

A name for the new park, with potential corporate sponsorship, has not been determined yet. There are plans for a mixed-use, 20-acre site next to the complex. The Red Sox are buying that parcel for an estimated \$5 million.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NUBEG
O O O O

GULAH
O O O O

JELING
O O O O

TALKEN
O O O O

A: O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O

Yesterday's Jumbles: SWASH TABOO DROPSY SOCIAL
Answer: What the history professor did — "PAST" THE CLASS

300. PUBLIC NOTICE

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Time Warner Cable's agreements with programmers to carry their services routinely expire from time to time. We are usually able to obtain renewals or extensions of such agreements, but in order to comply with applicable regulations, we must inform you when an agreement is about to expire. The following agreements are due to expire soon, and we may be required to cease carriage of one or more of these services/stations in the near future.

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On or after March 4, 2010, Time Warner Cable will be moving all HD programming to the 1,000's from their current position in the 400's. At this time, the channel position for the HD broadcast television stations will change as well as the HD cable programming. On or after March 4, current programming line ups will be available. Customers with HD service will receive communication via U.S. Mail or e-mail about these changes.
On or after March 4, 2010, Style will move from Expanded Basic to Digital Basic.
From March 25-27, 2010, Showtime On Demand will be available free to all digital customers on Channel 640. HD customers can also receive Showtime HD on Demand on Channel 1640. The preview may contain TV-13, TV-14, TV-MA or R-rated programming. To block this On Demand service, please follow the Parental Control instructions using your remote control or call us at 1-877-772-2253. Digital equipment is required; not all channels available in all areas.
On or after March 29, 2010, Fox Reality will cease operation and will not be available for viewing. National Geographic Wild will be added to the Digital Variety package on position 141 and Fox Soccer Plus will be added to the Digital Sports Tier on position 339. Fox Movie Channel will move from the Digital Variety Tier to the Digital Movie Tier.
On or after March 31, 2010, Movies on Demand Action, Movies on Demand Comedy and Movies on Demand Drama will cease operation and will not be available for viewing.
* Changes will vary by service area. Not all services available in all areas.

February 26, 2010

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And
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Feb. 26, Mar. 5 & 12, 2010

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the Hermitage Planning Commission has relocated its March 1, 2010 regular meeting to the Training & Workforce Development Building located at 3050 Prosperity Place in the LindenPointe Technical Park, Hermitage, PA. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Any person with a disability requiring a special accommodation to attend this meeting should notify Fran Lengyel at 724-981-0800 as early as possible prior to the day of the meeting. The City of Hermitage will make every effort to provide a reasonable accommodation.

HERMITAGE PLANNING COMMISSION
Charles Rogers, Chairman
February 26, 2010

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Advertising is the most effective and economical idea to help build your business. With the right kind of local newspaper advertising program, you can attract prospects right where they live, who are ready, willing and able to buy. Call us now for all the exciting details on our advertising packages!

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The Herald
52 South Dock St. • Sharon, PA
www.sharonherald.com

300. PUBLIC NOTICE
The Lakeview School District is requesting bids on the following food service equipment:
a. 1(one) dish machine;
b. (2) convection ovens.
Specifications may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Carolee Woods, Food Service Director, Lakeview School District, 2482 Mercer Street, Stoneboro, PA 16153. Sealed bids are due by 3:00 PM on March 10, 2010, marked 'Food Service Equipment Bid' and may be awarded at the March 15, 2010 regular school board meeting. The Lakeview School District Board of Directors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or portions of bids.
Cheryl D. Carothers
Board Secretary
Feb. 26, Mar. 3 & 5, 2010

300. PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS
The Wilmington Area School District is seeking bids for Art Supplies, School Nurse Supplies, Janitorial Supplies, Industrial Arts Supplies, Vo-Ag Supplies and General Supplies.
Specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Board Secretary, 300 Wood Street, New Wilmington, PA 16142 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you have any questions regarding specifications, please contact Jennifer Conrad, Board Secretary at 724-656-8866 Ext. 6200. Bids must be received at the Office of the Board Secretary, 300 Wood Street, New Wilmington, PA 16142 no later than 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, 2010. Sealed Bids must be clearly marked. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, waive any informality contained in any bid and to enter into a contract deemed most advantageous to the district.
Jennifer L. Conrad,
Business Manager
Wilmington Area School Board
Feb. 26, Mar. 5 & 12, 2010

