

INSIDE:

Students make their Christmas list	3
'Tis the season to spread colds	4
Football team caps season with win	5
Soccer team could have been more consistent ...	6

“ We want to clear up any misconception about the relationship between students and police. ”

--Ray Bechtel, Lower Pottsgrove Police Chief.

Police chief backs SRO program, Page **2**

the falcon

Volume 38, Issue 1

Pottsgrove High School
1345 Kauffman Road
Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464
Phone: (610) 326-5105

December 18, 1998

newsbriefs

Federal judge upholds student's suspension

TULSA, Okla. -- A federal judge has ruled that the 16-year-old student suspended for defacing his school district's internet web page and crashing its e-mail system won't go back to class anytime soon. *The Tulsa World* reported.

Anthony Towry, of Broken Arrow, Okla., and another student are accused of downloading a copy of the home page and doctoring it up, drawing clown faces on certain teachers.

They put mustaches and horns on others, according to the school district's attorney.

Towry is also accused of sabotaging the entire school district's e-mail system. He was suspended May 5.

Lawyers for Towry, however, maintain that the punishment violates his constitutional rights.

After he was suspended, Towry sued the district for \$2 million.

Governor Ridge helps teach Students learn that two wrongs don't make a right lesson in conflict resolution

by Danielle Titus

The 25 fifth graders in Mrs. Candice Brucker's class eagerly awaited the arrival of Governor Tom Ridge, and when the cameras of PCTV and Channel 6 started rolling, it was show time.

The Governor, who arrived in a black limo. was at Ringing Rocks

intendent of schools Dr. Sharon Nalbone Richardson, assistant superintendent Dr. Joseph Bender, state representative Mary Ann Dailey, members of local police forces and other area politicians.

Governor Ridge, who told the fifth graders about his two elementary-aged children (Tom, 11, a fifth grader, and Leslie, 14, a

nants in the stands at a football game. Even Governor Ridge was called on to answer questions.

Then Governor Ridge walked to the front of the room, took off his suit jacket and, after briefly talking about his family, commended the class for their participation and contributions to Officer James' lesson.

"Whoever heard 'Two wrongs

lion. And also went to court to ask for a temporary restraining order to keep the district from suspending him.

But U.S. Senior District Judge H. Dale Cook denied the restraining order, stating that the student's rights to due process had not been violated and that the punishment was not excessive.

"Computers have become a vital tool in education," the paper quoted the judge as saying. "It's exceedingly vital that rules be imposed on network systems and schools themselves. I find the [student's] injury does not outweigh the damage to the school."

Teens design smoke-free cyberspace site

NEW YORK-- Smoke Free Class of 2000.

That's the name of a new web site designed by 16-year-old Eric Straub, a high school junior from Grafton, Ohio.

Straub's design served as the foundation for the teen-friendly web site sponsored by the American Lung Assn., which is available on the World Wide Web at URL: <http://www.lungusa.org/smoke-freeclass>

Once online, teens can become "cyberDJs" by hosting chat groups and message boards.

"The best way to teach teenagers about smoking is through their peers," said Linda Ford, MD, president of the American Lung Association. "That's why the Smoke-Free Class of 2000 web site is by teens, for teens."

Every day, more than 3,000 youngsters begin smoking in the U.S. To curb the number of future smokers and to encourage current smokers to quit, the Smoke-Free Class of 2000 site lets students learn about the dangers of smoking and share smoking prevention information.

Why 2000 in the title?

"The year 2000 is really important because it's sort of like a fresh start for everybody so maybe we can all be smokefree," said Straub.

The Smoke-Free Class of 2000 is a 12-year awareness project created in response to former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop's 1988 call for a smokefree society by the year of 2000.

Elementary School on Oct. 22 to show his support for the Student Resource Officer Program (SRO), instituted by the Pottsgrove School District this fall.

"I don't think you have to be an adult, a governor or even out of school to show some leadership on an issue like this," Governor Ridge said, talking about people who can curb violence in their lives. "It's how you treat each other."

In attendance also were super-

seventh grader) spent most of his visit at Ringing Rocks sitting in a small desk in the back of the room, listening to Officer William James, Pottsgrove's SRO, teach a lesson on conflict resolution.

"Focus on the problem," Officer James told the class, while going through the five steps of the conflict resolution.

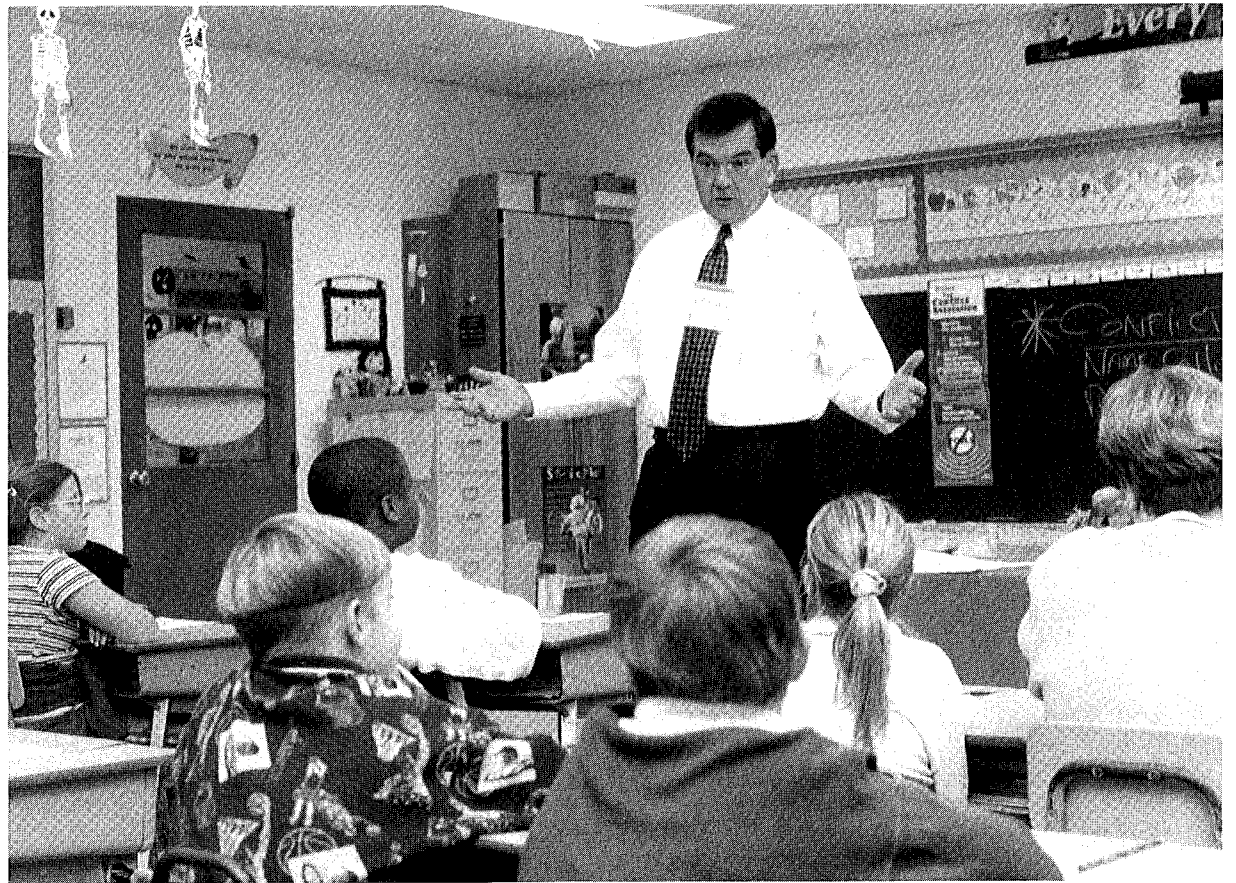
Officer James began his program with a warm welcome to all the visitors, and as soon as he started to ask the class questions, their hands filled the air like pen-

