

# Train makes tracks for UK

BY ROGER DUPUIS II  
STAFF WRITER

Scranton can't seem to run a commuter train to Hoboken, but one did leave here this week bound for England.

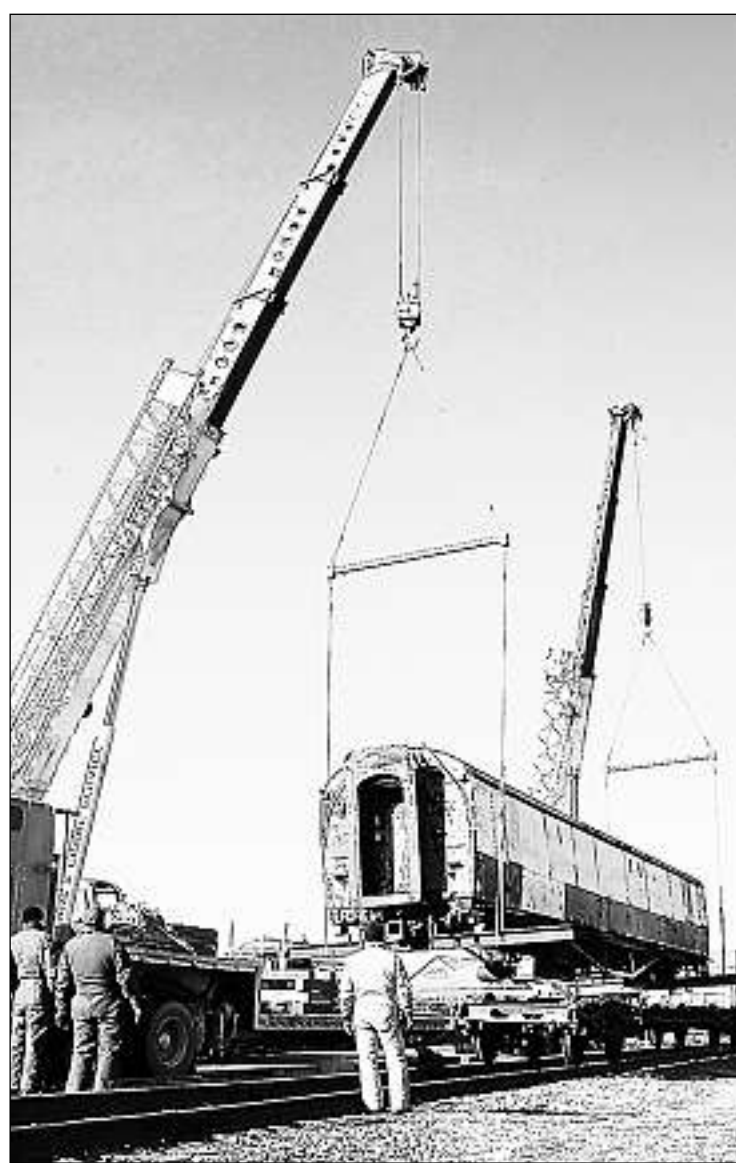
Don't start queuing up for tickets just yet, mate. The train in question was a lone British passenger car, and it left on rubber, not rails.

Built in the 1930s, Great Western Railway coach 6705 is en route from the Steamtown National Historic Site to a British heritage railway, by way of a long road trip followed by a long sea voyage. The carriage is scheduled to sail from Halifax, Nova Scotia, on March 9.

"Our mission with the National Park Service is to interpret the impact of steam railroads in the United States, so this was outside of our mission," park historian Patrick McKnight said of the car, which Steamtown inherited from its private-sector predecessor, Steamtown USA.

The car's new owner will be the West Somerset Railway Association, which runs a 22-mile steam railroad in England's West Country.

In an e-mail, WSRA board member Norman Hawkes said the car will form part of a



KEN GANZ / STEAMTOWN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

**British-built Great Western Railway coach 6705 is lifted onto a flatbed truck outside Steamtown National Historic Site on Tuesday.**

"heritage carriage project" for this, Great Britain's longest heritage railway.

