

Messiah goes on to Final Four B1





# The Sent

## Girls excel in swim meet

LEWISBURG — The PIAA Swimming and Diving Championships came to an end Sat-urday night at Bucknell University's Kinney Natatorium. The second day of the Class AA competition was a good one for Sentinel-area girls. East Pennsboro's Leah Gingrich won her second gold medal of the meet and set her second re-cord. Gingrich broke her own 500 free record

to register the third fastest girls' high school time in the country this year, according to Swimming World Magazine.
Trinity girls' won silver in the 400 free relay, while the Shamrocks' Steph Kinsey also took a bronze in the 100 back.
Although no boys swam in finals or consolation finals Saturday night, East Pennsboro's David Magaro won the silver medal in the driving completion, while Big Spring's Tyler Dunsmore finished 11th.

More coverage, Page B1

## **CAB** assails **EPA** rules

are not tough enough, watchdog group says.

By Andrea Ciccocioppo Sentinel Reporter aciccocioppo@cumberlink.com

The federal Environmental Pro-tection Agency has enacted more

quirements of the Clean Air Act.
The Clean Air Board of Central
Pennsylvania expressed disappoint-

CAB President Jennifer McKenna said the modest change in the ozone

## A family's wishes come true





Special to The Sen

At top, Peggy Coover holds her daughter, Ariel, 2. Ariel, who has Canavan dis ease, which is a rare, inherited, degenerative brain disorder, was recently given a gift to vacation in with her family in Disney World courteously of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. They will be going with Mandy Mixel her son Jayden, 3, shown above. Jayden suffered a seizure during his birth.

### Make-A-Wish family going to Disney

or Peggy Coover, when her 2-year-old daughter Ariel meets the mermaid of her namesake, it will be something she'll never forget.

Same goes for the help it took to set up this magical meeting for the Shippensburg residents.

A trip to Disney World is not exactly something she could have done on her own.

There's the airfare, the paperwork for formula and medicine and the wheelchair, oxygen tank and other herly equipment that Coover wouldn't be able to lug around an airport.

That's where the Make-A-Wish Foundation

To donate
Those who want to donate to Make-a-Wish
Foundation can go online to www.wish.org
and specify the Susquehanna Valley chapter
If you want to keep the money local or donat
by mall by downloading the donation form of
of the Web site and mailling it to:
Make-A-Wish Foundation of America
Gift Processing Center
P. D. 80x 29119
Phoenix, AZ 85038-9119

tepped in.

Ariel, who suffers from a rare, degenerative brain isease, was granted a wish to visit Disney World

· See Wish, A4

# **Battle brewing** to boost borough

save downtown; opponents say current plan is not even working.

Justin Walters measures success differently from supporters of a Downtown Improvement District. To him, having only one new business in over a year sign a lease to locate in Carlisle is a failure. Walters said he needs thousands of customers annually to sustain J.W. Music at its two locations.

tions.
That is why he is skeptical about a proposal to have commercial property owners pay for a retail coordinator position.
Walters and Jamie Wolf are members of DONT, short for Downtown property Owners against New Taxation. The group left council chambers Thursday disappointed but determined to carry on opposition to DID.
Council decided it was premature to stop the DID review process despite a petition by DONT

• See Borough, A4





Above are scenes from downtown Carlisle this week. Two groups are solidifying their positions on how best to revitalize the borough.

### Prostitution stings effective, DA says

Crackdowns several years ago seem to have discouraged prostitution rings.

By Heather Stauffer Sentinel Reporter hstauffer@cumberlink.com

Several years ago Cumberland County law enforcement offi-cials started cracking down on prostitution at area truck stops. The effects of those stings are still visible today, according to Cumberland County District At-torney David Freed.

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"I can state firmly that we had a positive effect on the supply side," Freed said.
Prostitutes are now less likely to come to the truck stops, be said, noting that much of the problem was in Middlesex Township, where the proximity of the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate 81 draws large numbers of long-distance truckers.

ers. But, Freed said, that doesn't mean there's not still a market

mean there's not still a market for them.
"We had a somewhat lesser effect on demand," he said, not-ing that police still conduct anti-prostitution operations from time

### Problem

Troblem
The crackdown began, Freed said, while Merle "Skip" Ebert, now a county judge, was serving as the county's district attorney. "We have had several very serious incidents over the past several years related to prostitution, and mainly truck stop prostitution, "Freed said. "To those who call this a victimless crime, I would point out that we have at least two murders and one near would point out that we hast two murders and one urder directly related to

United we stand

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### Air:

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trail Pennsylvania.

McKenna said Central Pennsylvania.

McKenna said Central Pennsylvania experiences very high ozone concentrations in the summer, even on days when an ozone alert is not declared. Harrisburg readings exceeded the new EPA ozone limit (J075 parts per million) on 15 days last year.