13. MOBILE HOMES for SALE
Must see to believe! 2brdm, nice closets, well-maintained, lg. kitchen w/peninsula, storage & carport, new carpet, ceramic tile, wood flooring, hot water heater. Nice park & convenient to shopping. 724-383-4106
Starting @ \$500. Also rent to own. Transfer. 330-998-2765

17. REAL ESTATE
AMY ZUCCO Realtor®
#1 Sales Agent
Howard Hanna Shenango Valley
Office: 724.962.8701
Cell: 724.699.2256
1483 N. Hermitage Rd.
Hermitage, PA 16148
email: azucco@howardhanna.com

Howard Hanna
Buying, Selling, CALL...
NANCY LEO Associate Broker

BEST REAL ESTATE
Office: 724.981.BEST
Cell: 724.977.4851
Home: 724.347.4265
625 Dutch Lane
Hermitage, PA

Call Maureen DiFeo Mortgage Loan Officer
•Conventional, •FHA/ VA, •PHFA Mortgages Available
Financing the Valley for over 10 years!
724-962-8701, Ext. 16
mdifeo@howardhanna.com

3. PERSONALS
Divorce \$209 Total
No Fault. Uncontested. No travel. Wife or husband in PA.
Reisman & Davis, Pgh
Free info 800-486-4070

5. LOST & FOUND
Found male dog, black, friendly, blue collar.
724-962-3189

IS YOUR PET lost or missing? Call the Animal Advocacy
724-347-3468,
Animal Appeal,
724-962-9284,
Shenango Valley Animal Shelter
724-342-5834, and the Humane Society of Mercer County,
724-981-5445

13. MOBILE HOMES for SALE

LOOK
3 brdm, Hermitage.
\$1995. 724-528-8086

Howard Hanna
This ad has over 50,000 readers. They could be reading your ad too! To advertise in The Herald Classifieds call (724) 981-6100 We Cover Your World.

PUBLIC NOTICE
In accordance with the provisions of the Pennsylvania Election Code, Act No. 320 of 1937, of the General Assembly, and its amendments, notice is hereby given that the General Primary will be held in the one hundred (100) voting districts of Mercer County on:
MAY 18, 2010
at which time the polls will be open from 7:00 AM until 8:00 PM, prevailing time, and candidates will be nominated for Federal and Commonwealth public offices and elected for County and local Party offices as follows by each party entitled to participate:
Enumerated below are the titles of all offices to be nominated as supplied by the Pennsylvania Department of State and the County Party Chairpersons:

FEDERAL	COMMONWEALTH	
UNITED STATES SENATOR	GOVERNOR	ONE (1) SIX YR TERM
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS-3RD DIST	LT. GOVERNOR	ONE (1) TWO YR TERM
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS-4TH DIST	SENATOR IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	ONE (1) TWO YR TERM
	50TH DIST	ONE (1) FOUR YR TERM
	7TH DIST	ONE (1) TWO YR TERM
	8TH DIST	ONE (1) TWO YR TERM
	17TH DIST	ONE (1) TWO YR TERM
	DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE (ONE MALE AND ONE FEMALE)	TWO (2) FOUR YR TERM
	REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE (ONE MALE, ONE FEMALE AND ONE OF EITHER GENDER)	THREE(3) FOUR YR TERM
LOCAL		
DEMOCRATIC PRECINCT: COMMITTEEMAN	ONE(1) PER PRECINCT	FOUR YR TERM
COMMITTEEWOMAN	ONE(1) PER PRECINCT	FOUR YR TERM
REPUBLICAN PRECINCT: COMMITTEEMAN	ONE(1) PER PRECINCT	TWO YR TERM
COMMITTEEWOMAN	ONE(1) PER PRECINCT	TWO YR TERM

Mercer County Board of Elections
Brian Beader, Chairman
Kenneth R. Ammann
John N. Lechner
February 26, 2010

ACROSS

- 1 Plait
- 6 Whistles
- 11 Rode the rapids
- 13 Hooded snakes
- 14 Cookbook page
- 15 Rust and tarnish
- 16 Negatives
- 17 Compete for
- 18 Chignon
- 21 Become edible
- 23 — Montgomery of jazz
- 26 Shoshone tribe member
- 27 Poker card
- 28 Feeding time cry
- 29 Pointy beards
- 31 Pint fraction
- 32 Decided on
- 33 Clunked
- 35 Dossier
- 36 Carnivore's choice

