

TODAY'S WEATHER

HIGH 51
LOW 28



SUNDAY'S WEATHER

HIGH 51
LOW 35



FORECAST PAGE 2

INSIDE



OPINION

Do Mega-Millions lead to Mega-Nightmares? Page 4



YOUTH

Big Walnut's Danielle Merry is the National City Bank Teen of the Week. Page 6

STORY

LINE

Got a story idea? Call us at 740-363-1161, ext. 368, or contact us via e-mail at storyline@delgazette.com.



Horseshoe Road between Hanover and Kelly-McMaster roads will now close Monday and reopen Friday. For more information, call 740-833-2400.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“If the Phone Doesn't Ring, It's Me.”

— Jimmy Buffett, American singer-songwriter.



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Thank you, Larry Orahood, for subscribing to *The Delaware Gazette*, and thank you, Rosie Spumoni's, for your advertising support.

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VOLUME No. 60



The Delaware Gazette



Clock change should go smoothly

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SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2007

50 CENTS

Three indicted Friday in shooting

By DON E. BRUCE
Staff Writer

Three men were indicted by a Delaware County grand jury Friday for their alleged involvement in what authorities described as a March 5 gun battle on East Winter Street that left two men, including one of those indicted, wounded.



Conner



Relford



Rinehart

Witnesses described a group of four men firing near a home in the 100 block of East Winter Street. Authorities said earlier this week they believe six to eight men were involved in the shootout.

Michael Conner, 26, of Columbus, was indicted on two counts of felonious assault with a firearm specification and one count of having weapons while under disability with a firearm specification.

Conner was already being held in the Delaware County Jail on a \$75,000 bond after he was arraigned Tuesday in Delaware Municipal Court.

“He had pistol-whipped a witness on East Winter Street and

Please see SHOOTING, Page 5



Gazette Matt Emmons

Larry Scheeder, a self-proclaimed Delaware County “lifer,” shows off a few of his wares at Signature Signs, the business the former county employee started in 1989.

Signs of life

By CONNIE E. CURRY
Special to the Gazette

As you drive around Delaware County, it is likely you will see various business signs — in different shapes and sizes — made by Larry Scheeder. Each sign has a certain logo, color and unique design of his own creation. Scheeder has put color into Delaware, literally. You'd

OUR NEIGHBORS

• Submit your nominee to newsroom@delgazette.com

need a map to see all of the signs that Larry Scheeder has made around Delaware County. But that's OK, he made one of those too.

Scheeder, 56, considers himself a “lifer” of

Delaware County. A graduate of Hayes High School, he has lived and worked here all of his life. He's always taken great interest in art, and he took drafting courses in high school. After graduating, he got a job with a survey company until real estate spiraled downward in the early 1970s.

Please see SIGN, Page 3

County hires new economic development coordinator

Staff reports

A former legal counselor for the Ohio Department of Development will now head up Delaware County's economic development efforts.

The Delaware County commissioners this week hired John Barron, 32, to serve as the county's economic development coordinator. He will be paid

\$80,000 annually for the job, which involves promoting and facilitating the expansion of the county's economic

Please see COUNTY, Page 5



Gazette photos Amy Allan

The pie stops here: Marco's shift manager Sarah Bankert, a junior at Hayes, sees every pizza that comes off the line. Bankert, who recently finished second in a national pizza-making competition, said the pizzas can be made in 20 seconds.

The princess of pizza

Hayes junior Sarah Bankert heats up a national competition

By TRAVIS HOEWISCHER
Staff Writer

This month, there will be hundreds of guys flopping down in front of their TVs, thrilled to eat some pizza and let March Madness wash over them.

Little do they know they'll be digging into a pie produced by one of the top pizza makers in the country.

And she's not quite a Cinderella; at the Marco's Pizza on South Sandusky Street, they're calling 16-year-old Sarah Bankert the Pizza Princess.

That's because the Hayes High School junior recently entered the North America Pizza and Ice Cream Show in Columbus — albeit reluctantly at the urging of her bosses Cameron Cummins and Shelley Rigdon — and turned in a second-place performance out of 51 top pizza chefs in

the nation.

“She's the best pizza maker we have,” said Rigdon. “She's the end of the line. She sees every pizza that goes in the oven.”

Bankert's version of Marco's White Cheesy, declared the “most beautiful pie I've ever seen” by Marco's co-owner Bryon Stephens, was runner-up in the Gourmet Class, second only to Lancaster's John Gutekanst of Avalanche Pizza, a

Please see PIZZA, Page 3

BROWN PUBLISHING AWARDS



Walden Hoewischer

Walden, Hoewischer earn awards

► **Editorial Excellence honor** also given to *Gazette*

Staff reports

Delaware Gazette Sports Editor Donn Walden took first-place honors in the “Sports Game or Event Reporting” category at Brown Publishing Company's Editorial Excellence Awards Thursday in Wilmington, while *Gazette* Staff Writer Travis Hoewischer earned second- and third-place awards in the column writing and sports column writing categories, respectively.