do not make a right?" the Governor began. He then called on members of the class to comment on ways they could resolve conflicts.

Later the Governor was presented with a Week Without Violence t-shirt from Sally Lee on behalf of the Pottstown YWCA.

Then, still later, in the hallway outside the classroom, Governor Ridge huddled with first grader, Wes Shepard, who like the Governor has a hearing disability.

(cont'd p. 4 col. 1)



Governor teaches a class: When Governor Tom Ridge visited Ringing Rocks Elementary School on Oct. 22, he spent some time in front of the fifth grade class talking about the importance of conflict resolution techniques.



the falcon

Published seven times during the school year by the students of Pottsgrove High School, 1345 Kauffman Road, Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464. Subscription rates are \$1.50 per year.

PSPA

Vol. 38, No. 1

December 18, 1998

Editor-in-Chief	Mark Holloway
Associate Editors	Karen Hetrick, Crystal Snow
Staff	Jessica Cahill, Bert Ingram, Joshua Geiger, Jessica Miller Katie Hurlock, Danielle Titus
Business Managers	Kelli Masewicz, Bethann Pagano
Business Advisor	Mrs. Barbara S. Eschbach
Copy/Layout Advisor	Mr. Charles E. Parrish

Sports offer perks

Sports are fun and offer students many perks, like the fact that sports help students get involved in school activities. Sports also help students to meet new people. The bottom line is there probably are more perks in playing a sport than there are pages to the Ken Starr report.

There are also many health perks to playing a sport. Playing sports enables people to have a healthy heart, increased endurance, a longer life, a normal, healthy weight and stronger muscles.

Also, a benefit of playing sports is it gives students a good way of relieving stress. On a field a student can push and shove competitors, or kick or bat a ball really hard to relieve the stress of the everyday roller-coaster ride of school life.

Playing a sport also helps students to become responsible and have time management skills. Playing a sport helps students to budget their time wisely and get things done. (Students' grades should not suffer while they are out for a sport if they know how to balance out their time.)

Playing a sport can have a down side. The down side is that sometimes sports take up too much of a student's time and the



Police chief backs SRO program

■ Not all calls to police concern violent issues

by Karen Hetrick

Chief Ray Bechtel talked to the *Falcon* staff in October about the Student Resource Officer (SRO) program at Pottsgrove and what the program is going to accomplish here.

After receiving 214 calls from the school district last year, Chief Bechtel decided it would be a good time to start the program here. Not all the calls were based

Carolina.

One reason why the program was created was to develop a better relationship between police officers and the community.

"We want to clear up any kind of misconception about the relationship between students and police," Chief Bechtel said. He

"Once you put a police officer into a school building the stigma is that you have serious problems in your school and, there-

mainly used as a disciplinarian. (Pottstown's program started five years ago.)

Chief Bechtel said that frequently schools are afraid to announce that they are using this program because they may feel that the community will think that the school is having excessive problems with students.

"Once you put a police officer into a school building the stigma is that you have serious problems in your school and, therefore, they had to bring police into the school to control the situation," he said. "It just creates this picture of a bad environment when that's not

studies take a backseat. Grades may drop and a student may become ineligible.

However, most athletes learn that playing a sport means taking on the responsibility of carrying passing grades. Athletes learn that they cannot let themselves or their team down. And, therefore, in the long run, sports help students become better students.

AP courses help

Like if Roseanne Barr ran in a marathon, Pottsgrove is way behind the leaders. When it comes to offering its students advanced placement courses, Pottsgrove is in the middle of or behind the pack. Advanced placement courses, commonly known as AP courses, are valuable to students on many levels and efforts should be made to make them more available here.

Students at area high schools have more AP courses available to them than students at Pottsgrove do. Students at Daniel Boone can take up to five AP courses during their high school career. Students at Owen J. Roberts can take up to 14 AP courses, while Great Valley students can take well over 20.

AP courses benefit students in college. Students who receive a 3, 4 or 5 on their AP test, administered in May of each year, can receive college credit for the course. With the high cost of college, the less courses a student has to take the better.

Pottsgrove students need to be informed about the benefits AP courses have to offer them. This needs to happen before they reach high school. Also, more AP courses need to be offered so that students here can reap their benefits.

editorial policy

The *Falcon*, a student newspaper designed to inform the Pottsgrove community and provide an educational experience for its staff members, announces its editorial policy:

1) The editorial staff of *Falcon* refuses to print libelous or obscene material and reserves the right to edit objectionable material from articles and letters.

2) Unsigned editorials published on this page are the opinions of the editorial staff.

3) Editorials appearing elsewhere in the newspaper or in an "opinion" column are the opinion of the named writer.

4) All letters addressed to the editor must be signed by the writer in order for them to be considered for publication. Upon request the staff will omit the writer's name when the letter is published.

5) *Falcon* reserves the right to edit and delete material from letters to make them grammatically correct or meet space limitations.

for information about options so administrators could deal with disruptive students.

Chief Bechtel, who has worked for the Lower Pottsgrove Police Department for 25 years, has been an advocate of the SRO program since he first heard about it. The program's headquarters is in Florida and the first school to utilize the program was in North

police into the school to control the situation."

believes that police officers have a lot to offer the community as far as resources.

Pottsgrove is only the second school in Pennsylvania to institute the program. Pottstown also has an SRO officer, but he is

Overall, Chief Bechtel believes that the SRO program is working for Pottsgrove, and it will continue to work for many more years.

"It has worked in other schools," he said. "It seems to be working okay in the last two months we've been working on this project, and I hope it continues to improve throughout the course of the year."

Officer enters schools to educate, provide a safe setting

by Katie Hurlock

"I'm not here because the schools are bad," said Officer William James.