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12		13			
14						15			
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18	19	20		21		22		23	24
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44	45	46				47		48	49
51						52			
53								54	

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17. REAL ESTATE

Paul Masters Realtor® Broker Owner
Call Paul for all of Your Real Estate Needs!
100 Ridge Ave. Suite H Sharpsville, PA 16150
Interstate Real Estate Services Inc. 724-962-7325
CLASSIFIED WORKS! 981-6100

Rita L. Ferringer Realtor® / Broker/ 724.981.BEST
search all multi listings @
gotobestrealstate.com
BEST REAL ESTATE
OnLine CLASSIFIED WORKS!
www.sharonherald.com

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The Herald CLASSIFIEDS • 724-981-6100

Answer to Previous Puzzle

COW	MILL	HEMP
UMA	IDEE	ODOR
BEAR	CLAW	SITE
ENCORE	DITCH	
	BOSS	NETS
CELEB	IONS	
ART	ERGO	SHAG
MADE	INFO	ISU
	RAGE	RISKY
	RHUM	DOLT
	HYPOS	BAGELS
DIET	ECONOMIC	
ANNE	RUED	IMA
GOAD	APSO	TEN

- 8 California fort
- 9 — kwon do
- 10 Slow leak's sound
- 12 Want
- 13 Quail family
- 18 Get lost! (2 wds.)
- 19 Sir Thomas More island
- 20 Tidily
- 22 Bother
- 23 Made one's way
- 24 Dawn horse epoch
- 25 Garbo's homeland
- 28 Flood residue
- 30 Prop at a NFL game
- 31 Surpass
- 34 Weighs on
- 36 Like some mouthwash
- 39 Curtain material
- 41 Ten-four buddy
- 43 Thin fog
- 44 Amtrak et al.
- 45 Open-wide word
- 46 Kin of sis
- 48 Mgmt. biggie
- 49 Winery cask
- 50 Mole, sometimes

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BECOME AN AUTO SALES CONSULTANT
No experience necessary, professional appearance required, professional atmosphere, excellent compensation, 5 day work week, strong management support, hospitalization.
Send Résumé To King Motors
Demo Allowance, Busy Store ... Plenty of Floor Traffic
Mon. & Thurs. 9-9; Tues., Wed., Fri. 9-6; Sat. 9-4
KING Jeep
Chrysler • Jeep • Dodge
3239 Wilmington Road • 724-654-7761

Views & Voices
MOM Makeover 2010
Tell us why your mom deserves a makeover in 100 words or less!
Winners will receive a makeover and be featured in our May issue.
Send the essay along with a recent picture of your mom, her age, address and phone number, and your name, address and phone number to Views & Voices, c/o The Herald, P.O. Box 51, Sharon, PA 16146. You can also drop it off in our office located on the second floor of The Herald building or e-mail your essay and photo to sherris@sharonherald.com.
Entries must be received by March 1, 2010

17. REAL ESTATE

BEST REAL ESTATE



Welcome Buyers & Sellers Mark Petrillo Realtor

Office: 724.981.BEST Cell: 724.866.5582 Home: 724.342.5194

3 bdrm, 14 acres with stream, guest house/office, near New Wilmington. \$268,000.

648 Hull St., 2 bdrm, \$17,900 owner financing w/\$2000 down.

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicaps, familial status, or national origin, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

18. HOUSES for SALE

3bdrm updated 1.5ba & kitchen. 2 car. attach. gar. New furnace & AC, 2 fireplaces, appl. incl. Hermitage. \$118,000

4012 Kara Ct., Hermitage, Eagle Point. Condominium community, 4 yr. old stand alone villa, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, full basement, Many upgrades, \$179,000.