(.075 parts per finance) last year. CAB had urged EPA to change the current ozone standard to one below 0.070 parts per million, a level supported by abundant medi-cal research and by EPA's scientific

"This modest change in the ozone limit does not adequately protect the health of the residents in central Pennsylvania," McKenna said, adding it's critical to "in floatily probe of the property of the ozone." In adenna said, adding it's critical to significantly reduce ozone. "In ad-dition to the health problems we know people are experiencing with PMZ-5, coone can also reduce lung function and aggravate asthma and other respiratory conditions and lead to increased numbers of doc-tor visits and emergency room vis-its."

"I am disappointed the EPA administrator ignored the advice of his own scientific advisory comittee in setting the new ozone level that is intended to protect people's health," said Kathleen A. McGinty, state Department of En-

Wish=

Continued from A1

next month.

And the Coovers won't be go

All Focus
Counties in Pennsylvania
with monitors violating the
2008 8-Hour Coron Standard
of 0.075 parts per million:
Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver,
Bucks, Centre, Chester,
Clearfield, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Greene, Lancastir, Lehigh, Lycoming, Mercer,
Hontgomery, Northampton,
Jerry, Philadelphia, TograVashington, Wabrik.

vironmental Protection secretary,
"Sound science must be used in
setting public policy, and that has
not happened in this case. Unfortunately, this action is in keeping
with the EPA's track record of ignoring science and making decisions based on politics."
Ozone is particularly harmful to
people with respiratory problems,
including asthma, emphysema and
bronchitis, and can worsen health
problems for people with existing
heart conditions.

eart conditions.
The EPA's Clean Air Scientific

The EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, which in-cludes members from academia and private research institutions, recommended the standard be set between 60 and 70 parts per billion of zone in order to protect human health. The federal agency set the standard above that recommendation at 75 parts per billion.

"Last fall, the commonwealth offered testimony before the EPA that

the decision on new ozone stan-dards should be based on scientific advisory committee's recommen-dations," McGinty said. "The fed-eral Clean Air Act is clear that pro-tecting the public's health must tending force in setting primary standards, but EPA has not adhered or that requirement".

standards, but EPA has not adhered to that requirement."

Pennsylvania and other states are required to monitor the air for ozone and other pollutants and take steps to meet the EPA standards. Air containing ozone measured at 84 parts per billion meets the pres-ent standard.

### Cleaning the air

Cleaning the air

McGinty said state officials have been working hard to clean the air.

"We have implemented the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program, which is putting cleaner running cars on the road, and have worked to reduce idling by commercial diesel vehicles. Pennsylvania is also establishing stricter rules for air emissions from electric power plants, other industries and consumer products," she said.

Because of those state efforts, air quality in 25 of 37 Pennsylvania counties that was designated as non attainment by the EPA in June 2004 now meets the current standard.

'Regardless of EPA's decision on the new ozone standard, Penn-sylvania will continue to work vig-orously so that the air our citizens breathe is cleaner, helping them to lead healthier lives," said McGinty.

### Borough.

#### · Continued from A1

to end discussion before, as the

to end discussion before, as they believe, more time and taxpayer money is wasted.

DONT believes they already have the necessary "no" votes to defeat a DID resolution. A key point among group members is why pay more in taxes to support what they see as more bureaucracy yielding little results. Karen Barone, main street manager for the Downtown Carlisle Association, supports the DID and defended the record of current co-ordinator Vanesas Fiorentimo saying retail recruitment is a long and involved process.

Fiorentino also defended herself but declined to take any side in the debate because it would be a conflict of interest, she said. Both she and Barone thought it unfair to judge the record too quickly before knowing more about it.

Although Wolf has no problem with Fiorentino as a person and the coordinator position as a concept, he does not think commercial property owners should pay for it without more proof of long-term success.

Wolf suggested Dickinson Col-term success.

for it without more proot or iong-term success.

Wolf suggested Dickinson Col-lege front the money from its mil-lions in endowment funds to sup-port the position for a few more years. This would give Fiorentino the opportunity to build up more of a track record.

Ro his count, one business has

of a track record.

By his count, one business has moved in while another seven have moved out over the past year. Fiorentino was hired in February 2007.

Florentino was hired in February 2007.
Wolf said he does not see how a retail coordinator would benefit him as a landlord of apartment units. Yet he is being asked to pay more in taxes and may have to pass on the costs to tenants.

Both men agree the individual property owner should be the one paying to have a local real estate agent market their building and fill their own empty storefront. Other property owners should not be forced to pay the bill.

Walters said success in business measured by results not promises. If he is not drawing enough customers, he is out of business.

### For the record

Fiorentine explained her prima-ry job is to scout out prospects for Carliste among small independent retailers who are already success-ful and are seeking to open addi-tional locations. Her approach is to match prospects to empty store-fronts using a merchandise mix

fronts using a merchandise mix strategy.