A four-year Marine and police academy graduate, Officer James was working for the Lower Pottsgrove Police Department for only six months before he applied for the job of being the resident police officer for the Pottsgrove School District.

"The plan is to educate," he said.

Officer James joined the Pottsgrove faculty this summer to keep order in the school and to arrest if needed, he told the *Falcon* newspaper staff in mid-October.

Pottsgrove started the SRO (School Resource Office) program, after hearing about a similar program that started in 1993 in North Carolina. The SRO program tries to make schools a safer place to teach and persuades students to enjoy school.

Pottstown High School uses their SRO as the Dean of Students, (in other words, for discipline). But Pottsgrove just wants to use the SRO program to teach students about things like

conflict resolution, in addition to providing a safe environment for students and teachers.

Nationwide, two million violent crimes occur on school properties on a daily basis every year, and almost 150,000 students stay home from school because of the violence. In 1992 to 1993 alone, 60 teachers were assaulted and over 160 teachers and faculty members were threatened by students.

Officer James said that his

Over half of the problems that occur in school are brought in from the outside. And most of the conflicts are over relationship problems

goals are school safety and trying to become friends with the students. He wants everyone to know that whatever a student tells him will remain confidential.

"Once they realize that, I think I'll be accepted throughout the whole school," Officer James said

about the issue of confidentiality.

Officer James also said that on his first day he was quite apprehensive, but now he enjoys coming to work everyday.

"I do, I like working with young people," Officer James said, talking about working in the school district, rather than working out on the street.

Over half of the problems, he said, that occur in school are brought in from the outside. And most of the conflicts are over relationship problems, either boys beating up boys or boys beating up girls.

Officer James carries with him at all times a utility knife and a semi-automatic, Smith and Wesson, 9-millimeter pistol. But the only time he will ever use or take out the weapons is if his life or someone else's is in danger. At any minute, a police officer's life could be in jeopardy, so because of that fact, every officer must carry a weapon at all times.

Officer James is here to keep violence out of the schools, but that is not his main job. His main objective is to teach students of all ages the seriousness of criminal law.

Band undergoes directional change

■ Teachers fill vacated positions in school band

by Katie Hurlock

Pottsgrove's band underwent a major "directional change" this school year. When the former director, Darrell Weyman, was transferred to Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School, the high school band took the field under new directors: Rodney Boyer, Cynthia Foust, Kathy Lamb and Teresa Zeoli.

The four new directors all teach

music at other schools in the district and are familiar to the Pottsgrove students. Ms. Foust teaches chorus at the intermediate school; Miss Lamb teaches music at Lower Pottsgrove; Miss Zeoli teaches orchestra at all the Pottsgrove schools; and Mr. Boyer teaches band at all three elementary schools: Lower Pottsgrove, West Pottsgrove and Ringing Rocks.

"Last year [band] was harder. This year [band] was easier," said sophomore Zach Laver, a two-year member of band, talking about differences between the directors.

Seven band members, however, said that there really wasn't much

difference, except the music and dance steps were easier this year.

"This year was an experience and it was fun," said Theresa Schrack, a sophomore member of the color guard, talking about how she liked being in the band this year. "It was a lot more organized than last year."

"I have fun doing the dances, but the routines are easier," said Vanessa Bucci, another sophomore member of the color guard.

All band members interviewed agreed that this year band was fun, but at times a little more strict than in past years.

The school band plays at the football games, pep-rallies and parades.

Students name what they want for Christmas

by Jessica Miller

"All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth": words from a popular Christmas song we've all probably heard at least once in our lives.

So how about you? Do you know what you want for Christmas yet?

Some students at Pottsgrove High School have been thinking about Christmas, and a major topic is what students want for a gift. Here are some of the items on their wish lists:

(Of course, most students want-

"I want my grandfather to come out of his coma--that's more important to me than a present," said Jennifer Bender, a sophomore.

"I want clothes, a car and world peace," said Justin Ginnona, a sophomore.

"I want clothes and a car," said Mike Wirt, a sophomore.

"I want a dirt bike for Christmas," said Jade Walker, a freshman.

"I want a new stereo because mine is dying," said Adrienne Luft, a freshman.

"I want a sing-a-long Blue,

said Casey Slinkard, a sophomore.

"I want some movies for Christmas," said Jackie Gallagher, a sophomore.

"I want Inglewood to be the best," said Jeremy Rush, a sophomore.

"I don't really want anything," said Kelly Perlstein, a sophomore.

"I want a cell phone for Christmas, but I doubt I'm going to get it," said Kristin Farra, a sophomore.

"I want a boa constrictor," said Kenneth Ivory, a sophomore.

'Falcon' asks...

What can be done to curb the rising tide of violence in schools?

Caroline Levonuk, junior: "Try to get people to talk out their problems rather than have them fight."



Serena Clemmons, sophomore: "If the act is severe enough, they should be expelled from school. If it is just a mild act, then they should be suspended for a long period of time."

Mike McVey, senior: "I think when students learn to communicate better with each other differences can be settled with words instead of fists."



Connie Whitehead, junior: "If there was more room in the hallways, people wouldn't get pushed around and they wouldn't start a fight."

Tom Blanken, sophomore: "Try and shorten class sizes. That way not so much tension would build up. Try to keep [students in a class] as unpacked as possible. Expand hallways so they are less crowded."



Shelley Gaugler, senior: "Make better punishments because getting suspended or getting detention isn't working. People



ed clothes and money, but we did have a few "odd balls.")

"All I want for Christmas is money. That way I can get what I want where I want it from," said Laura Ellis, a sophomore.

"Same for me, I guess--just some money," said Shawn Kosinski, a sophomore.

"I want money, a car and a set of skiboards," said Kevin Casalenuovo, a sophomore.

"I want money and a car," said Amy Bosch, a sophomore.

"I want money because I'm low on funds," said Danielle Titus, a sophomore.

"I want a ring from my boyfriend (Atom Kehler) and money from my family," said Ashley Fry, a sophomore.

"Let's just say clothes," said Allison Dean, a freshman.

from Blue's Clue because I think it's cute," said Natasha Glenn, a freshman.

"I want a puppy for Christmas,"

I want a new car," said Jenny Schalles, a junior.

"I would like to get a car," said Nicole Sweigart, a sophomore.

There are signs when the significant other wants to drop you like a bad habit

by Jessica Cahill

They say that breaking up is hard to do. So, while people change, cheat, lie, lose interest and leave, how can people tell when their significant other wants to drop them like a bad habit?

"There are millions of ways you know it's over," said junior Ongela Djerf. "[You] talk about it, [you] stop talking or his jokes are no longer funny."

Sometimes two people just

aren't compatible or what they once found appealing in each other has faded away.

"You know it's over when there isn't that spark there anymore," said Bert Ingram, a junior.