It was built in 1938 or 1939 for the Great Western Railway, which was nationalized by the British government in 1948. It operated until the 1960s, when successor British Rail sold it to Steamtown USA, then based in Vermont, as a museum piece, Mr. McKnight said.

Although the car has spent most of the past 40 years outdoors, unrestored, that may be a good thing. What makes it so

desirable to the British, Mr. McKnight said, is that unlike sister cars that survived in England, 6705's interior was never modernized, leaving original features intact for restoration.

Steamtown gave the car to WSRA at no charge, but "all costs of the move were covered by the British group, and it is not costing the taxpayers," Mr. McKnight said, calling the move "a real win-win for railway preservation."

Contact the writer: rdupuis@timeshamrock.com

# Footprints lead police to burglary suspect

BY MATTHEW KEMENY  
STAFF WRITER

DICKSON CITY — Forget DNA evidence and high-tech surveillance. Police followed footprints in the snow to find and arrest a burglary suspect earlier this week.

Richard Witkowski, 16, of 809 Dundaff St., was arrested at his home Monday after officers tracked footprints from a burglarized residence at 1017 Carmalt St., just a block away from his home, Police Chief William Stadnitski said.

Police found stolen items from two other borough homes, which were burglarized in late January and early February, when searching Mr. Witkowski's home, according to the chief.

Mr. Witkowski was charged with burglary, receiving stolen property and loitering and prowling at night. Because he's already on adult probation for several previous



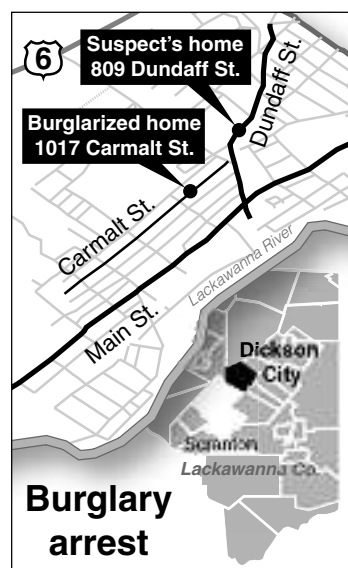
**RICHARD WITKOWSKI**  
Charged with burglary

offenses in Lackawanna County, he was charged as an adult.

He was arraigned and transported to Lackawanna County Prison after failing to post \$10,000 bail.

In addition to the alleged Carmalt Street burglary, police said Mr. Witkowski burglarized residences at 1212 Dundaff St. and 807 Link St. on Jan. 22 and Feb. 1, respectively. Police said he took cash, jewelry, prescription medicine and electronic items such as digital cameras, iPods, camcorders and portable DVD players.

"He would take things he could carry," Chief Stadnitski said.



AJA VENTUM / STAFF ARTIST

Police said they recovered most of the stolen items, except for the cash.

Contact the writer: mkemeny@timeshamrock.com

# NP mulls \$5,000 bump in stipends

BY KRIS FEDYSKY  
STAFF WRITER

MOSCOW — For years, there have been disparities among the stipends teachers and coaches receive for advising extracurricular activities at North Pocono School District.

As the district's budget takes shape for 2007-08, the extracurricular committee is proposing the board allot an extra \$5,000 to even the scales.

"We have been trying to fill in the holes for a few years now with the money we get from the school's budget, but it just isn't working anymore," said Tom Wolff, a committee member and the district's athletic director.

Normally, the committee

receives about 3 percent of the budget to use for stipends, Mr. Wolff said. This is the first year the committee is requesting extra funds from the board, he said.

Before allotting any extra money, however, minority members want to see how the money will be disbursed.

"I want justification," director Diane Croom said at a board work session. "How do you know \$5,000 will be enough?"

Mr. Wolff said \$5,200 should close the gap. The first place it will be applied is to the soccer program, then cheerleading and then throughout the extracurricular activities, he said.