In her first year as coordinator, Fiorentino said she visited 300 different busnesses in 22 different towns and cities, most within a two-hour drive of Carlisle. Her list includes York, Lancaster, Lebanon, Harrisburg, State College, Gettysburg, Hagerstown, Philadelphia and Shepherdstown, W.V. Of the 300 businesses, 18 visited Carlisle, resulting in 11 entering into negotiations with landlords and real estate brokers trying to

A guest editorial outlines support for DONT. Page A8.

fill empty storefronts in the down-town, Fiorentino said.
She explained how three of the II negotiations fell through, one resulted in Colucci & Co. signing a lease and one is close to having a lease as sissted in four other cases including three referrals to Carlisle Central Farmers Market. By her count, four businesses have left the downtown while many more have either opened or are close to opening including Leaf of Eye, the Good Life Cafe, Colucci & Co., Fanzone, Issei models and the vendors at the farmers market.

Noodles and the vendors at the farmers market. Fiorentino does not take direct recredit for being the prime mover in any transactions, only as some-one available to help facilitate the process. She explained how she has no control over the pace or success of negotiations, which can take months and can fall for a variety reasons even up to the last imitute. Often, negotiations can be stalled over which party is responsible for improvements and the "build-out" of the structure. As coordinator, her job is to fol-low up leads, monitor progress of negotiations and spend hours driv-ing and walking in search of pros-pects while generating a buzz for Carlisle in other communities.

### Go-to person

Go-to person

For this work, Barone said
Fiorentino receives a salary of
\$30,000 a year with no benefits
and works an average of 20 to
25 hours a week. If a DID were
to pass, Fiorentino will continue
to be part-time with no benefits
but will receive an annual cost of
living increases and continue to
be compensated for milieage and
tavel expenses, Barone said.

Barone said it is not Fiorentino's
job to retain existing businesses,
only to serve as a conduit to match
serious prospects with suitable

job to retain existing businesses, only to serve as a conduit to match serious prospects with suitable properties and to help retailers with questions about the process. She added Forentimo has nothing to do with the success or failure of downtown businesses, which go through their own cycles and may close and move out for a variety of reasons. "Most downtowns do not have a Vanessa," Barone said. "She is Carlisle's go-to person."

She explained how most downtowns either recruit through a committee, which is largely ineffective, or are reactive and only pursue a prospect if approached by a relailer. Fiorentimo is part of a emerging treview and only pursue a prospect if approached by a relailer. Fiorentimo is part of a emerging treview and only the manufacture of the control of

one said. "We have somebody out there marketing our downtown." DCA was told from the start that it could take as long as a year be-fore a retail coordinator could be successful in drawing a new busi-

ness to the downtown, Barone said. Colucci & Co. opened in Oc-tober, eight months after Fioren-tino started her job.

#### DID is a risk

DID is a risk
Barone acknowledges supporting DID is a risk, but the alternative is more of the same in a downtown most everybody wants to be vibrant. The strategy is not to bring in the hobbyist, but serious entrepreuents with viable business plans and proven staying power. Barone calls the DID special levy a "fee for service, not a tax" since commercial property owners will see a drived benefit. They have a choice — they can either support

will see a direct benefit. They have a choice – they can either support the DID or sit back, remain complacent and wait for businesses to locate in Carlisle.

"It does not work that way," Barone said. "We are very fortunate Vanesses can get the word out. If we as a community do nothing, the downtown will die. We are typing to continue this downtown for the next 20 years."

Barone added real estate agents do not always have the time and resources to scout out fitting prospects for an empty storefront. Many are just interested in filling the space whether or not the prospect has a good business plan, Barone said.

Fiorentino said her job is to work for every landford and real estate broker in the downtown. "I am not an agent. I am not making a commission."

Carlisle native Heidi Vass-Tirjan now works as a retail coordinator for Lower Merion Township just west of Philadelphia. She had the same issues as Fiorentino when he was first hired and it was more than a year before she was sustended property owners in Carlisle need to be patient as it is a long term process to actively promote a vision for a downtown hat combines the right retail mix with lone-term success.

sion for a downtown that combines the right retail mix with long-term success.

"Local retail brokers are only concerned with filling up space as quickly as they can with anyone who wants it," Vass-Tirjan said. While it may take a bit more they be made the right retailer with he vacancy to benefit the whole tdowntown and its retail mix. Given its close proximity to Harrisburg and other major cities, Vass-Tirjan believes the Carlisle marketing strategy can be a success and the retail coordinator position in Carlisle would be a good return on an investment.

