

EDUCATION

# School Kids Win Bikes In Helmet Safety Contest



Front row, (l-r) Courtney Keith, grade 2; David Hybert, kindergarten; Cheri Sullivan, grade 1. Back row, (l-r) Michael DeMedico; Karen Muffley, principal; Joseph Elkins, grade 3, bike winner; and Mark Hilkert. Not pictured is Robbie Salabedine, grade 4.

**DOWNTOWN AKRON** — Ten area schools, including six in the Copley-Fairlawn and Norton districts, have participated in a bicycle helmet safety challenge sponsored by the law firm of Scanlon & Gearinger.

The contest encouraged school children to write a rap, poem or paragraph telling why it is important to wear a bicycle helmet when riding. Entries were judged for creativity, originality and content, with one helmet winner

at each grade level at each school. The drawing for a bike was then held at the schools from among those helmet-winning entries.

Seven-year-old Joanna Bailey, bike winner at the Arrowhead School assembly, said it went well with her entry: "You should wear a helmet because you need your head to think and if you hurt your head bad you may end up in bed instead of playing out side [sic]"

Other area bike winners

are: Joseph Elkins, Ft. Island; Pamela Day, Herberich; Cailin Adair, Norton Primary; Joe Klaus, Norton Intermediate, and Benjamin Horrigan, Grill School.

The idea for the contest was conceived after one of the attorneys from Scanlon & Gearinger fell from a bike, cracked his helmet from front

to back, but was saved from serious injury by the helmet. The law firm, whose practice includes personal injury and product liability, decided to help promote helmet safety through the contest at 10 area schools.



Page A-8, The Barberton Herald, Thursday, May 25, 1994

## Poets are popping up in Norton and Barberton

Poetry is filling the air. To motivate and encourage wearing bicycle helmets, the law firm of Scanlon & Gearinger sponsored a poetry contest for area schools. Norton Primary's 7-year-old Cailin Adair, Grill School's 8-year-old Benjamin Horrigan, and Norton Intermediate's 10-year-old Kevin Hadley each won a helmet for their entries. Norton Intermediate's Joseph Klaus won a bike for his winning entry.

Klaus wrote:  
 Once knew a guy from an accident  
 Without his helmet to school he went  
 Then turned a car and hit him in the right  
 He tried to hold on with all his might

But there he flew like a bug in the air

Landed on the road, splattered everywhere

I'm telling ya dude  
 This might sound crude  
 If ya don't protect your head  
 You're gonna end up dead  
 Catch my drift  
 Helmets are swift

Recognition for poetry does not end with students. Kim Jones, a Barberton resident, received the honor of having her poem published in "The Journey of the Mind." Jones' poem, entitled "Love Light," explores the aspects of finding love.

Jones received the distinguished Editor's Choice Award from the National Library of Poetry for her contribution to the book.