1story, 3 bdrm. 3full ba, 3car gar, 1.2acre, 9' ceilings, 1050 Brandywine Dr. Hermitage \$347,500 330-506-9716

USE CLASSIFIED DAILY! 981-6100

18. HOUSES for SALE

Duplex 3 bdrm/2 bdrm. Full bsmt. 149 Logan Ave. Sharon nice cond Must See! Owner financing. \$5000 down \$35,000. 724-877-2367

Duplex, 1 bdrm down, 2 bdrm up. Can easily be single dwelling. S. Oakland, next to Viaduct, \$25,000 obo. 724-342-5214

Great starter or rental, Sharon, 3 bdrm, many updates, only \$16,000. 724-528-0178

PRICE REDUCED Sharpville, 4 bdrm plus, 1.5 ba, all appliances. \$49,900 (possible land contract) \$4,900 down, 490/mo. 724-981-2749

CLASSIFIED WORKS! 981-6100

Farrell, all brick, 3 bdrm. 2 story, CA, 2.5 car garage, huge corner lot, \$45,000 By Owner 330-534-9267



Sharon: 1020 Griswold 1 story, 2bdrm, new kitchen, bath, carpet, tankless hot water htr, dishwasher, garbage disposal. Incl. fridge, stove, repl. windows. Move-in cond \$55,300 724-342-2821

25. LOTS for SALE

Lge. discounts on all remaining building lots in Grove City-Sandy Lake area. See beautifulhomesites.com

FIND IT IN CLASSIFIED

28. CEMETERY LOTS

Hillcrest 2, lots, 2 vaults, \$2144. 2 caskets \$4490 1995 prices 340-422-3427

33. CONDOS RENT/SALE

Hills Creek Condos 3bdrm. \$575+ util. 330-979-4999

34. HOUSES for RENT

2 & 3 Bdrms, Hermitage, Sharon, Farrell, Call 724-347-4631

2 bdrm Meek in Sharon \$400mo 330-448-1735

2 bdrm Sharon. \$300 +util. 724-734-1648

2 bdrm, 1 bath, Sharon \$475 + util. 724-815-8091

3 & 4 bdrm Call 724-977-0719

34. HOUSES for RENT

3 bdrm ranch \$650 mo 330-979-4999

3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch, Hermitage, no pets \$700. 330-448-2354

Hermitage 962-4531

Hermitage ranch 2 bdrm, 2 bath, \$700 + util. 724-342-7480

LOOK Rent to own. 4 bdrm, 2 ba, 3 fireplaces Sharon 724-528-8086

Sharon 436 Nimick 2bdrm, appl. \$595+util. +sec. 330-772-2517

Sharpville, Ridge., 2/3 bdrm. 724-981-1902

35. STORES/OFFICES

1,000 sq. ft. Prime Hermitage Office Space 724-981-9039

Mercer, on the square. Lg. 1,600sq. ft. A/C, \$695 +util. Ref. Escrow. 724-662-1490

46. UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

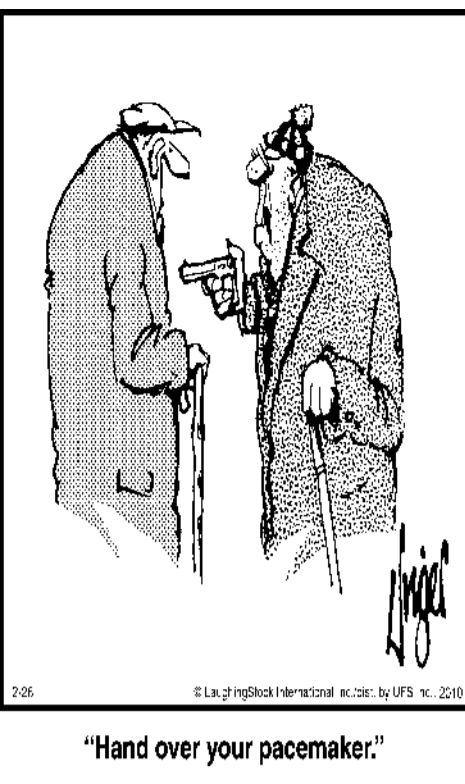
1 & 2 bdrm Sharon util. incl. \$550-\$600 +sec. 724-977-0569

1 bdrm Sharon \$325 724-734-9743

1 bdrm. like new Sharon no pets 724-866-6487

1bdrm Sharon \$300+ gas & elec. 724-854-1141

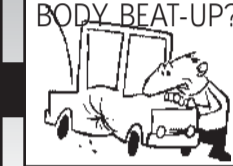
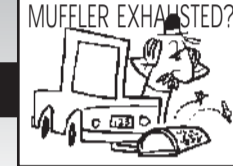
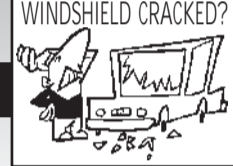
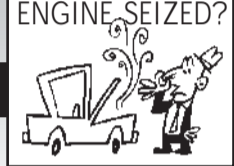
Need to say something special? Use The Herald Happy ads!! 981-6100



"Hand over your pacemaker."