"The property owners in Carlisle world have to understand this does not happen overnight. This is a long term project," Vass-Tirjan said. The Sentinel provided Vass-Tirjan overview of Fiorentino's statistics which she called impressive for the first year as a coordinator. Vass-Tirjan actively recruits for Brym Mawr, Rosemont, Ardmore, Haverford and Merion Cynwyd.

ap, and the guy saut that was an Both Jayden and Ariel can't talk because of their conditions, but the smallest change in expressions sail their mothers need to see to know what their kids are thinking "She smilled when I told her about it," Coover said. "She really likes the princesses, I think she re-ally understood what I was say-ing."

#### Wish starts with a call

It started with a nomination.
Coover and Mixell nominated their children to become recipients of a wish from the foundation. Articl's untreatable condition slowly deteriorates her brain, and Jayden

suffered 30 to 100 seizures daily until a special treatment in July temporarily stopped the seizures for what doctors expected could be four to six months or a year. With the confirmation from the families' doctors, the Make-Awish Foundation continued the Wish process by sending a team in to talk to the family and the children. "Disney is the first option they gave us, and I think that's what they usually do with children, especially those who are this young and can't talk," Coover said. "They asked us our second choice, and we didn't really have one. I think I said a hot tub for Ariel. She does aquatic therapy, and just loves it."
"Our second choice was Sesa-" And the Coovers won't be going alone.
Coover's cousin, John Mixell, will bring his son Jayden, 3,
who was also granted the Disney wish from the Make-A-Wish
Foundation of Susquehanna Valely, Jayden, who had a stroke in
the womb and has suffered from
scizures, is looking forward to
meeting Mickey Mouse for the
scizures, is looking forward to
meeting Mickey Mouse for the
first time, according to his mother
Mandy Mixell.
"A man from the Make-A-Wish
Foundation came by and asked
Jayden if he wanted to see Mickey
Mouse," Mixell said. 'His eyes lit
up, and the guy said that was all
he needed."

Both Jayden and Ariel can't talk

Both Jayden and Ariel can't talk

loves it. "Our second choice was Sesame Place because he loves Elmo," Mixell said.
After nominating Ariel in November, Coover got the news in January that she and her family were going to Disney World. A month later Mixell received the same news.

same news.
"I asked them if they ever sent families together, and they said they could make it possible,"
Coover said

#### Trip is all inclusive

The trip will pay for all of the members in both families, includ-ing Coover's son Dylan and hus-band Walter and Mixell's daugh-

ter Kayla. Along with the airfaire, the foundation also helps the family out with spending money, equipment and transportation — something Coover is all too thankful for with her child requiring a wheelchair. "They have equipment they rented for us to be ready down there, like emergency oxygen that she may need to use," Coover said. "They'll both get wheelchairs and the formula will be sent down ahead of time, so we won't have to deal with dector's notes and airport security. I don't that to check in the medicine in case they lose our bags."

After a "bon voyage" party with family and finends where the two mothers hope to raise money for the foundation, which spends about \$5,000 for each wish, the Coover and Mrxell families will transport and fly to Florida for a six-uport and fly to Florida fl

## Prostitution =

#### Continued from A1

stop prostitution not to mention innumerable drugs and assault

innumerane urugs ann easa-od crimes." In February 2004, a 16-year-old girl was found unconscious along the turnpike near mile marker 232 in Silver Spring Township. Ebert said the girl, who was in-jured, acknowledged that she was engaged in prostitution and that her assailant was a man she beer assailant was a man she be-eved would pay for sex acts. That June, the body of 44-year-

old Vesta Haufe of Tennessee was found near the Plainfield Plaza in West Pennsboro Township along the tumpike. Pointing out a string of similar findings, authorities in several states said they suspected that there were two or three segials bills the string the string of the string the

rial-killer truckers.

Before long, Cumberland
County had started a series of
stings that netted at least 24 arrests by the end of the year. Freed
noted that the local operation also
included undercover stings on

some massage parlors and out-call massage services that were fostering prostitution. These days, he said, most of the arrests stem from truck stops or the Internet.

#### Reduction

Reduction
Carlisle Borough Police Chief
Stephen Margeson said the stings
didn't have much effect on the
borough, because prostitution
"has never been prevalent here."
"We know that in the past on
and off we have certainly had
some prostitution activity in the

borough," Margeson said, pointing out that most of the activity centered on the Miracle Mile and involved transients. But, he said, in the past several years "as far as the borough was concerned it was at a very low level."

What few cases there are in the borough seem to run in cycles, he said, and he could not remember any major incidents in the last few years.

In Middlesex Township, heaver, police second Freed's assessment that the problem has

declined.
"We still see some of it," said
Middlesex Township police Sgt.
Steven Kingsborough. "We still
make arrests, but it's not with the
frequency it was before."
Kingsborough said the truck
stop companies have been "yery

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cooperative" in the ongoing efforts to squelch prostitution.
"It makes it safer for the public, makes it safer for the truckers," he said. But, he added, although police are fighting it, the problem doesn't seem likely to disappear anytime soon.



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