There are many reasons for breaking up with someone, and some reasons more interesting than others.

"If you find someone cuter, who has more money, newer shoes, a newer car or a bigger nose [than

your current significant other], then go for it," one senior said.

Brock Nichols, a freshman, said that he would break up with someone who was too clingy, while Randi Williams, a senior, said, "Hooking up with someone else [is a common reason for breaking up]."

Williams also said that once she realized that a relationship was over she would tell her boyfriend

right away, so she wouldn't lead him on.

Ingram disagreed. "Try to work it out first," Ingram said, "but if that doesn't work, it's over."

It may be just a feeling in someone's stomach that something isn't right or a physical action that makes them see through love's blind eyes. Either way, when it's over, it's over, and there's really no easy way to break up with someone that you have cared about.

Students attend Winter Ball with a nautical theme in Gilbertsville

by Danielle Titus

Friday, Dec. 4, was the night . . . when students got to debut their suits and formal wear.

The Winter Ball was held at Gilbertsville Fire House. Unlike last year's Winter Ball, which was held on a Saturday night, the event returned to a Friday night.

There were a few glitches or crossed wires when it came time to schedule events. First, the Winter Ball and a boys' and girls' basketball games were scheduled for the same night.

"Due to unavoidable circumstances, they were both scheduled for the same day," said Thomas Bannister, the sophomore class advisor, one of the people in

charge of preparations for the Winter Ball.

Also sponsoring the Ball are Mae Hanna, Antonio Montes, Spanish Club and Student Government.

There were 330 tickets available for the event, but only 317 tickets were sold. Those who went to the annual event got to choose between having a turkey or ham dinner. In addition, there were light refreshments served throughout the evening.

"This year's theme for the Winter Ball," said Bannister, "[was] an undersea or nautical theme."

While fish swam in the air above the dance floor, students could get their pictures taken against a backdrop which included a treasure chest.

Music was provided by a DJ.

R. Kurtz Holloway

Attorney at Law

WELLS, LOEBEN, HOFFMAN, HOLLOWAY, & STAUFFER
635 HIGH STREET
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464
(610) 323-7464 • FAX (610) 323-4931

COOLEST CLASS FINES IN THE UNIVERSE

Guaranteed* lower prices than at School!

Starting at **\$59.95**

*See Dealer for Details

WWW.ARTCARVED.com/coolest

Ketowne JEWELERS

211 HIGH STREET • PH. 323-7900

KIEFFER'S
RV SALES & RENTALS

Coleman **FLEETWOOD**

Wilderness

244 Benjamin Franklin Hwy.
Bus. Rt. 422 Douglassville, PA 19518
326-5998

SMALE'S PRINTERY
785 North Charlotte Street
Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464
FINE PRINTING . . . SINCE 1928
(610) 323-7775

DR. MARTIN RAWDIN
OPTOMETRIST

1630 HIGH STREET, POTTSTOWN
323-8007

Organizations depend on candy sales funds

■ Some see candy the wrapper litter as a distraction

by Karen Hetrick

Some days it seems that everyone is selling candy. There is always someone walking around the hallways with a box or bag of candy bars and lollipops.

Some organizations seem to depend on the candy sales to fund their trips and projects. However, is the selling of candy and the eating of candy in class a distraction?

According to one teacher, Mrs. Susan Watts, it is. "It is not necessary to sell or eat candy in class. [Class time] is not the right time to sell candy, class time is for education," she said.

"Most of my teachers don't mind people selling candy," said Jean Hiland, a senior, "just as long as they don't disrupt class."

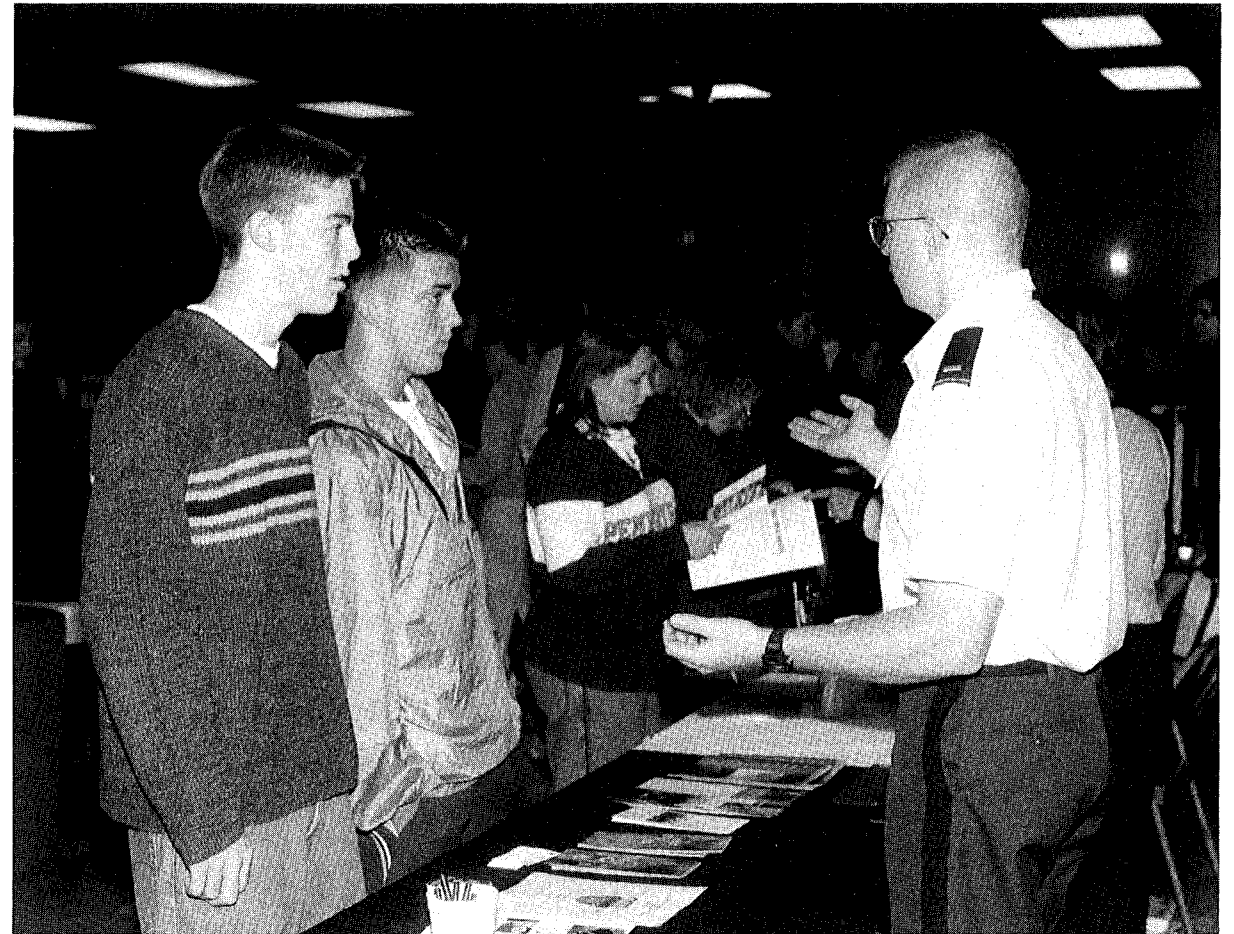
Some of the classes or clubs that sell candy are advanced biology, the cheerleaders and history club.

