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Shake Rag preparing for revival

By Kandace Sebastian
Hume-Fogg Academic High School

A historically black community in Bowling Green that has been in disrepair for decades may soon be revitalized. A citizen's group is urging the city to restore the once-thriving, black community of Shake Rag near downtown.

"We want the community to evolve," said Geraldine Banks, president of the citizens' group known as the New Era Planning Association. "A great change is going to take place there."

The Shake Rag community, which stretches from High Street to Kentucky Street between 1st and 7th streets, dates to the 19th century when African Americans built their own businesses, houses, churches, schools and community centers.

"This is a valuable black community and we are trying to restore history," said Bernice Herndon, the association's treasurer.

Tentative plans for restoration include erecting signs recording the history, creating a historical walking tour of the area and preparing a newsletter for residents. The shake—CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Actress relives Washington's brave legacy

By Candice Byrd
Bryan Station High School

Joseph Bundy is on a crusade of sorts.

He's traveling through five states portraying Booker T. Washington and six other black historical figures, illustrating how these men contributed to American culture, science and politics.

Bundy came to Bowling Green on Monday, June 10, as Washington during a presentation at State Street Baptist Church, the first black church.

“Actress” CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Concerts in park sizzling

By Ashlee Clark
Louisville Male High School

The mercury was rising Wednesday at Fountain Square Park in downtown Bowling Green, and it wasn't the weather that made the anxious crowd sweat.

The heat was being generated by the Fender Benders, a local band playing in the 23rd annual summer Concert in the Park series.

They are among the many bands who participate in the weekly afternoon program sponsored by the Downtown Redevelopment Authority. It gives everyone from executives to families with young children a chance to find family-oriented entertainment in the city.

Charles Malone was among the many who braved the June heat in Fountain Square Park to enjoy the Fender Benders' performance.

"I look forward to it every week," the 59-year-old said over guitar riffs blasting through the speakers.

Malone believes the music in the concerts, which ranges from jazz and R&B to country, provides a welcome change to the present-day entertainment.

"Today's music is too dirty for me," Malone said. "Younger stuff has too much profanity."

The Concert in the Park series aims to provide an atmosphere for Bowling Green residents to have an enjoyable departure from their professional lives.

MINERUA Westray of Bowling Green waits for her son, 14-month-old Nicolas Westray, as he takes his first steps during the June 12 concert in Fountain Square Park.

Multi-faceted Haskins returning to start foundation

By Ashlee Clark
Louisville Male High School

From coaching a women's college basketball team to becoming a chef, Clemette Haskins has achieved more in 36 years than most people have in a lifetime.

"I'm tapping into different parts of myself," said the Western alum of the various career paths she has taken. Haskins, a thre­time All-American point guard on the Hill from 1983 to 1987, seemed destined for a lifelong career in basketball.

The daughter of former University of Minnesota basketball coach Clem Haskins — another Western legend — Clemette led the Lady Toppersto three NCAA tournament appearances during her four-year career. She later went on to coach women's basketball at the University of Dayton.

"I worked very hard to be the best basketball player and coach," Haskins said.

Haskins has now carried her will to succeed beyond the basketball court — and she has returned to Bowling Green to carry out a new mission.
Uncle Merv tells students to make a difference

AnCharlene Davis
Gallatin High School

A round, jolly, white-haired man greeted the Minority Journalism Workshop as they entered The Courier-Journal. As each one watched the gentleman walk around the room and talk, it almost made them feel as if it was Christmas and the speaker, Merv Aubespine, strongly resembled Santa Claus.

Merv Aubespine, the associate editor for development of The Courier-Journal, addressed several topics and issues that are commonly found within the journalism realm to help influence more minority students to join this competitive area. Although the Louisiana native is a strong advocate for journalism, he did not begin his professional life in this arena. His original career choice was high school teaching.

His first job at The Courier-Journal was a news artist in 1967. "I didn’t just say, ‘Now I’m an artist and I’m just going to quit.’ As an African American, Aubespine took many strides in the path of "the first black man." His first story as a reporter resulted when violence in Louisville threatened the lives of his white reporter colleagues.

After obtaining his job as a reporter, Aubespine took advantage of every opportunity available for him to succeed in such a competitive business. "When the editors and reporters went to lunch, I went to lunch with them."

Through this ambitious drive, Aubespine was able and extremely willing to accept constructive criticism. In fact, he almost demanded it from people. "You can always learn new skills."

He said he strongly believes that the people you ask to criticize your work will go out of their way to help you become a successful person.

Such a unique and determined beginning has brought "Uncle Merv" to position which he holds now.

In his 35 years in the field of journalism, Aubespine has traveled to at least eight countries, including South Africa where he met Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa.

He has made several friends and acquaintances with people such as actor Danny Glover. He also marched for famous causes with famous people such as the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The 64-year-old editor has also received the honor of having two scholarships named after him, one being for the National Association of Black Journalists for $1,500 and the other from a copy editor organization he helped start.

Aubespine humbly addressed his accomplishments then moved on to his most joyous topic: his staff and interns. "Uncle Merv" proudly discussed the pride he takes in assisting his interns in any way they may possibly need. He provides food as well as money for his entire intern staff and even produced free tickets for some social occasions.

"I really want you to know how much this industry needs you all," Aubespine told the workshoppers, referring to minorities of all races and genders. One of his many jobs is to make sure there is a balance in diversity within the workplace.

Aubespine is proud that the journalistic arena has indeed traveled a long distance since the time he first stepped foot into it. "I’m not a fly in a bowl of milk anymore."

Aubespine said the number of minority reporters and editors is gradually rising because minority people now want to see the viewpoint and can relate to the views of other minorities. Aubespine told the workshoppers that one of the most fulfilling things about the field of journalism is "when you can write about other people with no power and give them power through your story."
Sullivans share success to support scholarships

Patrice Relford
Metro High School

The building is spacious, bright and white. After one look, it’s obvious that the office is new. Omni Meats, owned by Sharon and Curtis Sullivan, has prospered immensely in the 19 years since it began in a former slaughterhouse.

Success has not caused them to isolate themselves. Instead, Sharon and Curtis Sullivan have used their success to strengthen the community. People with last names like Hearst, Pulitzer, Carnegie, or Gates are well-known philanthropists. The Sullivans are not as famous, but they are just as worthy of the title.

Starting this fall, the minority business owners will give $25,000 to Western Kentucky University to assist junior and senior education majors. Each year for the next five years, two students will receive scholarships that require them to agree to teach in the Bowling Green/Warren County area for at least five years.

Mrs. Sullivan, who has invested a lot of herself in area schools, is partially motivated by the fact that daughters Davida, 21, and Deandrea, 19, graduated from local schools, and son Curtis Jr., 16, currently attends Bowling Green High School.

She serves as a parent advocate to the local school district, volunteers with the local Housing Authority, is a board member of the United Way, and still finds time to be a parent representative for Bowling Green High School’s Quarterback Club. Her husband was recently elected as Chairman of Bowling Green’s Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Sullivan’s involvement in the area’s schools over the years has allowed her to witness the school district grow to include a more diverse student population. She feels that the district will better serve the area’s population if faculty and staff members reflect that diversity.

The dedication Mrs. Sullivan shows in the community is duplicated in her career.

After years of punching the clock, the couple soon tired of working for other people and decided to be their own boss. When the doors of Omni Meats first opened in 1985 in Smith Grove, KY, they didn’t know much about the meat business and had one employee besides themselves.

“We did it all, at the time I couldn’t believe that I went to school to sweep floors and clean toilets,” Sullivan said. Because they started from scratch, Mrs. Sullivan feels they know what needs to be done to keep the business running smoothly.

Starting the business was difficult. “As minorities it was challenging to start a business from ground zero because we had to acquire operating capital and gain the confidence of the businesses we supply,” Sullivan said. “They currently supply several companies like the military.

Since then, the business has relocated to Bowling Green’s Corporate Park, shifted from a slaughterhouse to a meat processing plant and it employs almost 30 people. The diversity that Mrs. Sullivan hopes to see in the area’s schools can only be seen in their businesses employees.

“We employ Bosnians, African-Americans and Caucasians who are both male and female,” Sullivan said.

Sharon Sullivan’s vision is two-fold; she hopes to encourage minorities to enter the teaching profession, and she also hopes to serve as an example of a successful minority entrepreneur.

“There are many advantages and disadvantages to being self-employed, but I would encourage minorities to look into those opportunities...” Sullivan said.

Several details of the scholarship program have to be worked out this summer, but beginning this fall two WKU upperclass education majors may receive.

“We feel blessed to have the opportunity to be self-employed, but family and being positive role models for children and young adults come first,” Mrs. Sullivan said. “We want to encourage them to set goals for themselves and work to accomplish them.”

Teacher trying to draw minorities into profession

Michelle Long
Hopkinsville High School

Leiliee Godo-Solo, a colorful native of Cleveland, knows how a true teacher works.

“Teaching is one of the best jobs you can have,” she said. “It helps you to have an impact on young students.”

Godo-Solo, coordinator of the minority teacher recruitment center at Western Kentucky University, began her career as a Spanish teacher at Maplewood High School in Nashville, Tenn.

But Godo-Solo wanted to look for other opportunities, so she took an administrative position at Western.

For nearly five years, she’s had an “open-door policy” for all students spending an enor-

mous amount of time in her office, helping them to develop and pursue their teaching goals.

Godo-Solo, who is in her 30s, earned a bachelor’s degree in Spanish from Cleveland State University and a master’s in Spanish literature from the University of Rhode Island.

Godo-Solo then had a decision to make: What was she going to do with her degrees?

“Since I had degrees in Spanish, I thought I might as well get certified to teach it,” she said.

In her spare time, Godo-Solo indulges in several hobbies, including reading, going to the movies, taking the little ones out for ice-cream and blowing bubbles while working in the garden.

Army sets up quarters on Hill

Harold Tucker
North Hardin High School

It’s a friendly invasion. 310 members of the U.S. Army and Army Reserves are at Western to learn how to better defend the nation and improve their job skills.

Western’s current remodeling and construction sites have many people saying campus looks like a “war zone.” But the military visitors are taking the disruptions all in stride.

“It is a nice place to visit,” Sgt. 1st Class Cynthia Jackson said.

Lt. Col. Lewis Roldan, 7th Battalion out of Decatur, Ga., has been in the Army for 24 years and is the person in charge of this group’s instructional training. “Western Kentucky University has done a wonderful job to accommodate us,” he said.

The attendees may feel they are back in college because they must stay in a dorm room, go to class, have to do their “school” work and study for the tests so that they can graduate at the end of the two week training. Classes include:

- uMOS (Military Occupational Skills) reclassification
- leadership
- computer
- 7IL (administrative)
- 73C (finance personnel)
- 75H (personnel)

They may need these classes to help move up in ranks, to help them improve their technology skills, to change their MOS.

Some people may think that the Army is nothing but hard work and no play; but for people like Lt. Col. Roldan, it is a different story. “The Army is the best way to serve your country and to have fun.” Spc. Nancy Turner agrees. “I like it. You get to travel around, and you get to meet a lot of different people.”