AUTO SERVICE MANIA JANUARY 2010

THESE LOCAL SERVICE STATIONS, AUTO BODY SHOPS, AUTO DEALERS AND RELATED BUSINESSES ARE READY TO HANDLE ALL YOUR AUTOMOTIVE NEEDS!



SERVICE AND PRODUCT SPECIALS



See JOHN CHIODO Service Manager

4 GREAT SERVICES - 1 LOW PRICE!! PA State Inspection, PA Emission Inspection, Lube, Oil & Filter, Tire Rotation \$69.95 + tax

JASON BLACK Chevrolet 12 Main St. Sharpville, Pa. 724-962-5793 GM Goodwrench Service

24 HOUR TOWING AAA "Damage-Free Wheel Lift Towing"

CARPENTER'S AUTO REPAIR 452 Davis St., Sharon 724-346-5518

- PA Emissions Inspection, PA State Inspection, Lube, Oil & Filter, Cooling Flush & Fill, Tune-ups, Brakes, Exhaust, Electronic Engine Analysis, Struts & shocks, Transmission Service

FRIDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 26

Table with columns for Broadcast, Time Warner Cable, DirecTV, and DISH Network. Rows include various channels and programs like News, Jeopardy, Wheel Fort, and various movies.

Real Estate Spotlight

Your Local Real Estate Guide



Howard Hanna

Real Estate Mortgage Title Insurance

extended & expanded tax credit

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MBG Denotes 100% Money Back Guarantee ★ Watch the Sunday Showcase of Homes on WKBN 27 at 11:00 a.m.

<p>S Pymatuning \$165,000 327 Hopper Rd LUSH & LOVELY! Beautiful kit leads to upper deck, patio below with waterfall. Close to Shenango Valley & Greenville. http://327hopperd Amy Zucco 724-962-8701</p>	<p>Greenville \$114,900 101 Chambers Ave Complimentary to every decor on an oversized lot You Will Love It! http://101chambersave Amy Zucco 724-962-8701</p>	<p>West Middlesex \$158,000 32 Clubhouse Dr Lovely home in great location, 3 very nice sized bedrms, family rm w/fireplace, many updates http://32clubhousedrive Debra Shelby 724-962-8701</p>	<p>Hermitage \$149,000 Eagle Point Condominiums 2 & 3 BR 2 Ba New Hermitage Condo Development 2 & 3 BR Duplex units from \$149,000 http://amyzucco Amy Zucco/Suzanne Monroe 724-342-1708</p>	<p>West Middlesex \$119,000 3116 Main St MBG Solid brick partially restored historical home in downtown 5 gorgeous fireplaces, cut glass & stained glass windows, original pocket doors http://3116mainst Pam Hrabosky 724-962-8701</p>	<p>West Middlesex \$109,900 14 Penderyn Dr MBG Beautiful 3 BR brick ranch on very nice lot on dead end street, att 2 car gar, full basement & fenced yard http://14penderyn-drive Julie Cylene/Mike Herrilko 724-962-8701</p>
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<p>Farrell \$82,000 1721 Memorial Dr Brick ranch in great neighborhood. Spacious LR w/LB fireplace, updated eat-in kitchen. Patio, large yard, shed, garage http://1721memorialdrive Patricia Galsky 724-962-8701</p>	<p>Farrell \$79,900 1708 Shady Ave REDUCED! Beautiful one owner brick ranch with full finished basement, updated kit, hardwood flrs and full bath & game room in basement http://1708shadydr Debbie Fair 724-962-8701</p>	<p>South Pymatuning 65,000 NEW LISTING 2 BR 1 Ba COUNTRY LOCATION Just North Of Sharpsville. Minutes From Shenango Lake. Vinyl Sided Ranch w/Att Grg. Full Basement, Eat In Kit. Some Appliances Incl. One Half Acre. Home Warranty. Janet Ohle Landfried 724-588-9008</p>
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whybuynow

Visit howardhanna.com for all the info!