"It's awesome [that students sell candy]," said sophomore Erika Kosling. She also said that she didn't believe that selling and eating candy takes away from class time.

Rob Carr, a senior who sold candy for advanced biology, agrees this with Kosling to a certain degree. "It is good to have snacks, but it also disrupts class," he said.

Selling candy as a fund-raiser helps students to make money for a trip or some other function. Although students make a lot of money easily by selling candy, the wrappers and the time they take away from class is starting to bother some teachers.

The selling of the candy provides many students with a much needed snack that keeps them going until lunch or the end of the day.



Listening to the opportunities: "The career fair was an enjoyable experience," said junior Dan Krynski, pictured with junior Bert Ingram. "I got a lot of information about many colleges in our area." The fair was held on Oct. 6 at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall.

'Tis the season to also catch and spread cold viruses

by Karen Hetrick

AAAcchhoo! It's that time of year again: cold season.

And the nurse has some tips to

Eating a good diet (with lots of fruits and vegetables), exercising regularly and getting enough rest are also imperative to staying healthy.

senior. "It may not always work, but it helps to take my mind off of being sick."

Despite how many times a mother tells a kid to wear a coat

common cold, Pottsgrove will have to rely on the temporary relief of cold medicines to get them through the cold season.



WINDOW & INSULATED GLASS
GLASS TOPS • MIRRORS
ACRYLIC & PLEXIGLASS
PATIO DOORS • STOREFRONTS
REPAIR STORM WINDOWS & SCREENS
ALUMINUM ENTRANCES

8 to 5 Daily • 8 to 12 Saturday

121 EAST THIRD ST. • POTTSTOWN, PA 19464

MR. WINDSHIELD
"Best Place of Glass in Town"

keep Pottsgrove's students and faculty healthy and free of vicious viruses.

According to the school nurse, Nancy Miller, the best way to keep from getting sick is to wash your hands with soap and water every time you come into contact with other people.

Also, another helpful tip is not to touch your face and eyes. Germs can easily enter the body through the eyes and other places like the nose and mouth.

If a person does get sick, he should cover his mouth if he coughs and use tissues to sneeze into. These habits keep the germs from spreading to other people.

Even if the above precautions are taken, people still get sick.

"I take cold medicine when I get sick," sophomore Becky Rhoads said, talking about how she treats a cold. The medicine won't cure the illness, but it makes the person feel better.

"I just don't think about getting sick," said Jen McCormick, a

senior. "If a person does get sick, he should cover his mouth if he coughs and use tissues to sneeze into. These habits keep the germs from spreading to other people."

Lisa Guntick, a senior, said that she takes vitamins to keep herself healthy. Taking vitamins will not entirely prevent illness, but the vitamins will help give the body proper nutrition.

Since there is no cure for the

Board announces winter programs

by Mark Holloway

The Pottsgrove Recreation Board, dedicated to providing recreation for the residents of the various Pottsgrove communities, has announced its schedule of activities planned for the winter of 1998-1999.

On the following dates there will be free ice skating at the Hill School from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.: Jan. 24 and Feb. 7.

All people interested in skating should enter from the parking lot that is accessible to Beech Street. Anyone who wishes to skate must wear a hat. There will be no skate rentals. In the event of bad

weather listen to WPAZ-1370 for information.

The ski and snow board club, which is open to all Pottsgrove High School students, is returning for another year. The group will travel by bus to Doe Mountain on Monday nights. This is a change from last year.

The dates for the ski trips will be announced in January.

The Pottsgrove Community Band practices through the winter on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Intermediate School Bandroom.

Anyone interested in more information can contact Eugene Swann, the Director of Recreation, at 326-5105.

Governor helps teach conflict resolution

(cont'd from page 1 col. 4)

The Governor did not hurry his newly made friend.

Further down the hallway, the Governor was interviewed by three Pottsgrove High School journalists before answering the

questions of a *Mercury* reporter.

Before leaving the building and entering his waiting limo, the Governor returned his visitor's pass to Principal Stan Terzopolos and thanked everyone for their hospitality.

JEWELRY and GIFTS
610-326-7013

ENGLE JEWELER'S

Charlotte and Mervine Streets
North End Shopping Center, Pottstown

**LITTLE JOE'S
AUTO SERVICE**

2289 E. HIGH STREET
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464
(610) 326-3141

ICE HOUSE DELI
326-9999

Sandwiches • Pizza • Deli
Free Delivery Service
Takeout or Eat In: 6AM-11PM

SANATOGA OIL CO.

Full Service at Self Serve Prices
2177 E. HIGH STREET
SANATOGA, PA 19464
323-9727

**Sanatoga
Ophthalmology Assoc.**

LAWRENCE E. KENNEY, M.D.
SUSAN WILTON, M.D.
1560 Medical Dr. • Pottstown, PA 19464
326-9308 Hours By Appointment

TROPHIES-N-MORE
"Quality Awards at Affordable Prices"

326-3583
FAX 326-1626

76 N. Charlotte St., Pottstown, PA 19464
Sharon & Lawrence Harvey

TRANSMISSIONS • INSPECTIONS

Rob's Auto Repair

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR
1507 FARMINGTON AVENUE
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464
(610) 327-1999

Bechtel's Sport Shop

TEAM SPORTS SPECIALISTS
Uniforms Equipment Footwear
Services: Engraving, Screen Printing,
Embroidery, Tackle Twill
233 High Street, Pottstown, PA
326-4787

**Quality Work Done The
Old-Fashioned Way**

All Brands & Styles of Windows
from Certainteed to Pella

Reasonable Rates

Free Estimates / Fully Insured

Tom Mulvihill
General Contractor

(610) 970-9845
Since 1981

791 N. CHARLOTTE STREET
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464
(610) 970-5915
Complete Mobile Service • Insurance Claims

Brookside
family
RESTAURANT

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
1338 N. Charlotte Street Phone: 610-970-4790
Pottstown, PA 19464 Fax: 610-970-4791



Reed-Dallas
Insurance Agency
AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS

3118 Ridge Pike
Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464
(610) 970-2002
Fax (610) 970-2007

Celebrating 50 Years...

Celebrating You!