Please see AWARDS, Page 3

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Clock change problems should be few and far between

By **DON E. BRUCE**
Staff Writer

It's not quite Y2K, but some people are concerned about the upcoming switch in daylight-saving time.

According to published reports, companies across the country have been hiring internet technology firms to update computer software to ensure their systems update the time on Sunday, three weeks in advance of the previous switch date.

For decades, clocks have sprung forward the first Sunday in April and fallen back the last Sunday in October. That all changed with the passage of a 2005 U.S. law designed to lower energy usage by limiting the number of hours electric lighting must be used.

Now the second Sunday in March is the date to turn clocks forward one hour.

While owners of proprietary computer systems may be concerned about the change, home computer-users have little to fear.

Newer systems are most-likely already updated, as computer manufacturers updated operating system shortly after the law was passed.

Older systems, anything built in 2005 or earlier, will need to be updated to ensure the computers' clocks change time on schedule.

Microsoft (<http://support.microsoft.com/dst2007>) and Macintosh (<http://www.apple.com/support/downloads>) have both released operating system updates to address the time change.

Last call

The change in time also will affect bar patrons.

The Ohio Department of Commerce (ODC) issued a release this week reminding liquor permit holders of the time change.

"When the clock strikes 2 a.m. on Sunday morning, the time will spring ahead and be, in fact, 3 a.m., 30 minutes past the legal closing time for permit holders," said Terry Poole, superintendent of the ODC.

Drinking establishments must cease all liquor sales prior to 2 a.m. in order to be compliant with the time change, he added.

Another change

While setting your clocks forward, fire officials want to remind you to swap the batteries in your smoke detectors.

"If you change (the batteries) every six months, you most likely will not have a problem with your smoke detectors," said Capt. Lee Vanderbosch, head of fire prevention for the Delaware City Fire Department.

Vanderbosch said changing the batteries and cleaning the smoke detectors is easy maintenance that can save lives.

Citing statistics from the Ohio Fire Marshall's office, Vanderbosch said 90 percent of all Ohioans who died as a result of a home fire either did not have a smoke detector or had one that malfunctioned due to lack of proper maintenance.

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SIGN

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With his surveying background, Scheeder was hired by Delaware County in 1978 to work in the map room of the courthouse. Fred Stults was the engineer at the time and Carlton Ryder was Scheeder's supervisor. The county was experiencing a huge growth spurt, and Scheeder's talent was put to good use. He read numerous deeds as he checked them for accuracy. As he read the deeds, he critiqued them, requesting transfers to make them more accurate. Scheeder also assigned address numbers to new homes, keeping them in proper numerical order and preventing numbers from being out of sync. His eyes were always on Delaware County maps as he worked.

"For years Delaware County had that tiny little black-and-white map. It bugged me," Scheeder said. "It didn't even have an index."

With little knowledge on how to produce an updated, colored map with all the new roads on it, Scheeder set out to devise a better county map. Working alone, he began the tedious job of rebuilding the map.

Computer technology was limited in those days, so Scheeder began the difficult task by hand using his drafting knowledge. The first place he went was the United States Geographical Survey (U.S.G.S.), a division of the Department of National Resources. With accurate longitude and latitude measurements, he had visions on how to make the revised map more realistic.

"The old map showed straight lines symbolizing the roads. I wanted to put curves in

the roads and make it more realistic," Scheeder said.

Another huge task was including new roads that had been developed in the county on the updated version. Countless hours were spent adding new cul-de-sacs and subdivisions. After 18 months of work, most of it by hand, it was off to Jayco Company, an Ashland-based printer, for final completion. Scheeder's map was in 20 huge pieces. Jayco Company took the huge puzzle-like layout and photographed each piece individually, sizing it down to proper format. The map was completed and Delaware County had the first colored map in its history. Today, Scheeder's name can be found on many of these older maps that circulated around the county.

In 1989, after working part-time from his home making various signs for businesses, he decided to resign from Delaware County. The sign making became a full-time endeavor, and Signature Signs was born.

"My wife thought I was crazy. The first week out on my own, I bought a \$10,000 piece of equipment used to cut out letters. I decided even if I didn't make as much money, I was going to do something I liked."

Today, with improvement in man-made materials, PVC and aluminum are used most often for the signs. They are more durable in weather, unlike the medium-density overlay-plywood that was used years ago.

From fire engines and EMS units to police cars, Scheeder has lettered and done alterations on more than 6,000 vehicles throughout Delaware and Franklin counties.

"I always tell people I letter anything they need," Scheeder said. From volleyballs

to basketballs to add to the trophy case at Ohio Wesleyan University to floating out on a raft to put 24-inch lettering on a drenching machine at a quarry in southern Franklin County, his work sends him to a wide variety of places.

Getting into the sign business has allowed Scheeder to tie another of his loves to his work. Racing enduro karts for 20 years on many road courses in the U.S., Scheeder was enthusiastic when he was asked to provide lettering for a car driven by Nigel Mansell, a world champion Formula 1 race car driver. Along with the job came an autographed picture and a nice letter of thanks from Mansell. He also provided vehicle lettering for Ohio's Sarah Fisher, the youngest female Indy 500 driver.