But, whether they travel the world or take classes at Western, Army personnel must have “dedication and motivation,” Spc. Turner said.
Shake Rag deserves support

If the name “Shake Rag” doesn’t ring a bell, it is because most people do not know what it is. Shake Rag is the nickname of a district in Bowling Green, and it is also the nickname for a project to restore that district to a place of prominence in the community.

People who live there now or who once lived there appeared before the Bowling Green City Commission two weeks ago and asked for support for restoration plans developed by the New Era Development Association.

People in the area are currently seeking a Snap Grant from state government which would provide $5,000 for the purchase of the historic markers.

During the city commission meeting, the group got support from City Commissioner Joe Denning, a minority, and Mayor Sandy Jones and the other three city commissioners gave tacit approval to the project.

South Central Bank and National City Bank officials attended a New Era Association meeting last week and agreed to provide low-cost loans for economic development and home improvement in the area.

Because the residents have developed a “can do attitude,” the project deserves support.

It will take patience and tolerance to complete a project of this magnitude, but if anyone can do it, it is this community. They have sat back and watched their homes deteriorate before their eyes, not knowing if they could do anything to stop it.

Now they have found a way.

Teach black history year round

Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks. These historical African-Americans are the only faces that seem to appear in history books whenever it is time to study black history.

Because of the absence of other meaningful black contributors to American society in most school’s curricula, King and Parks are supposed to embody everything African-Americans have done for our country since our first arrival in bondage on a Dutch slave ship in 1619.

The historical aspect of African-Americans is only taught during Black History Month. The history and culture of African-Americans can’t be summed up in just one month. Black history is a subject that should be embedded into every school’s curriculum year round.

European history is a large part of what was taught in history classrooms. I have been tested over and over on the wars and people of a continent that I may never see in my lifetime. However, European-American history is all that most students, white or black, know about the foundation of America.

African-Americans, like European-Americans, have a significant role in what makes America the country it is today. But for years, I have had to read books on my own to learn about the outstanding past of my people.

From poetry by Langston Hughes to the autobiography of Malcolm X. I have taught myself just a small portion of what my predecessors have done to advance black people in America. Europeans and slaves who came to America had one large thing in common – they were immigrants. Therefore, everyone’s history should be equally represented. Whether they were sent here for hard labor or came seeking religious freedom, the first settlers of this country were once strangers to America.

African-American studies should be part of the curriculum in schools all across America. Black history is much more than the slave trade and civil rights; it is what makes African-Americans like myself proud of my heritage.
TV should reflect family values

What does one think when the word "family" comes to mind? Many have different viewpoints based on experiences in their lives and the people they define as family.

"Family is an essential support system that you cannot live without," said Candice Byrd, 18, said. America’s foundation lies with family and the values that each unique one holds, whether good or bad.

Families are not always "peaches and cream." Every family has its own issues and these issues, for the most part, vary from family to family. Sometimes families can relate to each other. African-American families, they usually have broken homes. Sometimes families "click" as a people because they still face circumstances from the past that occur today. These circumstances create opportunities for them to bond. Workshper Kandace Sebastian, 18, said, "The bonds of families are close in order to build strong morals and communication."

Although African-American families share this bond of strong and independent families, television often portrays them as having broken homes.

Barney and Friends, a children’s television show, defines family this way: "A family is a group of people from different ages and different kinds."

Television shows air all types of family shows. Many shows represent families with two parents in the household. This is true, but when it comes to African-American families, they usually have broken homes with violence.

Typical black television shows depict African-American families as having one parent in the family. "Families shape who you are and the things you learn," said workshopper Tavia Green, 16, said.

African-American families portrayed on television typically are single or divorced parent homes who are poor or somehow related to crime. This view is very stereotypical and unethical.

America’s African-American families do have their dysfunctional families, but they also have their politically correct families as well. One African-American actor and educator decided to break this preconceived generalization.

Bill Cosby wrote, produced and acted in an African-American television show. The Cosby Show. This television show finally portrayed a whole and complete picture of a typical African-American family. The show consisted of a middle class family with five children. The children were parented by one father and one mother who held professions as an obstetrician and a lawyer. The Cosby Show started airing in the mid 1980s. This show became very popular — everyone watched The Cosby Show. This show broke the stereotypes and began a trend of wholesome African-American television family shows.

Now in the new millennium there are many African-American television shows that are wholesome, but there is still a need for more in order to offset the negative image of those that revolve around broken homes and violence.

Whether you like the controversial Eminem, be prepared for him to be around a long time

You may know this white, blond, 31-year-old rapper from Kansas City, Mo., as the famous kings of controversy, or as the most common of all his names — Eminem.

Killing, shooting, bad-mouthing or physically hurting people may not be the most popular themes in music, but Eminem dishes out interesting rap about these topics every time he makes a recording or performs at a concert.

On May 8, 2002, Eminem released his third controversial album, "The Eminem Show." It came out six years after his first album "Infinite" which he said "opened a lot of doors for me to push the freedom of speech to the limit" (www.mtv.com).

Our nation enjoys freedom of speech — many other nations don’t. I support Eminem and his music because of the fact he uses his First Amendment right, and that is what makes him so different from other rappers. This could be the reason why his new single "Without Me" sold more than 285,000 copies in the first day of sales.

One of his worst critics, Moby, had some good things to say about him. "The weird thing is that I actually do think that Eminem has skills as an MC, but it disturbs me that he glorifies homophobia and misogyny in his songs..." (www.mtv.com).

Moby is not alone in his criticism of Eminem. The gay community protested the use of the word "faggot" in his raps.

But then everyone remembers when Eminem shared the stage with rock icon and openly gay Elton John at the 2001 Grammy Awards and their embrace at the end of the performance.

Obviously music professionals involved with The Grammy’s recognize good music, even if they do not like the lyrics or the performer.

His song lyrics use all kinds of words. There are some good words, but it is the profanity and graphic language which upsets many people who hear his music over the radio, on the internet or from their children.

Most people do not realize that his rap is just music made to entertain those who are old enough, mature enough and responsible enough to handle the explicit content and parental advisory. His lyrics are not to be taken literally but enjoyed as entertainment.

Spending money to buy Eminem’s albums is never a waste because he is one of the greatest rappers of today, ranking up there with Snoop Dogg, Dr. Dre, P. Diddy and many more.

Whether you like him, dislike him, or just think he’s better used by him, because his music will be around for a long time to come.

Desegregation hasn’t brought races together

While high schools across America have been integrated since the 1960s, thanks to the determination of African-Americans and some whites, fighting hard for equality, we still remain divided.

But now, rather than being divided by law, we are divided by choice.

In classrooms and social gatherings, whites and minorities separate quite often. Is it because these groups just want to be around their friends? Or do they just not want to be around those of another race?

Let’s take the first day of school for example. Students walk into the classroom and immediately branch off to opposite sides of the classroom. Whites on one side - blacks on the other.

It seems students don’t even attempt to become acquainted with their new classmates. At football and basketball games, it’s either white people at one end of the bleachers and the minorities on the other.

Brown vs. Board of Education in Topeka, Kan., in the 1950s was supposed to bring us together through the desegregation of schools. Now, we see the different races separate among ourselves.

It’s not that the whole desegregation battle was in vain and there is no unity at all among the races, but there just isn’t enough.

Let’s take a look at the Sept. 11 tragedy. We saw white churches gathering and black churches gathering. But how many black and white churches did you see congregating, mourning and praying together in the wake of what happened? I didn’t see too many.

Dr. Martin Luther King stated in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, that one day we would be transformed into a place where white and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls will walk together as sisters and brothers.

We can’t begin to accomplish this, if some of us don’t give other races a chance. If we as a country continue to judge a person by his or her color and not unite, it’s impossible for us to really call ourselves the "UNITED" States of America.

How can the U.S. try to make peace with other countries, when parts of its own don’t even have it?

We are all the same in God’s eyes. It’s time that we start looking at each other in the same way. The very person we ignore and look down on might be the very one we have to call on for help or they just might save your life.

Not even making an attempt to get to know someone of another race is very closed-minded because diversity is something everyone needs.
Writer tells students to do right thing
Brittany Johnson
Warren Central High School

Sheryl Edelen, The Courier-Journal neighborhoods reporter, encouraged the Minority Journalism Workshop students to "do the right thing."

"I took the hard road," Edelen said. "I was determined not to do journalism."

She first planned to go into education, but she quickly changed her major at Eastern Kentucky University to journalism and political science. After graduation, she freelanced, took secretarial jobs, and finally wrote for The Herald-Leader before going to Courier Journal.

Her story of hard work inspired others.

"When I looked at her, I knew there was hope for me," said workshop candidate Candice Byrd, 18, a graduate of Tate Creek High School. "Her being a woman and a minority, and still making it definitely gives me inspiration."

Speaking on diversity, ethics and news coverage, Edelen said that "being able to speak out for our community was our choice. We have to do it, because nobody else will speak out for us."

"Journalism is about what you do," Edelen said. "We want to cover neighborhoods accurately so that we can reflect the community."

She especially expressed the importance of getting internships after college to gain experience.

"You are only as good as your last story," Edelen said. A writer's goal is to both act and analyze.

Remember "you are dealing with people who are not media savvy."

Cyclist says he fought to fit in
By Robert Davis
Gallatin High School

One of the racers in the American Motorcycle Racing Association spins the tire on his Harley-Davidson to improve traction.

He was doing business last Saturday when the American Motorcycle Racing Association stopped in Bowling Green on its annual cross-country tour.

In an AMRA event, all the motorcycles must be a Harley-Davidson. The association is made up of six main categories, which are divided into 18 smaller divisions. The AMRA has been stopping in Bowling Green for the past nine years.

Announcer Malcolm West estimated the attendance at about 4,000. Between 400 and 500 competitors participated.

Out of all the competitors, there were only "three blacks, five women and a couple of Hispanics," said Jay Hurl ILieuvel.

Despite the low numbers, motorcycle racing has the highest number of minority participants out of any racing sport. Stigall gained credibility over time. The more he rode and showed his bike, the more people respected him.

He says that the situation is getting better now. An African-American now ranks No. 2 in the nation in the Top Fuel category. Stigall also said that the business is no longer about skin color, but about who has the most time and money to build a bike.

Howard Gibson, who is also black, had a different experience.

"I..." he said that when he first starting riding whites treated him like any other person.

Gibson doesn't remember how long he's been riding, just that it has been "a long time."

"We all just came to ride," he said. He said his Harley gives him a feeling of freedom.

Bumper cars, coasters add to excitement of Beech Bend Park
By ArtCharlene Davis
Gallatin High School

Looping Star, Flying Bob, and bumper cars are only a taste of the large selection of rides found at Bowling Green's hometown amusement park - Beech Bend.

Several new roller coasters, bumper cars, kiddie rides and a shooting gallery, are a part of a $2.5 million expansion just completed in April of this year. In addition to the rides, a miniature golf course is under construction and should be completed soon.