Tri County Area
Federal Credit
Union "Since 1949"

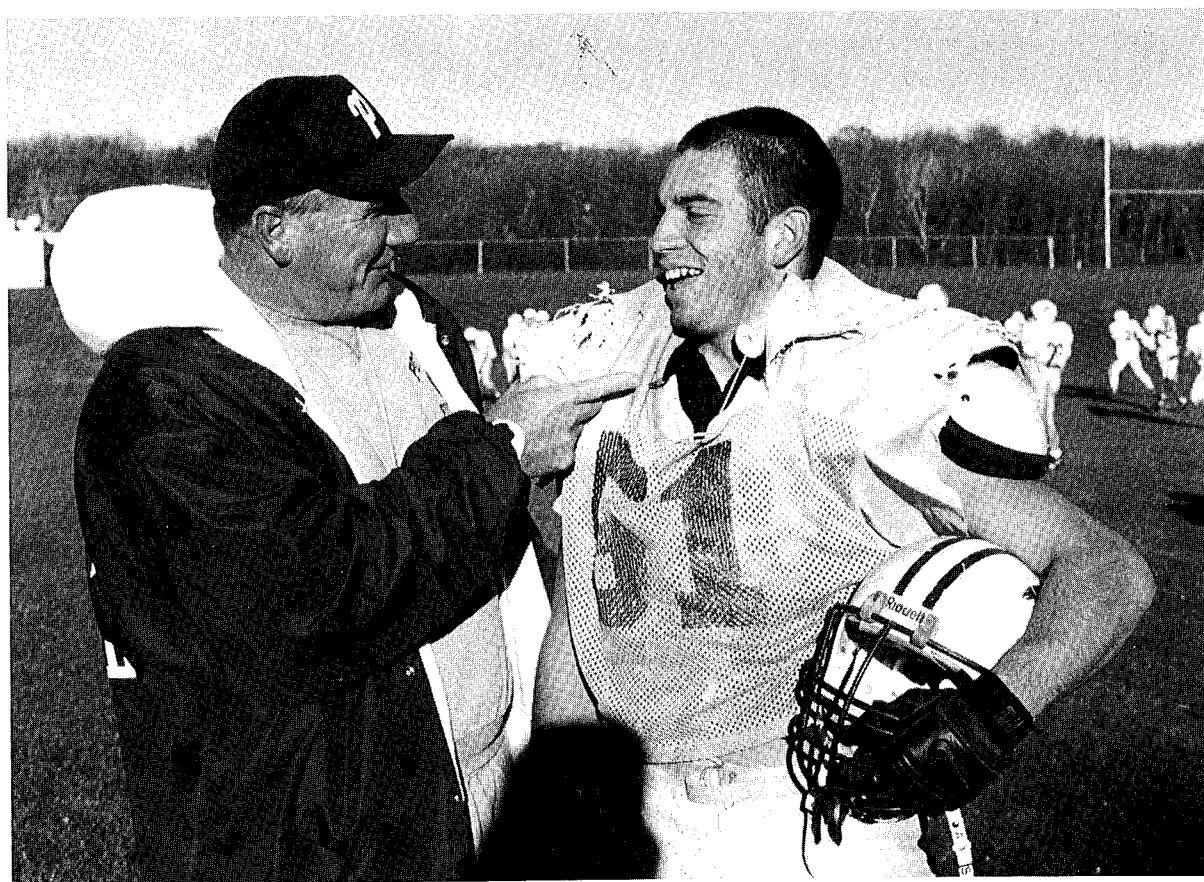
*Providing membership to the families & workers of
Pottstown and the Pottsgrove Communities*



EQUAL HOUSING
LENDER

1550 Medical Drive & 104 Wilson Street, Pottstown
326-3705 • www.tcafcu.org

NCUA



The record could have been better: "We could've done better. We had a lot of close games and a lot of injuries," said senior Jesse Glennon, reflecting on the Falcons' football season. Glennon is pictured with Head Coach Rick Pennypacker.

Falcons cap season with win against Pius

■ Football team battles back after some early losses

by Bert Ingram

Despite getting off on the wrong foot, the Pottsgrove Falcons' varsity football team finished the season in fine style, on Nov. 26, with a win against Pottsgrove's traditional Thanksgiving opponent, St. Pius, 21-0.

The Falcons suffered disappointing losses in their first two PAC-10 games, the first being against Perk Valley, 35-7, on Sept. 11 and then the second coming against O.J. Roberts, 20-18, on Sept. 18.

"Perk Valley was a really good team all around, and we have a lot of respect for them," said defensive tackle Jason Tyson.

However, because they have

dealt with diversity before, the Falcons stuck together. Winning their next game at Phoenixville, on Sept. 25, the team's confidence was boosted, only to be deflated the following week at home at the hands of Spring-Ford, 28-0.

Tyson, a senior, also said that he felt that the Falcons accomplished a lot this season, but the team did not get the breaks that it deserved.

The Falcons then put together two strong games, absolutely destroying Upper Perk, 35-17, and almost knocking off first place, undefeated Lansdale Catholic, 20-13. The games were important because they established the fact that Pottsgrove was competitive and had the potential to win against or knock off anyone.

Senior Phil Washington said late in the season that he felt that if the team could have gone back and started the season over again the Falcons would have done better.

"It was a hard season," he said. "The first games were tough."

Knowing that the team had improved, Pottstown regretted ever coming across town to play on the Falcons' turf. Pottsgrove totally dominated Pottstown and gave them one of their worst defeats in years, 48-0.

However, the following week was almost as bad for the Great

Soccer team's optimism almost helped girls knock off Great Valley

by Mark Holloway

A near win, a moment of glory. The Pottsgrove girls' soccer team came close to beating Great Valley, the league champs this

to a lack of focus. Perk Valley was an especially bitter loss for some.

"We didn't play as a team at all," said Snow, a senior. "We started the game as individuals and finished the game as individ-

Playing Great Valley was a big game for the seniors.

"I scored in that game," said Hyland. That goal was the first ever scored on Great Valley by a Pottsgrove girl.

The girls had a positive attitude about the overall season.

"We had a great team," said Miller. "We just couldn't pull it together."

Hyland agreed, saying that

year. The girls started out their season with a great deal of optimism, and with Tricia Hyland, Lyndsay Miller and Crystal Snow as captains, the girls were ready for a great season.

The season did not begin on the upbeat, however. The girls lost some games early in the year due

to a lack of experience. "Others were disillusioned after] realizing how unsportsman-like soccer has become," Sarah

"We had a great team. We just couldn't pull it together."

Weaver, a senior, said. Their initial losing streak didn't slow the team down though.

"A no-quit attitude," Weaver said was the team's strength.

Miller felt that "individual skills" were the team's strength.

While Michael Brendlinger, the coach, felt that "good quality leadership" was the team's greatest asset, he felt this leadership came not only from the captains but from all the seniors.

