



Photo by Rachel Psutka

Horrific crash

A 25-year old Belleville man was transferred to Kingston General Hospital in critical condition after a collision on Wallbridge-Loyalist Road at approximately 9 a.m., Tues. Feb. 14. Police said the collision occurred when one of the drivers made an evasive lane change to avoid hitting a vehicle turning into the college residence, causing him to lose control and cross the centre line. The vehicle was then struck by a southbound vehicle causing extensive damage to both cars.

Father and son honoured for heroism

Duo saved man's life by pulling him from burning Foxboro home in late January

By Linda Horn

Dave Preston and his son Dylan arrived at Belleville's city hall Monday to receive a thank you for saving a man's life by pulling him from his burning Foxboro home Jan. 31.

Belleville Fire Chief Rheume Chaput,

Harmony Road Station Commander Cliff Christopher, and Mayor Neil Ellis presented the father and son with a plaque and certificates at Monday night's city council.

"Congratulations and thanks for your efforts. On behalf of the Belleville fire department to recognize both of you for your heroic actions and risking your own lives to save a life," said Ellis.

Christopher, who is a volunteer firefighter, was the officer in charge at the scene. He said when he arrived at the fire he heard people yelling that someone was re-entering the burning building. Christopher said as he was running to the back of the building two men appeared with

the occupant of the home.

In an interview, Dylan Preston, 19, said he and his father Dave were driving through Foxboro, when they noticed smoke coming from the back of a house. He said they decided to stop and see if anyone was still in the house.

"We saw someone go back into the house," said Preston.

The younger Preston went into the house while his father called 911. He said he was all the way into living room of the burning home. He tried to convince the man inside to leave the home, but he refused.

"It was either let him die or wrestle him out," said Preston.

Preston said the victim struggled as he pulled him to safety which caused Preston to fall. The windows had blown out due to the heat of the fire, and there was glass everywhere. When Preston slipped he ended up "stabbing" himself with the glass. After he pulled the man to safety he went to the hospital to receive minor medical treatment.

"The gentleman involved in the fire would mostly likely not have survived without their help," said Chaput.

The victim of the fire was transported to Belleville General Hospital and treated for serious burns.

"Public help is always welcome. However we don't recommend anyone with-

out training to enter a burning house, but their help was instrumental in saving a life," said Christopher.

Dave Preston wanted to have his son's heroic actions recognized.

"You hear in the news about youth 16-20 years old and all the bad things that they do. So I wanted to bring attention that there are good kids out there. So I came to city hall and started things rolling," said Preston.

Both Prestons said they were thankful for the recognition.

Dylan Preston has applied to Loyalist College and hopes to study Protection, Security and Investigations.

Arm wrestlers compete in addictive sport



Photo by Topher Seguin

Cheering crowds and shouting competitors add to the ambience

By Topher Seguin

These athletes have the right to bare arms. Stepping up to the small table in the middle of the room, the competitors take a quick glance at one another until moving their attention to what really matters: each other's hands.

Slowly finding a comfortable grip, they look at one another as if they are the only two in the room. With tense muscles and worn fingers, they stand and wait for instructions from one of the two referees. Waiting in silence and not moving a muscle, they finally hear their three favourite words, "Okay, ready, go!"

The crowd cheers, chanting and shouting tips to their fellow club members. In an impressive show of raw energy, they battle back and forth, often only moving their arms a few inches before someone overcomes the opponent. As veins protrude from their necks and faces turn red, the referee calls it. The round is over and the winner is announced.

The Wahoo 2 Sports Bar and Grill played host to Arm Melter 13, an arm wrestling competition bringing contestants from all over Ontario, Saturday afternoon.

"It's super addictive. It's the adrenaline that gets you going," said Laura Cook, a member of the Ontario Arm Wrestling League.

Cook, a competitor in the women's open, walked away with first place in left-handed wrestling and second place for her efforts with the right.

Nicola Gazzetto, 39, from the Ottawa High Hookers team, works up a sweat competing in the men's 221-pound-and-up weight division with the left hand Saturday at the Wahoo 2 Sports bar in Belleville.

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