Since Beech Bend first opened in 1898, it has passed through the hands of several owners, including Charlie Garvin who died in the 1980s.

The park was bought by Dallas Jones in 1989, after a five-year hiatus. The owner soon began renovation efforts.

"We actually started rebuilding the park back in 1995," Jones said.

Since then, he and his staff have been dedicated to making the park an enjoyable place to visit.

Jones said his expansion efforts should bring in several new customers and employees.

"The average number of customers range from 500-1,500 people," he said. "But, like today, we'll have about 2,500 people."

The owner also employs more than 100 staff members that are paid "over and beyond minimum wage."

Jones' work apparently is paying off, if you talk to some of the visitors who attend his park, like Lucille Frank, who recently brought her 5-year-old granddaughter, Kiya va. Jones' sunny afternoon, Kiya va is eagerly riding up and down on a colorful, bouncing pony, while her grandmother smiles and waves at her.

Lucell, said she knew about Beech Bend but never ventured out to the park, said she was glad she brought her grandbaby.

As for Kiya va, the little girl said the park was fun. The three-year-old, however, had a hard time deciding which ride was her favorite but admitted the pony ride and "choo-choo train" were high on the list.

Meanwhile, for groups interested in making the trek to Beech Bend, package deals, including discounted prices for large groups that call in advance, are available.

It's a great experience for my kids, especially since Opryland's gone," said Mary Fye, who came to the park with her husband Steve, a Span Tech employee.

Span Tech sponsored a company outing at the park.

Terry Hume, another Span Tech employee, said he was all for the expansion. "The bigger the better," Hume said emphatically.

Beech Bend Park will be open seven days a week until August. In September, the park is only open on the weekends, and will close in October until next summer.

As for future plans for the park, Jones said Halloween and Christmas shows are on the agenda and other events may be scheduled.
Corvette plant tour revs up interest in hot car

By Kayla Roary
Centennial High

For Ashley Price, the trip to the Corvette Assembly Plant was special. She was the one person from the 21 students who toured the plant picked to start a Corvette that came rolling straight off the assembly line.

"It was tight," she said about the majestic blue 2002 Corvette. A basic 2002 Corvette costs $40,000. The convertible starts at $47,000.

The oh's and loud conversations continued as the workshoppers were on their way to see millions of dollars at their fingertips at the assembly plant.

He said the legacy of the first Corvette came to life in Flint, Mich., in 1953. The assembly plant sold its first Corvette for about $5,500 and only 300 were made. Later the assembly plant traded cities.

The move from Michigan to St. Louis and then to Bowling Green in 1981. Many employees made these transitions with the assembly plant. Marvin Smith, a retiree, and his wife made the transition from St. Louis to Bowling Green. Smith and his wife currently volunteer in the gift shop at the assembly plant.

The plant is said to cover 22 football fields, but does not have an official car lot holding cars waiting for someone to buy. Every car in the plant belongs to an owner. Most of these Corvettes are custom built to fit the customer.

Each Corvette has 1,400 parts assembled before the car rolls off the line. The tour guide said each Corvette has a soaped up engine that requires the use of two gas chambers - one on the left and the other on the right. An equalizer also sets between the two for balance.

Once the Corvette is assembled, 10 hours are required for the paint. Many colors are chosen from within the colors of the Corvette, which includes metallic blue, red, black and white; red and black are the most popular colors.

The new color for 2002, electric blue, has become very popular among recent buyers. Yellow and hythentic red (maroon) are color options for an added cost of $600.

The employees work hard to produce the unique sports car, which now build about 160 to 170 cars in an eight-hour shift.

The workers belong to the United Auto Workers union and are treated well with pay and benefits. The Bowling Green Corvette Plant placed second in their division for production and quality.

The plant has received so much recognition that Cadillac has decided that the Bowling Green plant will assemble their new car, the Cadillac LXR, a cross between a Corvette and a Cadillac, beginning next year.

While there are pictures of the new car, there’s not a life size model of the Cadillac LXR.

"Next year I will look forward to seeing the Cadillac LXR," workshopper Kandace Sebastian said.

Pros share news experiences with workshoppers

By Camira Warfield
Louisville Male High School

Twenty-one students huddled around raspy-voiced Associate Editor Merv Aubespín last week to hear the veteran recruiter for The Courier-Journal talk about his experience in the newspaper business and challenge them to join the ranks and make a difference.

Aubespín organized two panel discussions that included editors, reporters, photographers and summer interns.

Participants of the first round table were Darla Carter, a general-assignment reporter; Edward Bower, a copy editor; Alan Player, wire editor; Chris Poynter, a growth and development reporter; Arza Barnett, a photographer; and Amy Crawford, a copy desk intern.

The panelists discussed accuracy in news reporting, distorted perceptions of the media and meeting deadlines. They also talked about how to accept criticism from editors, angles that should be taken when approaching the family of a murder victim and how to write interesting stories even when the topic seems dull.

The Western workshoppers dished out several insightful questions that kept the panelists on their toes.

Carter, a graduate of Western Kentucky University, answered a student’s question about how to approach a murder victim’s family.

"Be as sensitive as possible," she said. "Make sure they know you’re not trying to sensationalize this.

"Panelists said families often want to talk to reporters because it allows them to validate the murder victim’s life and show that the person didn’t die in vain.

"Chris Poynter, another Western graduate and ex-reporter for the Jackson Sun in Tennessee, recalled a time when he had to cover the funeral of a mother and her three young children, who died in a house fire.

Poynter revealed that he held back his tears while attending the funeral but ‘broke down’ when he went back to his car.

"If you go to a funeral and can’t cry, then you don’t deserve to be in this profession," he said.

Journalists face an array of obstacles and challenges, including occasionally being assigned a story about a bland topic. When that happens, “find something unique” to highlight, Poynter said.

Several panelists stressed that when you write a story, you’re not necessarily writing it for yourself but for the reader.

"If you keep looking for the ‘why’ you’ll have an interesting story," Carter said.

A second group of panelists took a more laid-back approach when discussing the need-to-knows of journalism.

Western sophomore Antwon Pinkston, an intern for the Courier’s Neighborhoods section, stressed that pride in one’s work should never be taken lightly. "Have yourself prepared and be confident," he said.

Other members of the round table - copy editing instructor Amy Crawford and metro interns Brandy Warren and Javacia Harris - all discussed the importance of networking and building relationships with people within the industry.

Staying knowledgeable and up-to-date on events is also an important part of the job, panelists said.

The journalists also discussed the drawbacks of journalism.

When more than one editor reviews your work and they all suggest different ways to approach your story or a particular focus you should take, it sometimes becomes stressful for the reporter to decide how to write their story, Carter and Poynter said.

Reporters also have to endure criticism from readers and sources, Carter added.

But Aubespín returned to his familiar theme that newspapers need people who bring varied perspectives.

The Director

By Camira Warfield
Louisville Male High School

Growing up in Nutter Fort, W.Va., during the 1940s, a place where only one stop light existed, and friendships between blacks and whites was just as rare, Jim Highland, a journalism professor at Western Kentucky University and head of the Minority Journalism Workshop program would have never guessed eighteen years later he would be teaching writing techniques and journalism ethics to a room full of black (and other minority) students.

Highland did not start the Minority Journalism Workshop at Western. The teacher who set up the program left to work on his doctorate at Indiana University. Bob Adams, the associate director, took over the program and was the director until 1988.

Much of the Minority Journalism Workshops’ success can be attributed to Highland’s laid-back approach and the personable direction he gives to his students when allocating assignments or giving constructive criticism.

Following years of hard work and tremendous dedication, Highland acknowledged that in two or three years he will place the torch of loyalty and commitment in another person’s hands.

While Highland does retire, it will be guaranteed that he will have relationships with minorities that won’t be as rare as that stop light in his small home town.
Fruitful smiles filled the air as the bright sun beamed through the windows at the Unitarian Church on Nashville Road in Bowling Green. The sun served as a spotlight for the six rowdy children waiting to receive instructions for the Charleston dance, part of the upcoming play the children will perform Friday, June 21.

“You have to work with everyone else,” camp choreographer Laura Vilines said softly, referring to what the kids learn at the week-long camp.

Jumping and screaming as if they had ants in their pants, the kids were ready to begin their new dance.

“Quiet down so I can start the tape,” Vilines said.

The kids quickly quiet down.

As the music played, small feet began moving around, and tiny hands vividly lifted into the air. The children rotate in a circle with their designated partners.

Smiles of satisfaction fluttered on the round faces of the children as they completed their dance.

“Great job,” Vilines said, slapping one camper’s hand.

“I like all of the dance; let’s do it again,” said Callie, 7, with a glistening grin.

Working together and decision making are just a few of the things children attending the camp receive.

“By working together, you experience something bigger and better than you would if you had just one person,” Virginia Hamilton, the camp’s director said.

Hamilton, in her first year of directing the camp, said she enjoys watching the children have fun.

“Seeing everyone in a creative atmosphere is amazing; it’s wonderful what these kids can come up with.”

In schools and society, we don’t emphasize arts as much as we do sports, and it’s just as important,” said Hamilton, a former tennis player and swimmer.

“It builds imagination and creativity.”

The children’s fantasies came alive as they worked to put together their upcoming production of the play “The Night the Castle Rocked.” A large clear piece of plastic lined the floor of the hallway. Four paint cans rested upon this fixture which resembled an extra large garbage bag.

Four children hugged like sardines gathered around a large flat eager to get their portion of the display painted.

Tyler Harris, Traci Carter, Lauren Roberts and Cory Price traveled back and forth from the paint cans to the flats they were painting.

“It’s the backdrop for the play,” Carter said, dipping her shrunken paint brush into the green paint.

“The castle is at night with a bridge, and the flower is in the grass,” Roberts said. The kids continue to protect their back drop, making numerous trips to the paint.

“OOOPPS,” said Lauren, as she accidentally dropped a small portion of red paint into another part of the prop.

“It’s OK,” Wes Boggess said, using his new white camp t-shirt to remove the unwanted red paint.

“It’s all about giving them the opportunity to paint, dance, act and sing. It also gives them a sense of accomplishment, too,” said Boggess, who sketched the backdrop using the ideas provided by the kids.

These students showcase all of their work throughout the week through a variety of arts: dance, music, art and drama.

While some of the campers work on their dance routines, others practice their lines for the play.

“Go ye to the Castle,” Harris said in a deep ruling voice. The children laugh.

“This is funny,” said Cory Price, his nose painted a deep blue. He’s the obvious clown of the group, with his mischievous smile.

The acting room gives the campers an opportunity to practice their acting skills for the play.

“Look at me; I’m a mirror on the wall,” said Kaitlin with a smile holding a white hanger to her bubbly face. The hangers serve as props for this medieval play. Kaitlin has been attending the camp since she was five.

“Okay let’s get serious,” said drama teacher Olga Swersenger, giving kids some helpful hints. She places a long red scarf around one of the camper’s neck.

Erin Cantwell, who is working with the kids on their songs for the play, which will have two productions for the two age groups, said her love of music and her passion to be around kids, led her to the position of music teacher.