The team ended the season with a 5-6-1 record for the league and a 7-10-2 record over all.

lost they should have won. "You can't change them so you must move forward," she said.

Valley Patriots when the Falcons handed them a loss in the Nov. 7 game, 34-0.

Individual accomplishments offset two teams' losses

by Crystal Snow

When it came to running, Chad Lloyd, a junior, led the boys' cross country team, and Amy Koetteritz, a senior, led the girls' cross country team. They were also the teams' captains.

While the girls' team did not field enough runners to get a team score, the boys' record was 1-8. Their only win was against Pottstown.

Although the season was not a winning season, the boys did cap-

ture some individual kudos.

"Chad Lloyd was the spark plug and role model for the team," said Larry Rechlin, head coach. "He and Greg Proper established the work ethic all our runners needed."

Lloyd was picked for All-Conference and was Pottsgrove's only male to compete on the state level in the last two decades, after placing 17th among AAA runners at the district meet.

Proper, a junior, contributed to the team through his ever improving times. Proper, who started the season with an 18:55 time on the Pottsgrove course, got his time down to 17:50.

"I ran constantly," Proper said, talking about what he did to improve his times.

Proper's goal was to finish in the top 25 at PAC-10's. He reached his goal and finished 25th by working hard everyday.

The boys' team's goals were to "beat at least two teams," according to Proper.

"Amy Koetteritz was our number one girl runner," said Coach Rechlin. "We wanted a full team and had 12 potential runners over the summer, but for various reasons only two finished the season." Five runners are required for the team scoring.

(cont'd on p. 6, col. 1)

Hockey team looks for some wins

by Jessica Miller

The JV field hockey team definitely dominated its competition

this school year, while the varsity team spent most of the season on the short side. Junior varsity closed its season 11-6-2, while the varsity team finished out its season 3-13-3.

"The JV team plays as a real team, we get along well and we respect the coach. They have no major attitudes toward each other or the coaches," said Ashley Hammaker, who was the JV team's manager for this year.

"It's been a great year seeing all the hard work the team has had this year," Tracey Schaeffer, a manager for both teams for three years, said.

KEMP'S MARKET, INC.

Quality Cut Fresh Meats

SANATOGA

326-2874

McCABE'S AUTO SUPPLY, INC.

EXHAUST • CHASSIS • SHOCKS
Farmington Ave. 339 W. High St.
326-4511 326-9890



HYLAND TECHNOLOGIES

- FULL LINE OF IBM COMPATIBLE COMPUTERS
- SALES, SERVICE AND UPGRADES
- LOCAL AREA NETWORKS

TOM HYLAND

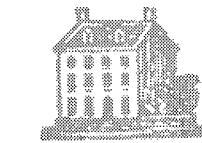
374 CIRCLE OF PROGRESS
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464
(610) 970-4770
FAX: (610) 970-5772



Strogus Flower Shop & Greenhouse

1320 Farmington Ave.
Pottstown, PA 19464
Phone 326-3276

Prom Flowers
Price Sheet available
at your school



PENNTITLE

SEARCH & ASSURANCE SINCE 1929

642 East High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
Tel 610.970.2051
Fax 610.970.2799

the silver shoppe

Come and see my collection of
fine jewelry in Sterling Silver
Designed and Handcrafted
in Sanatoga

Uwe Bauer, Silversmith



Tues.-Wed. 11-6
Thurs.-Fri. 11-8
Sat. 11-5
2452 East High St.
Pottstown
323-4994

Gary's Carpet Depot

237 W. High Street, Pottstown, PA
True Carpet Values

CARPET SHOWROOM

- Rolls and Remnants
- Vinyl and Vinyl Tile
- Mon., Wed., Fri., 9-8
- Tues., Thurs., 9-5; Sat. 9-3

323-8881

HIGH FASHION EYEWEAR AND SUNGLASSES

NORTH END VISION CENTER

900 N. CHARLOTTE STREET
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464

323-4225

EYE EXAMS • CONTACTS
PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED
REPAIRING • ADJUSTING

APPLE BASKET ANTIQUES & GIFTS



941 N. Hanover St.
Pottstown, PA 19464
(610) 326-7937
Wrought Iron & Basket Accessories

Coach feels soccer team could have played more consistently

by Crystal Snow

Pottsgrove's boys' soccer team had a winning season, ending play with a record of 7-5-2 in the PAC-10 and a record of 9-6-2 overall.

The team's captains were Jessie Kline, a senior goalkeeper; Mark Holloway, a senior fullback; Jeff Troyan, a senior sweeper, and

Matt Koloch, a junior defensive mid fielder. Also the team was led by the leading goal scorer John Shivak, a junior who played forward.

The team played a great season; however, some felt that they could have done better. "They could have been more consistent," said Glenn Mest, head coach of the varsity team.

The team was able to accomplish their goals for the season because the players were versatile enough to play when needed in many different positions.

Mr. Mest said that his goal for the season was "to teach the team a concept where no one was an individual."

"We scrimmaged a lot to refine our skills," said Zach Schaeffer, a

senior outside mid fielder, talking about one of the ways the team tried to stay on top of their game.


Since the team was manned with juniors and seniors, "experience made the team successful this season," according to Danny Price, a junior.

The team's success came through their total team effort and from the fact that there were no selfish players on the team. They all played together.

Because they all played together, they beat Great Valley, 2-1, for the first time in Pottsgrove history.

"During the second half of the season, we should have played twice as hard," said Schaeffer, talking about how their season could have been better.

"We never gave up," said Matt Reber, a junior, talking also about what helped to make the team successful.

 **Pottsgrove Soccer Association**
P.O. Box 1548
Pottstown, PA 19464

 **ROYAL**
FAMILY RESTAURANT & DINER
Open 7 Days • 24 hours
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
VIP Meetings • Group Banquets • Celebrations
80 High St., Pottstown, PA 19464 **323-7295**

Golf team does not live up to early season optimism

by Danielle Titus

Some of the comments heard most often from the varsity golf team included, "We needed to play more as a team" and "We should have stuck together more when we needed each other."

First-year coach Steve Seier and his 12 varsity level team members thought that the season would be a good one after the team did well in their opening matches against Spring-Ford, Pottstown and Perk Valley.

"The team needed to do a little

less arguing," said Tom Brooke, a junior, "and needed to play a lot more like a team and get along."

"I think that our toughest opponent this year was Phoenixville," said Eric Gallardo, a senior, "because they were a good team and our team did not play to the best of our abilities."

"I believe we were capable of much more than we achieved," Coach Seier said. "But the team never lost a match by more than 10 strokes. We were never able to play consistently as a team, but I was proud of the manner in which all the players conducted them-

selves."

While the team did okay in their season with a 3-6 record, a couple of individuals played really well.

Mike Wirt, a sophomore, got All-Academic PAC-10.