"It sounds like a lot of money, but when you look at the

number of people it affects, it really isn't much," he said.

He expects to have a more specific list at the board's work session Monday night.

Stipends are determined by the number of students involved, the length of the season or the hours involved, experience and comparison to other districts.

Raises are given if a coach moves on the experience chart or if a principal requests one for an adviser.

District Superintendent Lou DeFazio, Ed.D., said it is possible the extra funding will be approved.

Contact the writer: kfedysky@timeshamrock.com

## COURT NOTES

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

- Albert Noble and Mary Ellen Slocum, both of Scranton.
- Robert Joseph Schock III and Megan Ann Lancaster, both of Taylor.
- Joseph Charles Evans and Kelly Marie Mellen, both of Scranton.

### PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

- Kenneth and Linda Powell, Scott Township, to James J. and Maureen T. Mellow, Blakely, a property in Archbald for \$51,975.
- John R. Thomas, Archbald, to Ryan and Shannon O'Donnell, Scranton, a property at 223 Riverside Drive, Archbald, for \$190,000.
- Charles and Therese Griffin, Clarks Summit, to Michael E. and James M. Craig, Clarks Summit, a

### Honor rolls may be found on Page D4

- property at 131 Carol Drive, Clarks Summit, for \$169,900.
- Donald P. and Louise E. Lenio, Dunmore, to Frederick G. and Elizabeth A. Owens, Harriman, N.Y., a property in Jefferson Township for \$87,400.
- Paul A. and Mary Elaine Gregori, Jessup, and Doreen Malley, Olyphant, to Chad M. and Jennifer N. Keating, Dunmore, a property at 607 Grassy Island Ave., Jessup, for \$129,900.
- Joseph W. and Patricia A. Knecht, Moosic, to Stephen J. Kohut, a property at 3717 Laurel Ave., Moosic, for \$106,000.
- Bernard P. and Teresa A. Filipksi,

- Jack Gomez, Lake Ariel, to Michael and Jennifer A. Miodzienski, Shavertown, a property at Lake Spangenberg, Jefferson Township, for \$114,000.
- Laurel Ridge Development LLC, Dunmore, to Frederick G. and Elizabeth A. Owens, Harriman, N.Y., a property in Jefferson Township for \$87,400.
- Paul A. and Mary Elaine Gregori, Jessup, and Doreen Malley, Olyphant, to Chad M. and Jennifer N. Keating, Dunmore, a property at 607 Grassy Island Ave., Jessup, for \$129,900.
- Joseph W. and Patricia A. Knecht, Moosic, to Stephen J. Kohut, a property at 3717 Laurel Ave., Moosic, for \$106,000.
- Bernard P. and Teresa A. Filipksi,

- Charlotte, N.C., to the Scranton School District, a property at 2228 Prospect Ave. for \$78,000.
- John A. Nowicki, executor of the estate of Franklin C. Nowicki, Scranton, to AJA Scranton LLC, Scranton, a property at 418 Clay Ave. for \$250,000.
- Robert Mecca, executor of the estate of Bernetta Lebeda, address unavailable, to Jennifer G. Zaleski, Scranton, a property at 1500 Sloan St., Taylor, for \$175,000.

- 214 Ash St.; married May 13, 1989; Judith G. Price, attorney.
- ESTATES FILED**
- Lawrence F. Costa, RR 1, Box 196, Dalton; letters testamentary to Joseph Costa, 899 Old State Road, Clarks Summit.
- Paul J. Fearick Jr., RR 4, 55 Maple Road, Dalton; letters of administration to Marie Fearick, 161 Haverford Drive, Laffin.
- Wanda Jean Tighe, 2030 Rigg St., Dunmore; letters testamentary to John Thomas Tighe III, 245 Merion Road, Merion.
- Mary T. Sohns, 230 Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant; letters testamentary to Carl Phillip Sohns, Minooka Avenue, Moosic.