“I love it, it’s so much fun,” said Cantwell, a senior at Western.

Heather Biterling is the coordinator of the camp.

Kneeling on the ground the visual arts director carefully sketches the scenes for the play. The sun beams on her back; small bugs crawl around her sandals.

“It’s really cool how they grasped the concept of the old times inside of the city,” Biterling said with a mild sweat upon her face.

“It’s also amazing what the arts can do for you, no matter how old you are,” Hamilton added.

“Look at me.
I’m a mirror on the wall.”

KAITLIN
Arts Camp participant
State Street church rising from ashes

By Alfonso Kelly
North Hardin High School

Bowling Green insurance executive David Clement was sorry to see State Street Baptist Church gutted by fire two years ago, but with the formal reopening of the church just a few months away, he said the fire may have given the congregation a chance to make needed improvements.

Bricks and mortar are being set in place this summer, and some of the restoration work on the first "colored church" in Bowling Green is being done by church members.

Clement is on the building committee and the board of trustees for the $2.2-$2.5 million project, and when the church formally re-opens in November, he sees his work as being completed.

The church suffered damage in May 2000 from a roofer's mistake. While putting shingles on the roof, the roofer dropped his torch, causing a fire that essentially destroyed the church.

The church was considered a "total loss," but the walls and some of the interior structure remained.

Initially members of the congregation debated whether to restore the church or just tear it down and build a new facility. Church members settled on preserving the walls and history of the church.

Clement said the roots of the church go back to 1873, and it previously was destroyed by fire in 1899. However, that church was rebuilt entirely with church labor in 1899. That fire "was kind of a blessing," Clement said.

The fire two years ago has allowed the church to remodel and add new features. Church members expanded the basement three-and-a-half to four times more than the original size prior to the fire, Clement said. A new second floor balcony was added to seat an additional 80 people.

Clement said church members are adding an elevator that can go from the basement to the top floor in this latest restoration project.

While some members of the congregation left and joined other churches when the fire occurred, the church still lists 500 members and hopes to add more when it re-opens its doors.

Shake - Continued from Page 1

recognizing the area as a historic district, renovating and expanding the George Washington Carver Center on State Street to house an African-American museum and to preserve the former Nancy's Tea Room and adjoining buildings on Third Street.

The association has applied for a $5,000 neighborhood city Snap Grant to erect 20 historic signs around the community, illustrating why the Shake Rag district is essential.

The committee is also asking the city to put up a state sign acknowledging the Shake Rag district.

"People need to be aware of what the community is," Banks said.

The committee also has taken steps to raise money for the restoration of their community by selling Kroger gift cards. Five percent of the profits will go toward the project.

The association also is pushing for the construction of a strip mall of black-owned businesses.

The committee held a forum last week to spread the word about the project and announce that South Central Bank and National City Bank are offering $350,000 in loans to renovate homes and businesses in the community, which is also called Midtown.

The meeting was an opportunity for the association to urge the people of Midtown to spruce up the historically black community.

"A neighborhood, once lively, is now torn down, in disrepair and vacant," Herndon said.

The name Shake Rag comes from an old tradition in the neighborhood that dates back to the era of segregation. During that time, a large majority of the women living in the neighborhood washed clothing for a living and hung the wet clothing on lines in front of their houses. When people would drive by the neighborhood and see this sight, they would say, "Look at those rags shaking."

Because of Jim Crow segregation laws, the blacks were not allowed to be part of white residents' communities, schools and certain businesses. But that was virtually unnoticed because blacks were close-knit and rarely ventured out.

The unity of the Shake Rag community started to break apart during the 60s and early '70s. Eventually, the city's urban planning association decided to tear down some of the old houses and buildings with the promise of rebuilding them. But the city urban planners never took steps to rebuild the structures.

High Street High School became a community center when the city schools were integrated.

After about three years, the city built Bowling Green Warren County Hospital (now the Medical Center at Bowling Green) in the space that was vacant in Shake Rag. The loss of houses and businesses forced some blacks to move out.

Time stands still in the Shake Rag district of Bowling Green. The New Era Planning Association hopes to replace those buildings with a new, modern strip mall. "We want the community to evolve," said New Era president Geraldine Banks.

But now African Americans and city leaders are working together to improve the district.

The city formed the New Era Planning Association by recruiting several African Americans with personal ties to the neighborhood and an understanding of what the community needs.

The committee is made up of Banks; Herndon; Maxine Ray, vice president; and Wathetta Buford, secretary.

"It's past time for us to rebuild our area," Buford said. "We're in this for the long haul."

Shake - Continued from Page 1

in Bowling Green. The church is in the process of renovation, after being gutted by fire three years ago. "What I do is very educational as well as fun," Bundy said of his Washington impersonation. "There aren't very many people who are actually in this type of performing art, so that makes it interesting to people."

State Street Baptist was just one stop on the Freedom Trek III journey, which began in Alabama, and moved through Tennessee and Kentucky and will conclude in Washington's native Virginia.

A small congregation came out to hear Bundy, an African-American actor, portray Washington.

Bundy's performance explained how the former slave founded the Tuskegee Institute, now a historically black college. He said Washington was one of the most influential black men of his time.

While Washington was born in Virginia, he was raised in Malden, W. Va., where he met his first wife, Bundy said. She later died and Washington would marry two more occasions.

Washington once ate dinner with President Theodore Roosevelt, but both men would deny the dinner later because of "the times," Bundy said.

As head of Tuskegee, "it was my mission to teach colored people," said Bundy as Washington.

That same mission of informing African Americans, lives on through Bundy, who was a theater major at the Hampton Institute, as well as a former member of a Shakespearean company.

"I really enjoy what I do because I inform people of their own history," the actor said.

"There's a lot of hard work involved. It takes me approximately eight months to learn the entire script for one character and prepare myself for the questions that people may have for that character, but I love what I do."

Bundy's journey as Washington will
"It gives people an opportunity to come downtown, relax and listen to the music while enjoying the beautiful summer days."

Cheryl Blaine  
Executive Director,  
Downtown Redevelopment Authority

J.C. Coker (left), Willie Smith and Mark Johnson, three of the Fender Bender band members, entertain the crowd at Fountain Square Park.

Richard Thomas said, “You get to see the talent.”

The group consisted of singers Teresa Ford and Willie Smith, guitarist Brad Masden, drummer Chris Hardesty, bassist Mark Johnson and keyboardist J.C. Coker. The band said it enjoys the open-air climate as much as its devoted fans.

“Outside events are a lot more fun because people are more receptive,” said the barefoot Ford, as she tried to cool down after her riveting performance.

The band’s show was heightened by the welcoming vibes coming from the audience.

“I like seeing people have a good time,” Masden said while packing his equipment after the energetic set.

The Concert in the Park series will be held on Wednesdays at noon this month and on Friday nights in July.

Blaine said she anticipates the concert will continue to be successful.

“...We hope the program will grow and expand during the 2002 season,” she said.
While some people are focused on enjoying the festivities, A. J. McAllister focuses on climbing a light pole with the help of his father.
Marcus rests after surgery

By Jarrod Williams
ButlerTraditional High School

At 7 feet 1 and 300 pounds, it's hard to be overlooked, even on a basketball court.

Ask Chris Marcus, Western's center and All-America hopeful. The surgery is over, and he's back.

Born in Chicago, raised in Charlotte, in his final year at Western, it was not difficult for Marcus to hide from national attention as he succeeded on the hardwood.

Marcus did not start playing basketball until his senior year of high school. Going from averaging 8 points at Olympic High School, to 17 points and 12 rebounds as a Hilltopper was quite a conversion by the massive man in the middle.

Such an evolution by Marcus has contributed to much of the success by the Hilltoppers in the Sun Belt Conference. Growing up in the Michael Jordan era, Marcus said he admired Jordan because of his accomplishments. With an obvious difference between M.J. and Marcus in height, Tim Duncan became a player that he looked up to more.

Early in the the 2001-02 season, Marcus' senior year and supposive last year, devastation struck for him and his team. Marcus suffered an ankle sprain which transformed into a stress fracture in his left foot. He continued to play on it but his limitations increased as the strength to endure the pain decreased.

He and his coaches, including head coach Dennis Felton, decided that he would sit out the season until he was back in mint condition.

Now the injury that prohibited his play last season is a thing of the past. Marcus visited two internationally renown foot and ankle specialist sin late May, Dr. Richard Perkel of Southern California and Dr. John Gould of Birmingham, Ala. He had surgery to officially conclude the medical hindrance Monday.

"The doctors were pleased with what they found and felt the procedure was a total success," Felton said. Although it is not official when Marcus will practice again, he is expected to be in the upcoming season's lineup.

Focused on basketball, the Sun Belt 2000-01 Player of the Year said he has established high expectations for the up coming season for himself and his team.

Because he will graduate in four years after having to sit out his first season for academic reasons, he was granted the opportunity to play one more year by the NCAA. On May 31 he announced that he would suit up in a Hilltopper uniform for the 2002-03 season instead of entering the NBA draft.

With Marcus back for his fourth and final year, Hilltopper basketball has a promising future. While his teammates look toward Marcus for leadership, he looks forward to perhaps a historic season at Western.

"You can't replace seven feet and 300 pounds," Hilltopper basketball forward David Boyden said.

Chris Marcus averaged 15.9 points and 8.9 rebounds for the Hilltoppers last season.

Two-sport athlete follows in family's footsteps

By Ashley Price
Bardstown High School

Sitting back relaxed in a tan office chair in the Western football office, Antone Towns looked a bit exhausted, following a tough run in the blistering Bowling Green heat.

Donned in a white tee-shirt with cut off sleeves and red gym shorts as sweat ran down his face, Towns dabbed perspiration in between questions about his life and experiences as a Western student-athlete.

The 6-2, 195-pound DuPont Manual High School graduate, is a two-sport athlete for the Hilltoppers.

Towns, 19, is a redshirt freshman on Western's football team and an outfielder for the school's baseball squad.

As a freshman outfielder, Towns racked up the numbers this season, including being named a collegiate All-American honorable mention.

The soft-spoken freshman busted out during the regular season smacking four home runs, 27 RBIs and batting .338 in 35 starts.

"At this point, I don't feel that I'm a leader yet," Towns said of his skills. "But, I'm definitely striving to be a leader."

Coming from an athletic background, Towns is traveling in his parents' footsteps at Western.

His father, Tony, garnered Ohio-Valley Conference honors as a defensive lineman, while his mother, Angie, held her own as an All-American long jumper for the Hilltoppers. She was inducted in the school's track Hall of Fame in 1987.

"I really look up to my parents because I see all the accomplishments that my parents have achieved, and it makes me want to do better," Towns said. Antone's younger sister also plays sports.

Attending Western to pursue sports and academics, wasn't too tough of a decision for Towns with his parents attending. The athlete had another reason too.

"I liked the academic advisor (Judith Gram) because she is all about helping the students," said Towns.

Many freshmen experience some adversity their first year of college.
Now the focus is "to uplift and inspire people..." to do good whether it's a smile on someone's face or helping a young woman with an interview," Haskins said.