"I'll make a sign however a customer wants it, but my best customers are those who trust me to design it how I feel it is best," Scheeder said. With his years of expertise, he knows how to make a sign stand out with sizing and color. "I try to make each sign unique for each person."

"I can't walk around town without looking up at signs. I'm my worst critic," Scheeder admitted.

Obviously Scheeder is doing something right. His business is plentiful and his signs can be seen all over town, from The Brown Jug restaurant and Oberfield's Inc. to Bargar Jewelry, Bill's Auto Body and Crossroads Music. And although that \$10,000 machine is outdated and retired now, Scheeder has not retired. His wife of 24 years, Linda, knows Signature Signs has been a prosperous, successful idea, with signs of various shapes and sizes mounted all over a county that their creator knows well.

AWARDS

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Walden won for his 2006 story about the Olentangy High School baseball team's defeat in the state playoffs.

"Writer Donn Walden blankets the state baseball tournament like no other," the judges said in their evaluation. "His coverage ... leaves little for the imagination."

Hoewischer's second-place column focused on how one life can affect the lives of so many others. The judges called it "an introspective piece on the meaning of a life lived from a distance." His third-place sports column dealt with whether some Ohio high-school athletes got preferential treatment from a judge. "There's no shortage of writer opinions," wrote the judges. "But isn't that what sports column writing is all about?"

The *Gazette* news staff earned a third-place award in the General Excellence category.

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PIZZA

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

world champion pizza chef sometimes featured on The Food Network.

And how long did it take to create her masterpiece? Five minutes.

That, and "quick hands," Bankert said simply. "Quick and precise hands. On a Friday night, we can throw that thing together in less than a minute. If I can make a pizza in 20 seconds, then spending five minutes on it just makes it really good."

The restaurant's White Cheesy is a simple thin-crust pizza with bacon, onion and tomato, as well as mozzarella, parmesan and feta cheeses.

"Everyone who works at Marco's knows how to make that," she said. "It's just a matter of ingredients and where you put everything."

Bankert said she's tried to maintain an unassuming profile around the store after her accomplishment, but Rigdon and Cummins have made that a little difficult, posting a storefront banner advertising her new status.

"Everyone at work is like, 'Sarah, tone it down,'" she said with an embarrassed laugh. "But, I'm not doing anything! I'm trying to hide my face."

Bankert joked that she has no plans to lord her title over her co-workers, using her newfound expertise to critique their pies.

"That's Cameron's job," she said.

Rigdon took it upon herself to become Bankert's trainer for the event, which she would later admit was a much bigger deal than she thought. Rigdon tried to get Bankert to practice unsuccessfully.

"I was like, 'Shelley, it's a pizza contest,'" Bankert said. "But, as soon as I got there, I was like, 'This is a real thing.'"

Bankert, the shift manager at Marco's was understated at the event, working diligently in Marco's red while her opponents donned fancy white coats and matching chef's hats.

"I think I saw my first authentic Italian family in my entire my life," Bankert said. "I was like, 'What am I doing here?'"

As it turns out, what she was doing there was exactly what she does every Friday night at Marco's: putting out a quality, sharp-looking product in a short amount of time.

Even after being exposed to the whole sub-culture of the competitive pizza-making circuit — dough-tossing teams, etc. — Bankert denies she's "one of them," as Cummins asserts. But, her 4-H background showing horses and steers admittedly drew her competitive spirit out a little.

"A little bit," she said. "The only guy that beat me was the World Champion. '(I'll tell him), 'I'm only going to be 17 next year, but it doesn't mean I can't beat you.'"

While Bankert copped to feeling a little silly for competing in a pizza-making contest, the \$500 prize she received was a real enough reward.

Bankert, who wants to be a veterinarian, reveals a love for the restaurant business. Last summer, she stayed in Dallas and worked for acclaimed restaurant Iris.

"I love the restaurant business," she said. "I was always going back and forth between the kitchen and front end. Big rush. I love the ups and the downs of it."

And she apparently loves the competition aspect, as well. She says she may compete again next year, but not before she works on her (dough) stretching and her sauce lines.

"Topping spacings?" she laughs self-consciously. "Who talks about these things?"

Maybe next year's world champ.

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

7		8						1
				3	6			
			4					5
	3		2	1	5			
	1			5			9	
		9	7		3		6	
2				4				
			9	1				
3						7		9

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/10

Answer to previous puzzle

5	3	7	6	9	8	4	2	1
9	4	1	2	7	5	3	8	6
6	8	2	1	3	4	5	7	9
1	7	3	5	6	2	8	9	4
4	9	8	7	1	3	2	6	5
2	6	5	8	4	9	1	3	7
7	2	6	4	8	1	9	5	3
8	1	9	3	5	7	6	4	2
3	5	4	9	2	6	7	1	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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