## CLIPBOARD

**Carbondale**  
**Youth dance:** Greater Carbondale YMCA Youth Board will sponsor a Valentine's Dance for fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders Saturday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Parents or guardians must pick up children inside the Y building by 10. Tickets are \$4.

**Dalton**  
**Chicken/biscuit dinner:** Dalton United Methodist Church will have a chicken and biscuit dinner on Friday, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$7; children 4-11, \$3.50. Takeouts will be available at 4:30.

**Dunmore**  
**Kindergarten registration:** Dunmore Elementary Center 2007-08 kindergarten registration is scheduled Feb. 28 and March 1 for children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1. On Feb. 28, students whose last names begin with A through F may register from 9 to 11 a.m.; and G through K, 1 to 2:30 p.m., and on March 1, L through Q, 9 to 11 a.m. and R through Z, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Parents or guardians should bring chil-

dren's birth certificates, immunization records, proofs of residency, and Social Security numbers.

**East Scranton**  
**Breakfast meeting:** East Scranton Business Association will conduct its annual mid-winter breakfast meeting Tuesday at 7:45 a.m. in the 2nd floor, west wing conference room, at Moses Taylor Hospital. Michael Costello, of the Medical Education Development Consortium, will discuss the proposed Medical College of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Reservations close Friday and may be made by calling Frank Gardner at 342-9101.

**Factoryville**  
**Library meeting:** Factoryville Public Library users will meet on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. to form a "friends" group. A speaker and refreshments are planned. For details, call the library at 945-3788.

**Midvalley**  
**Pasta dinner:** The Mid Valley Boys Basketball Booster Club will

have a pasta dinner at Colarusso's, Jessup, Feb. 18, noon to 2 p.m. Takeout dinners only. Tickets are \$8 each. For details, call Lisa Rovinsky at 489-3900.

**Moosic**  
**Legion meeting:** American Legion Post 604 members will meet Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the post home, 309 Spring St. A home association meeting will follow.  
**Spring festival:** Vendors are needed for the spring festival at the Moosic Youth Center on March 31. The table fee is \$50, plus donation for raffle. For details, call 451-3855.

**Regional**  
**Submariners meet:** The USS Scranton (SSN 756) Base of United States Submarine Veterans Inc. will meet Saturday at 11 a.m. the Marine Corps League, Northeast Detachment" on East Mountain and the second Saturday of the each of the next five months. Men who have been awarded the "qualified in submariners" insignia to be worn on their dress and working uniforms who join between now and January will be considered charter

members of the base. Associate members, particularly those associated, and once active, with the dormant the USS Scranton (SSN 756) Committee are welcome. For details or more information, call John Saelli, 698-0726; Jeff Owens, 942-4622; or Ray Blackford 474-5950.

**Scranton**  
**Reunion meeting:** Scranton Technical High School's class of 1977 will meet to discuss a 30th anniversary reunion on Sunday at 6 p.m. at Lab's Frosted Mugs, 1369 Adams Ave. For details, call Patrice Hess Gasper at 842-2834.

**Open house:** State Rep. Frank Andrews Shimkus, D-South Abington Township, will hold an open house at his district office, 117 N. Main Ave., on Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For details, call 342-4353.  
**Pierogie sale:** St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, 505 Jefferson Ave., will have a pierogie sale on Feb. 16, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the church hall. To place an order, call 344-1522.

**South Scranton**  
**Church trips:** Trinity United Church of Christ is sponsoring an overnight trip to Atlantic City on March 5 and 6. Cost is \$130, double, and \$150, single; and a trip to Chicago, Sept. 16-22. Cost is \$569, double. For information, call Gloria, 347-1045; or Gail, 342-9325.

**West Scranton**  
**Pierogie sale:** St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 540 N. Main Ave., sells homemade pierogies every Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**CLIPBOARD** items may be e-mailed to yesdesk@timeshamrock.com or mailed to Clipboard, c/o The YES!Desk at 149 Penn Ave., Scranton, 18503. For details, call the YES!Desk at 348-9121.

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