Haskins' aspirations for the foundation reflect her personal beliefs.

"A smile and a good word are universal," Haskins said.

In 1998, Haskins, a native of Campbellsville, felt it was time to branch out and experience what the world had to offer. She resigned from the University of Dayton after four seasons.

The change gave Haskins time to write "I Got Game," a book published to help young basketball players advance in sports. Haskins, a former broadcast journalism major, later moved to New York and co-wrote and produced a play called "The Strong Black Woman."

"The play really opened my eyes," Haskins said. "It was a lot of work."

After the success of the play, Haskins attended the Scottsdale Culinary Institute in Arizona and received an associate degree in occupational studies.

To Haskins, culinary arts involves more than just eating a meal. She loves "being able to do something to put a smile on people's face."

Haskins believes that the decline of families sitting down and eating a meal together "has changed the fabric of families."

"Food is a source of love and family time," Haskins said.

Ann Fields, one of Haskins' college English teachers, inspired her to flourish in everything she did.

Despite all of Haskins' accomplishments, she has still faced criticism for everything she has worked for. "There are so many people that tell you you can't do it because it hasn't been done," Haskins said. "People don't bother me because they can't hurt me. (Negativity) matters not because I'm plugged into a source higher than they are."

In the future, Haskins would like to develop her foundation further and perhaps own her own restaurant. But in the meantime, she said her faith will lead her to where she is supposed to be.

"I take life as it comes," Haskins said. "I have learned to let the Lord orchestrate."

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**Aerobics instructor makes workout class cry for momma**

By Tavia Green

Christian County High School

Sweat dripped down their faces and backs. Heat engulfed their bodies. And rap, rhythm- and-blues and hip-hop music thumped in time with their hearts as students in a recent "Hip Aerobics" class performed jabs, kicks, squats, crunches and lifts.

The students were among about 40 participants in a class led by instructor Clay Smalley at the Preston Center at Western. Smalley teaches kick boxing and step aerobics on Tuesdays and Thursdays, pushing his students to their full tolerance level.

Although physically challenging, many class members said they like the hard workout Smalley requires each week.

"It gives me like an aerobic high and makes me feel good about myself," said Bernadette Cornet, who has been taking this class for a year.

Smalley also makes the class fun, several class members said.

When the class isn't out of breath from exercising, it's out of breath from laughing at his jokes. Last week, he told some students who looked like they were about to cry from fatigue that he'd call their momma for them if they wanted.

"If you can't run with the big dawgs, stay home with the puppies," he joked.

Smalley puts "a personal touch" on his class by letting students know he cares about their well being and making sure they exercise correctly. He allows everyone to work at their own pace and replenish their water supply throughout the session.

The funky rhythm of hip-hop music keeps the class energetic. Yet Smalley says he uses the music not only for the class to "feel the funk and flava" but to give a "flow to certain movements."

"I like it a lot," said Nichole Johnson, a second-time participant whose friend dragged her to the first class. "I really like the music."

Clay Smalley, who is 6-2 and 45 years old, is director of the Warren County Alternative School and has always put fitness as his top priority in life. He inherited his love of exercise from his aunt, who lived to be 108 and walked all the time.

Smalley has been teaching aerobics for 24 years.

"He makes it fun and motivates you," class member Tamika Miles said.

As a younger Smalley played football and basketball. He went on to earn a degree in recreation from Western, where he minored in art. He has been happily married for four years to Gina Smalley and has two dogs, Zoe and Titan.

Smalley's main advice for staying fit is to be consistent. Exercise four to five times a week for 25-60 minutes, he said.

Smalley said he feels that teaching people how to live a healthy life is his way to give back to the community.

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**Single gunshot wound kills former basketball player**

LE Staff Report

A former Western Kentucky University basketball player was found dead June 10 in his private campus room at Peace-Ford Tower.

Nathan Eisert, 20, was pronounced dead at 8:17 p.m. After failing to hear from his son for a few days, Glenn Eisert went to Nathan's room where he found his son with a single gunshot wound to the head.

Eisert, a walk-on sophomore who was dismissed from the team recently for academic reasons, was a graduate from Seneca High School in Louisville.

"I worked with Nathan two summers ago at McDonald's," said Brian Briggs, a journalism workshop participant. "He was a cool guy. He was quiet and easy to get along with and I liked him."
Fake hair causes real dispute during state track meet

By Camira Warfield

Louisville Central High

The controversy was enough to make Sharetz McHenry want to pull out her hair.

Maybe if she had gone that far, she could have competed for a state track title.

Alert the conspiracy theorists: they’re after your fake hair.

McHenry, a freshman from Owensboro High School, was recently in the middle of controversy at the 2002 Kentucky High School Track and Field State Meet after an official told her she could not run in the 4x200-meter relay with crochet braids in her hair.

The incident continued a series of odd problems with sports and style. Recent conflicts have included NBA players being fined for baggy shorts and tennis players not being allowed to wear beads in their hair.

In those instances, though, it did not cost an athlete a chance to compete.

McHenry did not get to run. Teammate Jasmine Sims replaced her in the relay.

When McHenry later questioned the state official on his call, he replied that she could not run with what he referred to as “artificial” hair.

In the crochet braiding technique, the hair is braided to the scalp while using a crocheting needle to loop the hair underneath the braid and tie the hair back through the loop.

Some other athletes also questioned the decision, but the official went on to say, “She didn’t grow it, so she can’t run with it.”

“I really thought he was just picking on me,” McHenry said, “because all the other girls had weaves, too.”

This, in fact, appeared to be true. But state officials had a difficult time distinguishing whether some runners had natural hair or were trying an innocuous hair scam.

Despite further objections from her coach, McHenry was still dismissed, but an athlete from an opposing team with a similar “artificial” hairstyle was permitted to run on the 4x200. She said she was given an ultimatum by the same official, who sarcastically said, “If that falls out, then you’re disqualified.”

An inconsistent domino effect began to take place.

North Hardin sophomore Natasha Smith was almost removed from the 4x800-meter relay when another unnamed official noticed her hair was not real.

Head Coach James Webb protested the call, but Smith was forced to remove her hair.

“I didn’t want to start anything because I wanted to run,” Smith said. “My mom said it was a racial thing.”

Morris Longacre, a former track coach for Male High School in Louisville who is now a clerk of the 2002 state meet, said female athletes who wear weave “has almost become a cliche.”

The rule book considers hair weaves as adornments.

Longacre admitted to having a discussion about hair weaves with all clerks and officials the night before preliminaries.

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association governs prep sports in this state, and the following portion is in Section VII of its rule book.

“The Crewe uniform shall comply with the requirements stated in the rules. Hats, caps, or other head coverings are not considered part of the uniform and shall not be worn. Jewelry other than a watch, is prohibited.”

Longacre also made it clear that these rules are not written by Kentucky, but by a national committee.

But nothing in the books mention hair weaves or what Longacre referred to as “adornments.”

All athletes are aware that they may not wear any type of jewelry, ribbons, or barrettes in their hair, but the part in the rule book that states hair weave is not permitted was either extremely unclear or overlooked by coaches.

And there was so much inconsistency in enforcing this rule.

“When we handle 2,500 athletes, these things are gonna get by you,” Longacre said.

The finger of dispute looked as if it was being pointed at the black female athletes.

One coach believed that if officials are checking for hair weaving, which dominates the hairstyles of black females, then they should also check for contact lenses, makeup and other false accessories.

“It is my first time here,” said McHenry. “I’m freshening her first state track meet. I was so excited. (Now) I’m just really mad.”

Tennessee Titans wide receiver Kevin Dyson signs autographs for workshoppers.

By Brian Briggs

DuPont Manual High School

For Tennessee Titans wide receiver Kevin Dyson, this is a contract year, one in which he hopes to negotiate a long-term pact for enough money to make him financially set for the rest of his life.

Dyson talked about his career, his personal life and the media as minority journalism workshoppers toured the Titans training camp last week.

That tour took workshoppers through the locker room, weight rooms, physical therapy facilities, outdoor practice field and indoor training bubble-domed field at Metro Center in Nashville.

The strobe lights popped again and again as students took pictures of the locker facilities of running back Eddie George.

But it was Dyson who stood in front of them, taking their questions and talking about his career.

"I think us athletes and entertainers are put on a platform," he said, and "I think teachers, lawyers and others should be just as important."\n
Dyson said he wants to help at-risk children once he retires from football. He plans to use his degrees in sociology and environmental criminology to achieve that goal.

He said he doesn’t mind the spotlight as an athlete. But he also said that he doesn’t understand why the media intrudes into athletes’ private lives.

“As long as you can live with the decision you made to put someone’s private life in the media, then you have nothing to worry about,” he said.

Dyson said he is constantly compared to Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Randy Moss, and the same thing is happening again now that his younger brother Andre, also is playing with the Titans.

“I always feel like I am in a box or something,” he said.

Many of the Titans give a lot of their time and money to charities in Nashville.

Instead, Dyson, a native of Utah, said he “does his share of giving back to the community” in his home state.

“I don’t do it to get praised; for me it’s just in my heart.”

After talking to the students, he spent 15 minutes signing copies of the Titans media guide given to the students by Titans public relations representative William Bryant.

While the workshoppers said they enjoyed meeting Dyson, they also had a chance to exchange ideas with Tennessee football writer Jeff Legwold.

Football players are the most fascinating people around,” Legwold said, discussing why he likes to cover his beat.

The idea is to “do whatever to get the story right, even if it means making 75 telephone calls,” he said.

After Legwold, it was off to tour of the facilities including the locker room and the weight room where workshoppers learned that defensive end Jeff Krouse has a vertical leap of 40 inches, runs the 40-yard dash in 4.4 seconds and has a hand span of 12 inches.

Townsend juggles sports, academics

Townsend continued from page 12

college, but so far, Antone has avoided criticism.

“I haven’t experienced criticism yet, but if I do, I would turn it into something positive and try to improve it.”

Townes said he doesn’t let pressure get to him on the playing field.

“It’s all about doing your best and striving to do your best,” he said.

Even though Townsend played two sports, he still found time this year to maintain a 2.2 GPA.

The athlete, who plans to major in business management, described himself as being a person who tries to achieve his goals and be happy.

When he graduates from Western, Townsend said he probably will work for his father’s construction company, and one day open his own business.
Samoa Samaritan: Fanoga helps players

By Tony Rawlings
Lafayette High School

Western football coach Jack Harbough laughed at the memo-
ry. Here was his defensive line coach, Mike Fanoga, wearing
stripes to practice in November.

Apparently, Fanoga has become immune to the cold weather, which would seem like a
hard adjustment considering he is from American Samoa.

Fanoga has always survived on a hard-working, no nonsense
approach. Harbough knew he
was getting a good coach when he hired Fanoga two years ago to
lead the Hilltoppers defensive line.

It turns out that he has also
become an important mentor for three players.

Fanoga brought a group of
students from Samoa to—
defensive back T.J. Mau'a,
linebacker Kris Mau and
offensive lineman Tyrone
Marcro, all sophomores-to-be
— to attend and play football
for the Hilltoppers.

