

Published May 13, 2004

Comedy event at Penn's Peak nets \$12,000 among three local charities

By GAIL MAHOLICK

Live comedy and live music at Penn's Peak in Jim Thorpe proved to be a winning combination for three charities.

The event, held Saturday, netted \$12,000, which was split by Dream Come True, Amercian Red Cross, and the Special Olympics. Dream Come True and Red Cross were given \$5,500 and Special Olympics was given \$1,000.

About 1,200 people attended the event, organized by Tech-Net Professional Auto Service.

Performing comedy was Kevin Downey from "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" and D J Hazard, who has been featured in several films, seen on TV, and has performed in concert with various stars including Buster Poindexter and Elvis Costello. Also offering humor and serving as master of ceremonies was Scott Bruce of Wise Crackers Comedy Clubs.

Treating the audience to pre-show solos was Kristal Nemeroff, a Dream Come True recipient and a member of Dream Kids.

Music also was provided by the group The Difference.

Downey had the audience laughing with his unique fast-paced presentation. Downey is a regular in New York City's best comedy clubs. While Downey's entrance seemed to exhibit a man somewhat off balance added to his performance. His delivery, while absurd was perfectly timed. It was a show to remember. Downey often performs at the Tropicana Casino and Hotel in Las Vegas.

D J Hazard delivered one of his monologues with a stool perched on top of his head.

During the break between the comedians' show and the start of the band, Tech Net members made the presentations of the evening's proceeds to local charities. Lynn Hearn presented a check of \$5,500 to the Carl Kist of the American Red Cross. Paul McCartney presented a check of \$5,500 to Kristal Nemeroff and Gail Maholick, representing Dream Come True, and \$1,000 to Bill Rosenburg of CarQuest to benefit Special Olympics.

Tech-Net sponsors were: Stan Graver's Auto Sales and Car Country, Lehighon; Bernhard's Service Center, Jim Thorpe; Pencor Services, Blue Ridge Service Center, Hearn Enterprises, and Palmerton Auto Parts, all of Palmerton; McFarland's Garage, Ashfield; Riverside Service Center, Slatington; Henry's Service Center, Danielsville; Tire Discount Center and Pocono Auto Mart, Brodheadsville; Tony's Garage, Walnutport; Cherryville Service Center, Cherryville; and Edgewood Service Center, Kresgeville.