BEST REAL ESTATE 724-981-2378

625 Dutch Lane, Hermitage, PA 16148 • Visit us at: www.gotobestrealstate.com

SEARCH ALL LISTINGS AT gotobestrealstate.com

<p>OPEN HOUSE Sun. Feb., 28 1-2:30 359 Independence Court, Sharon</p> <p>"THIS ONE HAS IT ALL!"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Neighborhood • 3 Bedrooms • Formal Dining Room • 1st Flr Family Rm with Bath • Sun Room <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$95,000</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE Sun. Feb., 28 • 1-2:30 1035 Haig St., Sharon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 BD • 2 Bath • New Kitchen • Heated Pool • Beautiful Bath w/Spa Tub • 1 Car Garage • Finished Bsmt. <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$59,000</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE 255 Greenwood, Hermitage Sat., Feb. 27 • 11:00-12:30</p> <p>"BIGGER THAN IT LOOKS!" CONVENIENT LOCATION</p> <p>4 Bedroom 2 First Floor & 2 Upstairs, 2 Bath Plus One in Basement, New Windows, 1 Car Garage, Corner Lot</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$79,900</p>						
<p>Hermitage Completely updated 3 bedroom ranch. Large lot. Hot Tub with Fenced Back yard. Large Kitchen/Dining room combo and Finished Basement with Third Bedroom</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$93,500</p>	<p>CALL US ABOUT THESE GREAT DEALS!</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>SHARON \$15,000</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>SHARON \$29,900</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>FARRELL \$25,500</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>SHARON \$18,900</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>FARRELL \$9,900</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>SHARON \$24,900</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>SHARON \$15,000</p>	<p>SHARON \$29,900</p>	<p>FARRELL \$25,500</p>	<p>SHARON \$18,900</p>	<p>FARRELL \$9,900</p>	<p>SHARON \$24,900</p>	
<p>SHARON \$15,000</p>	<p>SHARON \$29,900</p>							
<p>FARRELL \$25,500</p>	<p>SHARON \$18,900</p>							
<p>FARRELL \$9,900</p>	<p>SHARON \$24,900</p>							

Something for the Whole family



Have you been looking for a new home for your family?

A realtor can help you find a neighborhood that has lots of room for your children to run and play that's located close to good schools and playgrounds. A home that is close to transportation, major highways, shopping, entertainment or healthcare. Maybe you need something with a layout that can grow and change as your family grows and changes.

Whatever you're looking for, a realtor can help you find it!

Simplify Your Lifestyle!

If you are looking for a new home, make things simple for yourself. Call one of the local Realtors on these pages and they will be happy to help you in your search.

ERA JOHNSON REAL ESTATE

1620 E. State St., Hermitage, PA • 724-347-4011
140 S. Diamond St., Mercer, PA • 724-662-2740
View All MLS Listings at ERA.com

<p>OUTSTANDING RANCH IN HERMITAGE Meticulously maintained, this 4BR, 3.5 bath brick home is situated on extra large private lot in exclusive Hermitage neighborhood. Stunning rear patio and superb landscaping. Family room offers huge fireplace, office and Florida room. Basement level includes laundry, storage and is partially finished. One of a kind.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$395,000</p>	<p>OUTSTANDING BRICK COLONIAL Stunning 4BR home w/great curb appeal. Beautiful interior w/gorgeous hardwood flrs thruout. New mstr ba, nearly all new windows, new driveway. 3rd fl w/great potential. Partially fin. bsmt. w/walkout.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$267,000</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>with kitchen open to living areas. 3 car detached garage w/living area or office above garage area. Mercer Schools.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$119,000</p>	<p>UNIQUE FEATURES THROUGHOUT Totally remodeled. 3 BR home featuring open floor plan</p> <p>ONE OF KIND Beautifully updated. WAITING FOR A FAMILY! Completely remodeled. All new roof, electric, fixtures, carpeting, kit, baths & paint. Includes appliances. Move-in & priced to sell. Mercer Schools</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$79,500</p>
<p>COMMERCIAL</p> <p>BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY AND DUPLEX Two buildings included in this sale. Currently a floral shop and duplex. Handicap accessible and covered loading dock. Possible retail or professional offices.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$195,000</p>	<p>DUPLEX IN BOROUGH Rental Income investment property. Duplex in nice neighborhood. Now is the right time to buy and this one is priced to move. Sharpsville Schools.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$47,000</p>		

On, APRIL 30, 2010, the \$8000 First Time Homebuyer TAX CREDIT ENDS

64 days : 14 hours : 19 minutes

INTERSTATE REAL ESTATE SERVICES, INC.