Fanoga was instrumental in
their adjustment to the lifestyle,
classes and campus of Western.
"It's all about opportunity . . .
helping them get an education."
he said.

Fanoga made sure that the
new students were comfortable
with their new surroundings.

This is not the first time,
either.

"I've done this at every
school I've worked at," he said.

At the beginning of the year,

Fanoga walked the three play-
ers to class. He tutored them to
make sure that they understood
their home work. He welcomed
them into his house, and
attended church services with
them, all the little things.

"He's good," Harbough said.

Harbough hired Fanoga away
from the University of Kentucky, where he had worked from 1996-1999.

This past season, Fanoga's
coaching helped the Hilltoppers
to a playoff berth with an 8-4
record.

In today's sports-consumed
world, so many coaches are
worried about 10-win seasons and
playoff bids and moving to a
better job.

In this world, Fanoga is rare
and refreshing.

"That's amazing to me,"
Western defensive back
Antwon Pinkston said, "that he
cares not only about playing football, but he also cares about
his players being able to make the
grades."

Brewer shares dream

By Brian Briggs
DuPont Manual High School

From writing poetry that
only his former eighth-grade
sweethearts could appreciate
to penning his own columns
for The Orlando Sentinel, 24-
year-old Jerry Brewer has
come a long way in an unusually
short time.

Journalism has taken
Brewer all over the country,
from internships at the
Lexington Herald-Leader and
the New York Times to his
current job as a sports writer
for the Orlando Sentinel. He
spent a year writing for the
prestigious Philadelphia Inquirer.

But during a speech to
students at Western's annual
Minority Journalism Work-
shop, Brewer revealed that
journalism wasn't his first
career choice.

At a young age, Brewer
wanted to become president of
the United States, he said. But
he was getting positive feedback
on his writing from his teen
sweethearts and New York
Times sports writer Thomas
George. Brewer grew passionate
about journalism and decided to pursue it as a
career.

Throughout his career,
Brewer has received "tons" of
advice and tips from veteran
journalists, such as George,
and he wants to do the same
for young, aspiring journalists
like the workshop.

I'll be back every year to
help," said Brewer, a graduate
of the workshop who earned a
journalism degree from
Western two years ago. "I'm a
firm believer in giving back."

Dressed in a black, two-but-
ton, short-sleeve polo shirt and
dark green dress slacks,
Brewer described how to write
a newspaper article.

Brewer said journalists
only write for the reader but
for themselves as well, adding
that there are two types of sto-
ries: Those that are boring and
those that interest you.

When writing an article, it's
important to involve the read-
er and to touch base with the
right sources, Brewer said. He
described three types of peo-
pie to call: Those who are
directly related to the story;
those who are indirectly relat-
ed; and those who are hidden
in the bushes, meaning those
sources one might not normal-
ly think of to call.

Brewer told the workshop-
ners to try to paint an image,
similar to a dream, in readers'

Brewer said that he's afraido
wed right away, but "I want to
marry by 30, so I have about
six years left."

When asked how his per-
sonal persona differs from his
professional one, Brewer said
"the writer is more bombas-
tic."

Brewer said he's more laid
back and conservative outside
the newsroom than in.

It's an approach that he'll
continue to share with many
future workshopers. He plans
to return next year to aid the
journalism professors' who
helped to shape him into the
writer he is today.

"I'm a firm believer in giv-
ing back to those who have
helped to get you where you
are today," he said.
**Workshoppers get wake-up call for careers**

Kandace Sebastian
Hum-Fogg Academic High School

“Wake Up!” Toni Mitchell said as she walked around the room getting the attention of the 2002 Minority Journalism Workshop participants on the first day of the workshop.

Mitchell, a Gallatin News Examiner reporter, gave the group its first pep talk—setting the tone for the next 10 days ahead.

She spoke of the dire necessity for African American journalists in the media today. The same perspectives of non-minorities have failed to express the voices that make up a large majority of America, she explained.

The days these 21 minority students spent learning about journalism was not a leisure break away from their homes.

Instead, these teenagers got a firsthand look at the importance of minority journalists and how their interest can spark a variety of perspectives.

The workshop, held June 9-20, was packed with field trips, professional speakers and hands-on experience.

The students agreed that the minority workshop is an excellent opportunity for minority youth. Sponsored by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc., and Western Kentucky University, the first workshop at Western was held in 1981.

The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, a non-profit organization, decides which programs to allocate funds. Dow Jones, creator of the renowned Wall Street Journal, has provided monetary support to journalism workshops around the country since 1968.

“Western Kentucky has an exceptional program, with quality students who produce a newspaper that is well-written and well-reporter,” said Linda Waller, deputy director and grant program of Dow Jones Newspaper.

Waller continues to recommend Western Kentucky University’s workshop program each year for financial grants because of its success.

Students are taught by professional journalism instructors, who take time away from their busy schedules to help.

In Highland, the director of the minority workshop and a Western journalism professor, has worked with the program for about 18 years. He has a passion for helping others become familiar with this challenging field.

“When you put the best and the brightest from three states (Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee) in the same room together, something great is going to happen... (the workshop) is one of the most light events in my life. After the first year, I was hooked. I’ve never had a bad experience,” Highland said.

The students also worked with high quality cameras—Canon EOS D30 digital camera kits loaned by Canon USA, to help them learn the functions of photography.

Gary Hailson, a St. Louis Post Dispatch assistant director of photography, has been a part of the program for 20 years. He instructs the students on the professional use of the cameras.

“We don’t have enough of us in this field,” Hailson said, as he talked about how “color” is needed in the media. “It’s important that black people get out there and become better newspaper readers to see how newspapers really work. But most importantly, more of us need to have management positions in this field because that’s where the real changes happen.”

Educational field trips are another facet of the 12-day experience. The students visited a variety of newspaper offices, including the Louisville Courier-Journal, the Daily News and The Tennessean.

The group also visited WDBK-TV studios, the Corvette Assembly Plant and the Tennessee Titans training headquarters in Nashville.

Also, more than 10 professional minority journalists had open discussions with the group about their own career experiences.

Merv Aubespine, associate editor for development of The Courier-Journal, makes himself available every year to encourage minority students interested in journalism. This year, Aubespine spoke to the students about the importance of journalism, job opportunities and life as a reporter.

From articles covering music reviews to more hard-hitting stories like the suicide of a Western basketball player, the participants cover stories that affect Western and the Bowling Green community.

The students all agreed they had a good experience being a part of this year’s workshop. They said the program has helped them get a feel of living on a college campus, while meeting new people.

The stories and photographs produced by the students are placed in the Minority produced newspaper paper, the Limited Edition, published at the end of the workshop.

“It was a good opportunity for young minorities to be exposed to journalism,” said 17-year-old workshop Ashlee Clark, a Male High School senior.

“We’re learning things that we’ll need later in our lives.”

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**Profiles**

**Tammy Belcher**

By Michelle Long
Hopkinsville High School

“I want to become a psychologist and if that doesn’t work, I’ll fall back on journalism.” Those are the words of a determined young lady named Tammy Belcher, a native of Gallatin, Tenn.

Although Belcher may look shy, once you get to know her you’ll soon discover there’s more behind her innocent smile. This is a talented young lady who would love to go the extra mile to help anyone.

“I love people!” said Tammy, laughing. “I think it is funny to see why people act the way they do. I get into people’s heads just for fun.”

Tammy, who has a brother and a sister named Tony and Tina, insists the love for her aunt helped shape her future career.

“My Aunt Melissa is my inspiration,” said Tammy with a calm voice. “She died awhile ago, but she has always been my inspiration.” Her aunt would go out of her way for anyone at any time, said the would-be psychologist.

Tammy loves working, talking and being around people. The Gallatin High School student, excited about her upcoming senior year, hopes this year will be easy.

The West Eastland Church of Christ youth staff member said she hopes to find a good college. INROADS, a program targeting minority high school students by assisting them with improving their college entrance exams, is that beacon of light.

Belcher, who loves to write poems and short stories, also enjoys watching a good cartoon or two. The teenager was quick to note, however, she has no interest in reading. Instead, she’d rather spend her time watching TV, playing on the computer, sleeping and when she gets a chance, crunching down on a good dill pickle.

**Brian Briggs**

By Brittany Lacy
Jackson Central Merry High School

The first thing that comes to mind when meeting 17-year-old Brian Briggs is his laid back, yet assertive attitude.

Or with his platinum chains, baseball caps, and oversized football jerseys, one could easily mistake him for a rapper.

That’s just fine with this rising senior at DuPont High School in Louisville, considering rap is his favorite music. In fact, it’s the only type he listens to.

“Rap is the barbecue sauce of it all,” said Briggs in a matter of fact. “But it’s deep stuff.”

Rap is far from Briggs’ only passion. Playing basketball and talking on the phone are also high on his agenda, as well as spending time with his family, especially his four-year-old baby brother Michael. He has another brother named Dee, 13.

Don’t be fooled, though, by the jerseys and chains. Beyond them is a very powerful and strong voice exploding with words of wisdom.

“We have a lot of talents,” said the very passionate Briggs, referring to minorities. “But sometimes we use them in negative ways, but if we could reverse those ways, we could really turn heads.”

Briggs himself is determined to turn heads and erase stereotypes—by using the power of the pen.

After graduating high school, he will head to Western Kentucky University or the University of Indiana.

“I plan to major in either journalism or broadcasting,” he said. “I also plan to become an intern at a newspaper.”

This highly ambitious teen also wants to one day become a sports editor of a newspaper. He said in about 10 years, he pictures himself working as a sports writer for USA Today.

He feels that through his work as a writer, he will offer the community a
voice and diverse perspective, and summed up his philosophy simply by saying, "You are as good as your last story."

**Candice Byrd**
By Kayla Roary
Centennial High School

Candice Byrd embraces the world with her sense of independence by being born on July 5, 1984, in Lexington. She began her childhood as a lively and inspirational individual with high hopes and dreams of a successful future.

Byrd attended Bryan Station High School where she participated in the tennis team and Senior Executive Council. She persevered in academic achievements as well, such as advanced placement classes and studying foreign languages. Adding to her fluent English, Byrd also mastered Spanish, French, and Italian, and she became involved with her school's Spanish Club. Byrd's interest in foreign languages allows her the opportunity to communicate with all types of people, accomplishing her wish to make a "lasting impact" on people she encounters.

Another part of Byrd's dream is voicing her thoughts and opinions with a pen or a camera. Writing has existed throughout her life.

Since Byrd loves to write, she is interning with a newspaper in her hometown working to perfect her writing skills.

When the summer is over, Byrd will enter college at Western Kentucky University to pursue a major in photojournalism and a minor in Spanish. Once these goals have been accomplished, Byrd said she will go wherever God leads her.