"I was surprised that I got All-Academic PAC 10," he said, "because I am a sophomore and wasn't expecting it."

Tom Brooke also earned some kudos. He placed second in PAC-10 individually and was the team's only representative at Districts. Also, he earned a PAC-10 honorable mention.

Girls' tennis team struggles through rebuilding season

by Josh Geiger

It was a major rebuilding year

Championships in Philadelphia.

The team also met and played with Lindsay Davenport on Monday, Nov. 9. Colleen Brown

better", Corrie Lloyd said. "We definitely improved our teamwork towards the end of the season."

"We could have done a lot bet-

SAWCHUK'S GARAGE

Since 1952


Specializing in Wheel Alignment
and Transmissions

3196 W. Ridge Pike, Pottstown, PA 19464
Phone: 495-6510 Fax: 495-7704

FABRICATING START TO FINISH
AMERICAN METAL FINISHERS, INC.
1346 FARMINGTON AVE., POTTSTOWN, PA 19464
PHONE 610-323-1394 • FAX 610-323-4855

PRECISION MACHINING
SPECIAL WELDING
POLISHING
SPRAY PAINTING
FINISHING

Phone (610) 369-7890 • Fax (610) 369-7808

 **WINNER'S CIRCLE AWARDS**
Trophies-Plaques-Medals-Ribbons-Engraving
Sublimation-Advertising Specialties
Robert H. Laird, IV
Owner 12 South Reading Ave.
Boyertown, Pa 19512

GILBERTSVILLE AUTO BODY, INC.

FLORENCE S. MATYASOVSKY

24 Hour Towing and Road Service
Frame Straightening
Quality Workmanship

1055 E. PHILADELPHIA AVE.
GILBERTSVILLE, PA 19525

EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE

367-2474

Hair, Nails & Tanning



1483 North Charlotte Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
PHONE: 326-3209

DOWNTOWN CD'S

There were some bright spots, however, during the season. One was the team's win against Pottstown--their only win. Another bright spot was the fact that Corrie Lloyd and Colleen Brown made it to the District playoffs. Finally, the girls hosted the PAC-10 doubles for the second year in a row.

"It was definitely a rebuilding year," said Coach John Shantz.

The team made some special trips and attended some special activities, like the Montgomery Community College Tournament. They are going to the Avanta

accomplishments offset the losses

(cont'd from p. 5, col. 5)

Koetteritz's team goal was "to have a girls' team."

Koetteritz worked hard to improve every day. She put in a lot of miles on and off the course and lifted weights a little.

Koetteritz said her personal goal was to "improve [her] times and finish in the top three at each race."

"I also wanted to have a good District race," she said.

When asked what the team did to improve, Desiree Mest, a junior, said, "We ran a lot of miles. [Also] we tried to get new people to come out for the team."

Mest said her personal goal was "not to get hurt and to have fun."

SALLY'S SEWING CENTER

Sales & Service • Sewing is our Happiness

HOURS:
Tues. & Thurs. 10-8
Wed. & Fri. 10-4
Sat. 10-2



SANATOGA, PA 19464
2228 E. HIGH STREET

323-7419

play with Davenport.

Katie Fagan won an autographed racket and Katie Derr won an autographed gym bag.

The key losses for next year will be Theresa Garbarino, Jen Snow, Shelley Gaugler and Angela Domish. Garbarino and Snow both played for four years.

The positions for the varsity squad (at the beginning of the season) were first singles, Jen Stairs; second singles, Katie Derr, third singles, Corrie Lloyd, and fourth singles, Colleen Brown.

At first doubles were Tiffany Esleby and Garbarino. At second doubles were Jenna Tatum and Linda Mycek, and at third doubles were Kristyn Weidner and Megan Zeigler.

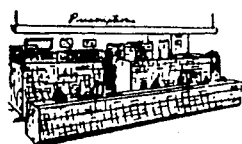
"We tried to do our best", Katie Derr said.

"Our record could have been

CANNING'S PHARMACY

326-1406

451 HIGH STREET
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
PROFESSIONALS

ROBERT L. WEIGNER

INSURANCE & FINANCIAL
PLANNING SERVICES

1377 N. Charlotte Street
Pottstown, PA 19464

(610) 323-2142
Fax (610) 326-6984

"Everyone worked really hard," said Linda Mycek. "Half of us were new and we did a good job of working together."

"We did pretty good since we were a young team," said Kristen Weidner.

"We didn't do as good as we wanted to, but we had a lot of fun," said Katie Hurlock.

EXPRESS DATA SYSTEMS

Comprehensive Payroll Processing

•Your Local Payroll Experts•
Since 1987

3277 West Ridge Pike • Suite A101
Pottstown, PA 19464

610-495-7166



POTTSGROVE
RECREATION
BOARD

Enjoy Recreation Programs

Check weekly bulletins,
announcements and
newspaper for details

EUGENE SWANN
Director of Recreation

PROFESSIONAL
PHARMACY
& Convalescent Products

OPEN 365 DAYS A
YEAR TO 10:00 P.M.
(610) 323-2115

920 N. CHARLOTTE ST., POTTSTOWN
1-800-371-2300

•LOW PRICED PRESCRIPTIONS EVERYDAY
•COMPUTERIZED RECORD & SAFETY SYSTEM
•ACCEPTED OVER 60 THIRD PARTY RX PLANS
•LET US BILL YOUR MAJOR MEDICAL CLAIMS



OXYGEN



WHEELCHAIRS



HOSPITAL BEDS

PROFESSIONAL OF PENNSBURG
(215) 679-9700
931 MAIN ST., PENNSBURG PA 18073

the architectural studio
architects • planners • designers
seven thirty-two turner street
allentown, pennsylvania 18102-4038
610-437-1737

QUALITY FOR LESS
RICH RANIERI'S
MAB PAINTS
PAINT • WALLPAPER
FLOORCOVERINGS
DRY CARPET CLEANING
218 E. HIGH ST. • POTTSTOWN
326-7081

TAPES & RECORDS
53 N. Charlotte St.
Pottstown, PA
323-8457

UNBEATABLE
Pottstown
HONDA
3387 West Ridge Pike
Pottstown, PA 19464
(610) 495-7077
(800) 521-8030

FEATURING A YOUTH BANKING PROGRAM TEACHING:

- Basics of Banking
- Money Management
- Budgeting



Earn a dollar for every "A" on your report card--
Call for free details at 1-888-SNB-3100

Train Station 323-2265
North End 327-4424

East End 327-4224
Pottstown Center 327-9944

The Mercury in Education Program

Teacher Workshops

Essay Contest

Design-An-Ad Contest

Classroom Newspapers

Teacher's Guides

The Mercury

A PULITZER PRIZE WINNING NEWSPAPER

Keeping What Matters Most in Sight...Our Community