100 Ridge Avenue • Suite H • Sharpsville, PA 16150
724-962-REAL (7325)

Paul Masters
Realtor® Broker
Owner

<p>FARRELL Large 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath home located in quiet Farrell Neighborhood. Many updates, including newer roof, windows & vinyl siding. Large 2 car detached garage. Large flat yard. Move-In Condition!</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$52,000</p>	<p>SHARON Roomy 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home with 1 1/2 Detached Garage. Attic could be 4th Bedroom. Many Updates Including: New Roof, Furnace, C/A, Electric & Windows. AGENT OWNED!</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">\$59,900</p>
--	--

FARRELL
Affordable 2 bedroom home in pleasant Farrell neighborhood. Features include large 2 car detached garage, 2 enclosed patios. Dry basement has lots of space for all your storage needs. Move-In Condition! OFFERS WELCOMED!

\$56,900

Winter Wonderland... Of Fine Home Buys.

The real estate agencies listed here are professionals. They have the knowledge and abilities to find the perfect home at the right price.

Call now and check out the winter home lineup.

Real Estate Spotlight



Your Local Real Estate Guide



FOR THE BEST WAY HOME, GO NORTHWOODSM
 490 N. Kerrwood Dr., Suite 202, Hermitage, PA 16148
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Open Houses 3577 Festor Dr., Hermitage Directions: S. on Rt. 18, Left on Morefield, Right at stop to Gail, Left on Festor. 4 bedroom 2 story on spacious & private lot. In-ground heated pool, 2 family rooms plus summer porch, oak kitchen with island. Entire house completely painted/new carpet in master bdr. & 2nd bedroom. \$179,000 Host: Jim Myhra		Open Houses 3708 Clearview Dr., Hermitage "A perfect home" - beautifully detailed multi-level 3 BR, 2 bath. Family room w/fireplace & additional basement storage. Concrete, covered rear patio. Immaculate, move-in condition. \$169,900		Open Houses 3640 Tamara Trail, Hermitage Looks are deceiving in this 3 bed, 2 bath ranch with complete finished basement including fam. rm. weight rm. & 4th bed. 1st flr. sun-room, large storage bldg. on extra large wooded lot. \$169,900							
Open Houses 325 Sherman Ave., Sharon Move right in to this easy to maintain 3 bedroom home. Freshly painted, updates throughout. 2 car garage w/electric. Washer & dryer included. Newer windows to help w/heating bills. \$49,500 Hostess: Patty McCluskey		Open Houses 1111 Bond St., Farrell Brick 2 story home featuring 2 bedrooms - possible 3rd that is a captive room - 2 full baths, one completely redone. Large upstairs laundry room, formal dining room & family room. Yard is fenced in back. Close to schools. \$37,500 Hostess: Rose Turuck		Open Houses 3177 Valley View Dr., Sharpsville Situated on a 110x250 lot in Sharpsville School District, this 3 bedroom 2 bath home has been completely renovated. The new kitchen features stainless steel appliances. The dining room has patio doors that lead to the new deck. This one also boasts updated bedrooms and baths, 2 car garage, full basement and more. \$155,000 Hostess: Claudia Brown		Open Houses 1984 Pierce Bluffs Dr., Hermitage First time offered! 4 bed, 4.5 bath home in Pierce Bluffs Development. Full finished basement, den & family room w/stone fireplace, awesome master suite. Extra large wooded lot. \$389,000 Hostess: Sandy Gurgovits		Open Houses 34 Daley Rd., Sharpsville Directions: From Rt. 18 at Donoff's, right on Lamor Rd., past Charleston Rd., left on Daley, house on right. You'll love the privacy on 7.5 acres with gas well. 2 story traditional 3 yr. old with open floor plan, hickory floors/cherry kitchen w/island. Family room log fireplace, security system. \$358,000		Open Houses 5045 Lakeview Dr., Hermitage DIR: S. Keel Ridge to L. on Lakeview. Unique 2 story brick in great neighborhood. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, den, fam. rm. with frpl. in-ground pool. Horse barn with 2 stalls, 14x16 storage bldg. 5+ acres. \$378,000 Hostess: Vickie Hando	