**Ashlea Caldwell**
By Ashlee Caldwell
Centennial High School

Ashlea Caldwell is one of the things that makes her most unique because she "is not quiet once she is singing." She began her wish to have her hair braided up into a bun, a bright-orange t-shirt and coordinating silver chains dangling from her wrists. Caldwell does not fit the stereotypical characteristics of an African American woman. Being an African-American female, Caldwell knows that it will be hard to achieve her dream in a career field dominated by white males. Caldwell draws inspiration from her role model, Dr. Mae C. Jemison, the first African-American woman in space. "We were in a struggle, so I can struggle, too," Caldwell said.

Even though Caldwell predicts that obstacles may get in the way of her career goals, she has already begun to overcome hurdles in her personal life. This past year Caldwell was unable to play on her school's varsity basketball team due to player-coach conflict. "I know of girls that I went to middle school with and when I got into high school, they now have babies. When I look back on the various television shows that I have seen, it allowed me to know that I was very naive about what was really going on with teens in our generation," Clark said.

Caldwell's dream is to "get to know people, and I want to be someone's voice and diverse perspective, and summed up his philosophy simply by saying, "You are as good as your last story."

**Robert Davis**
By Camina Warfield
Louisville Central High School

Robert Davis may have a simple nickname but he's not a simple guy. Davis, a 17-year-old Capricorn raised in Gallatin, Tenn., can cook up a mean plate of off-beat comedy served with a side dish of blunt punch lines and feed it to you with quick wit!

Situated with his back firmly pressed against the couch and a toothpick dangling from his lip, Davis performs one of his typical antics and says, "you have nice thighs."

"I like to see people's reactions," Davis later admits with a sly grin.

It's not entirely surprising that Davis wants to go out and conquer the world that lies ahead, a world that originally took him from Warren County, Ky., to Tennessee when he was adopted at age two.

"I want to be an entertainer," he states seriously.

Not just any entertainer, Davis wants to do it all. "I want to do everything singing, rapping, dancing. I want to be the black, male JLo," he explained.

It's not all fun and games with Davis, who also runs track at Gallatin High School and is a karate advanced-red belt. He sacrificed a chance to obtain a black belt so that he could attend a mentoring program, which assists minority students with computer skills and preparation for future standardized testing.

With strong aspirations of becoming a rapper/singer, Davis says that when he launches his career he won't be commuting from school to the same level," she explained but that bias has not kept her from doing well.

Karate started out as a way to occupy her time, Davis said, but it turned into a goal. She said she finds great joy in teaching 4-6-year-old karate students. She jokingly refers to her class as her "Ninja Turtles."

In addition to karate, Davis likes to read and sing. One of her secret ambitions is to join the school choir. She also enjoys playing and watching sports.

Her relationship with God is one of the most important things to her. "Always trust God and pray," she said. Her father, a minister, and other members of her family help keep her grounded and encourage her from a religious standpoint.

She said she loves both her mother and her brother, Robert, 17, although he sometimes isn't the easiest person to get along with.

When she graduates from high school, Davis said she wants to be a lawyer. She is considering attending Western Kentucky University for a bachelor's degree in journalism and Vanderbilt University for her law degree.

**Ancharlene Davis**
By Tavia Green
Christian County High School

For 15-year-old Ancharlene Davis one of her pet peeves is people who focus on "image alone." "You have to look deeper," said Davis, who admits to being shy and who on first appearance seems quiet. But being exposed to a "dose" of her personality and a "teaspoon of laughter" seems to bring out the true Ancharlene (pronounced An Sha-Lee).

"I am not quiet once I get to know someone," the Gallatin (Tenn.) High School junior said, smiling. As a matter of fact, she said, her strongest quality is the ability to never give up.

She is mentally tough, but she has demonstrated she is also physically tough by competing against boys in karate.

She is a first degree black belt and next year plans to be a second degree black belt. "Many people don't believe boys can get to this level," she explained but that bias has not kept her from doing well. Karate started out as a way to occupy her time, Davis said, but it turned into a goal. She said she finds great joy in teaching 4-6-year-old karate students. She jokingly refers to her class as her "Ninja Turtles."

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When she graduates from high school, Davis said she wants to be a lawyer. She is considering attending Western Kentucky University for a bachelor's degree in journalism and Vanderbilt University for her law degree.
from a track titled Renegade that best describes his "abnormal personality"—"Jay-Z explains, 'I came to a fork in the road and went straight.' "

"That's me!" Davis sums up.

**Tavia Green**

By Charlene Davis

*Gallatin High School*

Tavia Green, a 16-year-old senior at Christian County High School in Hopkinsville, At 4 feet 10, Green can eat at a kids' price on the buffet lines. But she said despite the short jokes, she achieves the high goals she has set for herself. This 16-year-old said her energy and determination are reflected in her participation in extracurricular activities. She is involved in Advanced Placement classes, Beta Club, Speech Team and Upward Bound. Upward Bound is a summer program that allows students to explore colleges and assist them with schoolwork. One of Green's major aspirations is to be an honor graduate.

Green is a reporter and a photographer on her high school yearbook staff. She said her job is challenging because she must be responsible in order to cover all areas of the paper.

"It is not that bad because I get to interact with a lot of people," Green said.

While she is still deciding on a college, Green is considering a journalism major.

"I love to write. Writing makes me happy. It's my outlet," Green said.

Green said her mother thinks one of Green's best traits is the fact that she observes and considers her topics.

"Thinking is the source of all my actions. It's like my alternative to writing," Green said.

In addition to her determination, Green says she has very strong morals and beliefs. She carries the motto that you can't do anything without God in your life "or you can't truly be happy." Green says people should make a positive product of their lives. "I think it's sad that teenagers take a negative advantage of life and do things like drink and smoke," she explained.

Green, a Jehovah's Witness, firmly believes you should love people despite their imperfections.

Green is very close to her family. She lives with her mother, her sister Patasha, and her brother Marcus. These three people play very important roles within her life. "They bring out the best in me," she said.

In Green is also quite a creative artist. She was one of the co-designers of the workshop t-shirts.

**Brittany Johnson**

By Patrice Releford

*Metro High School*

Brittany Johnson, a 17-year-old senior at Warren Central High School, is determined not to be another statistic. The aspiring journalist, musician and child psychologist wants to graduate from college and avoid becoming a single parent. She also wants to break a vicious cycle in her family.

That cycle involves earning a college degree.

To that end, Johnson stays involved in several activities, including cheerleading, writing and sports.

"I sing, I run track. I'm a cheerleader, I take tap and ballet lessons," she said. Also, "I plan to obtain my doctorate degree in criminal psychology, and I plan to be a freelance journalist," Johnson said writing is an integral part of her life. She pens her own poetry and has had some of her work published in "American Poets," an anthology for young poets.

After graduating from high school, Johnson plans to study journalism and other styles of writing at New York University.

"I was attracted to journalism because I enjoy being able to express myself," she said.

Another creative outlet is songwriting and playing the piano. But Johnson said she isn't the next Alicia Keys, a five-time award-winning singer and songwriter.

"I play the piano a little, and I contribute to the music with my uncle at his studio," she said.

Keys and Ashanti, another acclaimed songstress, are two of Johnson's favorite singers, and Johnson has no reservations about admitting that Lil' Kim and Foxy Brown, both of whom are known for their raunchiness, are her favorite rappers.

Johnson doesn't necessarily like Lil' Kim's raunchiness, but she admires that artist's fear to be herself.

"She keeps doing her thing despite what people say about her," Johnson said.

Johnson hopes to emulate that trait in her own life and not be pressured by other people.

**Alfonso Kelly**

By Kendace Sebastian

*Hume-Fogg Academic High School*

A wise individual once said that the eyes are the window to the soul. Looking through the eyes of a 16-year-old high school junior Alfonso Kelly, one cannot help but see a strong-willed, individual striving for success.

Born Sept. 22, 1984, Kelly lives with his dad and step-mom in Radclift. He is an honor student at North Hardin High School.

That's not the only home he has known, though. Kelly has lived in three states, attended 10 schools and lived in Germany for three years. Saying goodbye to new-found friends has been an on-going process for Kelly because his father is in the army.

"When you're the new person, people always bring up stereotypes about you," he said. "I like to get to know a person before I put a label on them."

Kelly said he went from a school known for mischievous kids to a school of preps and know-it-alls. "The people at my school are spoiled," Kelly said.

"They don't appreciate much. I gotta pay for my own bills."

For the past six months, Kelly has worked at Arby's. Through working and attaining money through the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship program, Kelly knows the importance of depending on his talents to acquire money for college.

"Eyes intent on his listener and head naturally poised, Kelly expressed his need to succeed and be the best he can be. Education is especially important to him. "I'm going to be the first Kelly to go to college."

Kelly said he's getting opportunities that his family never had. An A/B honor roll student with a 3.7 GPA and a love for rock and field, Kelly knows he has what it takes to make his family proud of his achievements.

Family has had a big influence on Kelly. He said his parents' divorce when he was five years old increased his determination to succeed. "I admire my parents. They encourage me to always do the right thing. And be the best I can be."

Kelly's mother lives in Missouri where he visits her twice a year.

Kelly said he is fortunate to have people who help and provide for him. "Without my family, I wouldn't be here. It all starts with your ancestry and family. People should know where they came from and not be ashamed of it."

"His attitude about family influences how he plans for the future. In 10 years, Kelly sees himself with a good career and with someone special. Since his parents are divorced, Kelly's views on relationships are strong. "I want to be married and be with them forever."

Good standardized scores, honor level classes and A/B grades aren't Kelly's most important attributes.

People truly appreciate his need to help others through treating everyone with kindness. With both hands firmly placed in his lap, eyes intent through his glasses, Kelly said, "The girls probably think I'm sweet. You'll never see me scream at somebody or call them a name. I try to be nice."

His other interests include sports— which include two cats named Patches and Willard, and two Dachshunds—and bike riding with his friends.

Kelly's participation in the 2002 Minority Journalism Workshop enables him to learn about journalism, but he also has an interest in becoming an accountant and owning a business.

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ashes of a 26-year-old brother who doesn’t, but it’s a Price who lays with her mother and is a member of her school’s party and drink, so never.

Norther Harding’s driveway when someone By Jol tien than her house, and backwords until Street her family, especially her mom, Rosalyn Leavell, and her sister, Thomasa Leavell.

But one of those loves got her into some trouble.

“I was leaving my best guy friend’s house, and I was backing out of the driveway when someone called me on my cell phone,” Long said. “I answered the phone and my car continued to roll backwards until I hit my friend’s parked car.”

Long ended up having to pay more than $1,000 to repair both cars. “I have never answered my phone while backing up again,” she said.

ASHLEY PRICE
By Jonathan Tucker
North Hardin High School

A leader among her peers.

“The minorities don’t take things seriously,” Price said. “All they do is party and drink, so I must set the example.” And that she does.

She maintains a 3.5 grade point average, is on the cheerleading squad and is a member of her school’s STRIDE club, a group that focuses on mentoring those less fortunate.

Price also works at Wendy’s. “I hate it, but it’s a job,” Price said.

Growing up in a single parent home has not hindered Price and her goals.

“It’s only made me stronger, and made me want to work harder,” said Price, who stays with her mother and 22-year-old brother Adrian. Price also has a 26-year-old brother who doesn’t live with the family.