Open Houses 3483 Silver Ridge, Hermitage Directions: S. on Rt. 18, left on Longview Rd., left on Spangler, rt. on Silver Ridge, house on left. Delightful 4 bedroom stone/vinyl Ranch with open floor plan. Great room with 2 story fireplace, maple cabinetry, 2 master suites, finished rec room with snack area & full bath. Crown moldings. \$379,000 Hostess: Pat Stafford		Open Houses 4870 Scott Dr., Hermitage 4 bedroom 2 story Colonial on 1+ acre wooded lot in great Hermitage neighborhood. Family room brick fireplace, newer cherry kitchen with granite counters, large sun room, den, rec room. 1st floor laundry. \$349,900 Hostess: Patty McCluskey		Open Houses 219 Easton Rd., Hermitage Exceptionally well-maintained & updated 3 BR Cape Cod style home on large lot. It has hardwood floors, newer windows, waterproofed bsmt. with 2nd full bath, irg. master BR and far too much to mention! \$134,000 Hostess: Joyce Baldarelli		Open Houses 295 Mitchell Rd., W. Middlesex A ten!! Beautifully updated and meticulously maintained! Spacious multi-level with newer kitchen & baths, striking 24x24 family rm. w/hardwood floors, French doors...the list goes on!! Decorator touches throughout! Zero to do!! \$219,900 Hostess: Pat Will		New Listings Greenville Energy efficient 3 bed, 2 bath, easy to maintain Ranch w/ large yard. Vaulted living room ceiling, beautiful stain glass, downstairs family room, garden shed. Sitting back for privacy in town. \$118,000		New Listings Greenville Great potential in this 3 bedroom home with some updates - large living room, formal dining room, walk-up attic for storage and large lot. \$39,900	
New Listings Hermitage The right house for all ages - just steps to Buhl Park - brick 3 BR Ranch, eat-in kit, A/C, 2 car garage, all appliances incl. All contracts considered. No showings after 4:30 weekdays. Don't miss! \$105,500		New Listings Hermitage "A real sleeper!" Unique 3500 sq. ft. of open living nestled on 11 acres. Large windows offering stunning views. 4 bdrs., 4 baths, Jacuzzi, sunroom, awesome storage, large rear deck. \$429,000		New Listings Hermitage "A true gem" - one of a kind, elegant 4 bdr. brick 2 story. 6000 + sq. ft. of living on 2 acres next to park. 5 fireplaces, den, family room, sunroom & rec room. Poured concrete basement, awesome grounds. Well below appraisal. \$648,000		New Prices 1057-59 Linden Street \$73,200 516 Avon Street \$59,900		Feature Listing 600 N. Stateline Rd., Sharon Great family home on large corner lot. New furnace & insulation keeps heating costs low. Wraparound front porch plus 2 back porches overlooking fenced back yard. Full basement, 2 car garage. \$56,000		Feature Listing 655 Federal Ave., Sharon Curb appeal here...and affordable, too! Extras include a 11x14 family room as well as a 11x15 living room, 1st floor laundry. Three bedrooms on a split floor plan with a bath for each. Updated kitchen w/ appliances. Patio area with garage. \$54,900	

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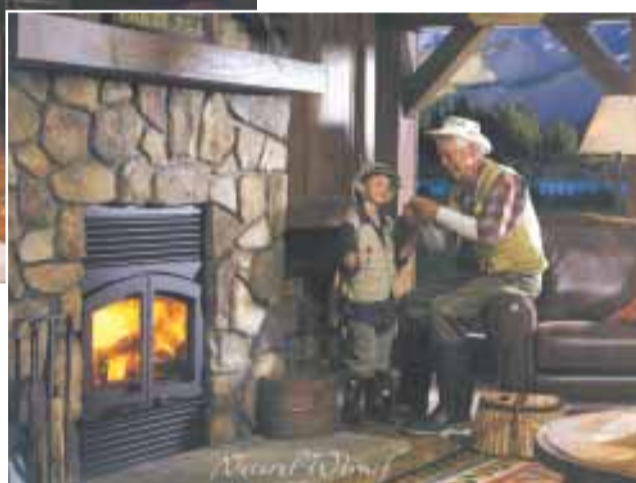
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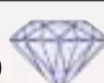


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