“But I want to be there for him,” Price said. “I want a husband and two kids.”

Price’s mother is her role model.

“She raised my brothers and me well, and she has a great life despite being a single parent,” Price said.

Price’s mother has also instilled many beliefs upon her.

“She has told me to not let anybody get me down,” Price said. That’s why she said she ignores negative people and “shakes them off.”

Price’s strong desire to help others will probably lead her into medicine as a career.

“I like helping people when they need it,” she said. Price plans to attend Tennessee State University.

“I need to get out of Kentucky,” Price said smiling. Sports writing is also a field she is interested in. “I like all sports.”

Price’s attitude has also allowed her to play a major role in the success of her struggling cheerleading team. Her motivation throughout the season helped her squad win a major cheerleading competition.

“I was happy to see us come together, and get something accomplished,” Price said. “I had to step up and motivate the squad and build them up since no one else would.”

From Price’s perspective, it all comes down to will and ambition.

“God says that you should love thy neighbor as thyself. And if you can’t love yourself then how can you love anyone else? As for me, I love myself so people need to let me be,” she said.

TONY LEE RAWLINGS JR
By Brittnay Johnson
Warren Central High School

While Tony Lee Rawlings, Jr. is only 15 years old, he’s the kind of guy who likes to “have my ducks in a row.”

Rawlings has a 3.75+ grade point average as a sophomore at Lexington Lafayette High School and is a tailback on the school’s football team. He also plays basketball, runs track, sings in the chorus and is on the speech team.

“I really have time for nothing else,” Rawlings said.

Rawlings would like to play football after high school, but he has not picked a university yet. “I don’t have a set school,” he said. “I’m willing to go wherever someone has an interest in me.”

Rawlings has been writing since he was 13, and one of the things he likes to write is poetry.

His mother never really encouraged him to write, but one thought has crossed his mind.

“Even though you are athletic now, you can’t always fall back on sports,” he said. It was that thought that brought him to writing.

Rawlings dream is to work for ESPN. “If I can work by doing something I love and make money, why not?” Rawlings said.

As a child he said he talked early at 18 months and walked shortly thereafter. This may have made him more mature than others throughout his life.

That’s why, he said, “In 10 years I see myself in a steady relationship and well rounded.”

PATRICE RELERFORD
By Tony Lee Rawlings Jr.
Lafayette High School

Patrice Rlerford is determined and will not stop until she accomplishes her goals. Her main goal is to become a feature writer. Of this she says, “I’m not at that point yet, but I’m well on my way.”

As far as writing goes, she wants to bring a different view to journalism. “I want to use my words to speak to and uplift our people, especially young women, to let them know that you have to think for yourself, and do what’s best for you. Because even though you like the people you hang out with, the only person you sleep with at night is you!”

The minority viewpoint is often not represented in the news coverage, Rlerford said. She wants to speak for the voices that need to be heard.

She is an anointed 18-Deposit to be 19-year-old freshman at the University of Missouri-Columbia. “I’m glad high school is over!” she said, explaining that the people in the school weren’t that great.

“All they were about was work; they didn’t really have a social life because they were so busy working or studying.” Although she likes to have fun, she knows her priorities.

“Next year I won’t be binge drinking!” she says of partying in college. Patrice is very dedicated to her education and to her life.

On life, she says, “You have to be a leader, because if you let people lead you, nine chances out of ten you’ll end up where they do.” This philosophy could explain why reading is her favorite hobby, because instead of following the lead of countless other teenagers and watching television, Rlerford decides to do something more constructive with her time by reading.

“I read anything that’s good,” she says of her hobby. She likes black authors, but she’s not limited to them. Recently she’s been reading a lot of Anne Rice.

Maybe one day soon we might be reading Rlerford’s stories.

KANDACE SEBASTIAN
By Alfonzo Kelly
North Hardin High School

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Kandace Sebastian of Nashville graduated from Hume-Fogg Academic High School in June with a goal in mind: To be successful. Sebastian, 18, maintained a nearly perfect grade-point average of 3.7 for her entire high school career at Hume-Fogg, but she doesn’t want her achievements to end there.

Ten years from now, I want to be working for a law firm. I want to be making a nice, steady, salary,” she said.

Sebastian plans to achieve that goal by using the same formula that brought her success in high school: Studying...
hard and making the right choices.

"Life happens when you are making plans and the consequences reflect the choices that you have made," she said.

When Sebastian was young, her mother made her study while other children were playing outside. Thanks to Sebastian's hard work, she was admitted to a high school preparatory school and Hume-Fogg, a college preparatory school. Sebastian had to take a mandatory test called the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program in grades 1-9 to determine her skill level.

She was blessed God for her many accomplishments. Though Sebastian studies a lot, she also has a social life. She is very friendly. She likes to meet new people, go to new places and experience different things.

Sebastian is also full of energy. She likes to explore many topics, such as school, religion and world issues. She is open to different opinions, ideas and races.

That's one of the reasons Sebastian plans to major in print journalism when she enters Western this fall. She said she wants to be a journalist so she can project her voice as a young African-American female.

She's getting practice this summer at Western's 11-day Minority Journalism Workshop in Bowling Green.

Sebastian said she wants to pursue a career in law after studying journalism. "Whatever I do, I want to be able to do it to the best of my ability," she said. "When I'm a success one day, I want to show the people that I said I'd never make it otherwise.

**Jonathan Tucker**

By Ashley Price

Bardstown High School

Workshippers know him as ambitious, talkative and very positive, but Jonathan Tucker is quick and possibly the only male in the program this year who can do a back handspring.

The 16-year-old Radcliff junior plays basketball, runs track and is vice president of the student body at North Hardin High School, but he regularly demonstrates his gymnastics skills as a cheerleader.

"I started to cheer about two years ago, but I have been tumbbling for a long time. Even though I cheer, track is my pride and joy," Tucker explained. "I really like to run the 4X4, 400 and the 800, but outside of school, I like to hang with my friends," he said.

Tucker lives in Radcliff with his mother, a school counselor, his father, a school teacher and a basketball and track coach, and two brothers, 11 and 20. Jonathan also is a member of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. "My parents have been real role models in my life, and they have raised our family very well," Tucker said.

One decision Tucker will be making in the next year will be where to attend college.

He said he hopes to attend the University of North Carolina, be a cheerleader and major in broadcasting. He eventually would like to have his own talk show.

If UNC doesn't work out, he said he will probably attend the University of Louisville or the University of Kentucky and cheer.

Much of Tucker's motivation comes from his first black teacher in college placement English.

"She challenged me and inspired me to work harder because the minorities of today are already placed under stereotypes and I don't want that labeling," Tucker said.

Tucker said the events of Sept. 11 made him appreciate life and people a lot more.

"It makes me live each day to the fullest because tomorrow is not promised to you, and you live only once," he said.

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Sebastian said she wants to pursue a career in law after studying journalism. "Whatever I do, I want to be able to do it to the best of my ability," she said. "When I'm a success one day, I want to show the people that I said I'd never make it otherwise.

**Harold Tucker**

By Jerrod Williams

Butler Traditional High School

A native of Elizabethtown, Harold Tucker, 16, aspires to follow his dreams of being a pediatrician, but he's not ruling out a career in journalism.

In his first two years at North Hardin High School he has obtained a number of accolades as a result of hard work and dedication. Now a junior, he is proud to say that he has been noticed as a National Honor Roll student, with As and Bs being prevalent over the course of the year. Tucker is also a member of Students Against Driving and Octagon, a Elizabethtown-based community service organization.

The University of Kentucky is his current school of choice. A lifetime Wildcat basketball fan, because he bleeds Kentucky blue, he said he couldn't pass the opportunity of being where all the madness is.

Tucker is a modern day family man. With an older and younger sister, he has certain responsibilities at home that his mother and father require from him that the ladies can't do. Cutting grass, taking out the trash and dusting when needed are some of his household chores.

In Tucker's spare time he likes to be a typical teenager, listening to music and watching TV. His personal favorites are hip hop and R&B. Cozy. Tucker raps and Eminem tops his list of artists he hears frequently from his boom box in the corner of his room. Tucker's favorite TV show is "106 and Park" and music programs that showcase hip hop's finest on cable's BET.

Although Tucker takes an obvious interest in music, mostly hip hop, don't let the loud music fool you. Tucker's most loved characteristic of his hometown is indeed the atmosphere. It's usually quiet there.

**Camira Warfield**

By Robert Davis

Gallatin High School

She's noisy and adaptable, but those qualities are important for Camira Warfield, who wants to be someone like the next Diane Sawyer.

Warfield, an 18-year-old graduate of Central High School in Louisville, has enrolled as a freshman at Western Kentucky University in broadcast news and public affairs.

Warfield says one thing that sets her apart from everyone else, is her ability to change herself to fit her surroundings. "I'm adaptable," she said.

Warfield also loves to talk and already has a knack for journalism. "I'd rather hear any conversation. I'm noisy," she explained.

Not only does she love talking and journalism, she also enjoys sports. She ran track throughout her high school career and she and her track coach, "Momma Page," are "like mother and daughter.

Their relationship means a lot to Warfield. When Warfield graduated, she and Page swapped rings. Warfield gave Page her class ring and Page gave Warfield a sapphire ring as a symbol of their friendship.

But some aspects of Warfield's life have not been all that pleasant.

She lives with her mother, stepfather and 15-year-old sister. Her biological father left her and her mother when she was two years old and her stepfather has been a father to her for most of her life.

When her biological father showed up at her high school graduation, it was a strange moment for Warfield. "I hadn't seen his man in five years," she said.

Now that high school is behind her, Warfield said she is ready to move on and prepare for her career.

**Jerrod DeVance Williams**

By Harold Tucker

North Hardin High School

Living in Louisville all his life, 17-year-old Jerrod DeVance Williams, soon to be a senior at Butler Traditional High School, can't wait to become a journalist.

To make his dream of becoming a journalist come true, Williams faces a tough decision - choosing which college to attend. Under consideration are Western Kentucky University, Indiana University, University of Kentucky or University of Missouri.

"I kinda like school. I am getting my education and I get to hang out with my friends," Williams said.

And when he does go off to college, "It won't be that hard to leave my family," he said. But I think that when it comes down to it, it will be really hard to leave behind his mom, his three older sisters, one of whom is his twin who was born just five minutes ahead of him, his little brother who bothers him sometimes, and last but not least his fish.

But Williams' life is not all about school. He likes to have a little fun, too. He enjoys playing basketball with his friends, going out to the clubs, hanging out with all of his friends, just taking it easy and listening to some rap or R&B music. But out of all these things he said his favorite is "hanging with my peeps."

While he likes having fun and going to school, one of the most important things in his life is God. "He should be first in your life," he said. Another is his church, Forest Tabernacle Baptist Church, which he has attended since age of five.

On life he says, "Whatever you want in life you can get it if you try." His dreams are to support a beautiful wife, have three healthy children and also keep God first.

Another goal in his life is to make as much money as he can as a journalist so he can move up north. "But I will always come back for Derby," he said.

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