Officials face court order to equalize state’s education

By ERICA BERRY
Jackson Northside

State officials are being forced to devise a plan to improve education in all Kentucky elementary and secondary schools by providing equal funding.
The Franklin Circuit Court ruling two weeks ago that ordered the state to balance its funding of public schools came 20 years after the Kerner Commission report condemned the lack of equality in education based on racial discrimination.
The Kerner report also called for more vocational education to provide job skills for those unprepared for higher education and said a universal preschool program was needed to give underprivileged children a “head start” in elementary school.

Kentucky has integrated its school systems but has failed to equally fund all schools, according to Franklin Circuit Judge Ray Corns. He ruled the state’s system of educational finance unconstitutional.

Corns appointed his own commission to develop a plan to equally fund city and county school systems and named Dr. Kern Alexander, Western Kentucky University president, commission chairman.

Corrs also selected other prominent people to the commission, including outgoing Warren County Superintendent Robert Gover.

"Every child should have the opportunity to go to school in an adequate facility, and every district needs sufficient funds," Gover said.

"But the amount of tax dollars spent on schools within the different Kentucky districts is discriminatory," Gover cited as a positive example Bowling Green and other city school systems which traditionally have voted to overtax themselves.

"Students in the wealthy districts have more money to play around with," Gover said, "while the poorer school districts are uncertain of the future.

Wealthy school districts can afford to spend $1 per $100 assessed property valuation per student. Gover said, while poorer school districts can afford only 35 cents per $100.

The Kentucky Constitution, which requires equal facilities for all students, tells us there is something wrong with this figure," he said.

Gover stressed the need for special programs such as fine arts, foreign language, chemistry and physics classes to be added to the curriculum of the poorer school districts.

Most of those schools lack such programs due to costs.

Revenue for funding elementary and secondary education is generated by state and federal and local taxes. Gover said that from available funds, the state appropriates money for salaries, transportation, construction and instructional supplies.

Ardell Guess, state deputy superintendent of public instruction, said: "A child's education must not be dependent upon the wealth of his parents. State school finance must equalize opportunity.

"Judge Corns unquestionably made the right decision by ruling unequal funding unconsti tuional.

See Vocational, Page 12

Blacks gaining slowly in newsrooms

By NIKITA STEWART
Warren County

Twenty years ago less than 1 percent of all persons working in journalism were black, and while progress is being made, today only 3 percent of newsman and women are black.

―It is better than it was 20 years ago, but we have a long way to go," said Tom El geman, executive director of the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund.

The Newspaper Fund sponsors minority journalism workshops nationwide in an effort to recruit more blacks into college journalism programs and eventually into the profession.

It also sponsors a minority internship program for college students to work as summer reporting and editing interns.

"The more people we can have in these workshops, the more minorities we can have in journalism," Englemann said.

There are only 24 workshops around the country, and there needs to be 10 times that many," he said. "If you have 10 times the

See Courier-Journal, Page 12

Reporters document rights march

By FRANK E. OLHAM
Clarksville

In January 1967 when Cummings, Ga., was the scene of racial conflict, Everett Mitchell and Angelo Henderson, reporters at The Courier-Journal in Louisville, took a local approach on a national story by focusing on a Louisville mother who traveled with her four children to the town in turmoil.

Cummings — a city of 2,000 located in Forsyth County — was where small-town beliefs were challenged by outsiders who thought the town’s views were racist. There were two marches that January, the second with more than 30,000 participants.

Joyce Mintir Harris and her four children were there. So were Mitchell and Henderson.

“We were all preparing for what to expect,” Henderson said.

He admits that he had seen pictures of marches, racial conflicts and Klansmen on television, but even his wildest speculations on the experience were surpassed.

Forsyth County was the scene of conflict, but the victory was not without personal cost to the man who stood up for his principles.

His victory wasn’t the only time Alexander stood up for his rights and the rights of other black Americans.

In 1965, he marched 54 miles from Selma, Ala., to the capital Montgomery with the Rev. Martin Luther King.

But Alexander said that he didn’t totally agree with King’s philosophy of non-violent protest. Instead, Al exander said he considered himself to be a follower of Malcolm Evers, who believed in more aggressive and sometimes more violent action to achieve the rights of black Americans.

From his effort in the civil rights movement, the lawsuit and the way he has spent his life, Alexander said he has learned a great deal.

"Like if you just got out of the high school and don’t plan on going to college, you won’t survive in the real world," he said.

See Junk, Page 3

Junk dealer helped force city schools to integrate

By REWALYNK
Union County

These days Henry Alexander is retired and sells junk as a hobby. But when he was a little younger the Bowling Green man marched with the Real People and helped integrate Bowling Green’s school system.

But to see Alexander’s Chestnut street home, one might not think he played such an important role in shaping the local civil rights movement.

Alexander, 61, has a junk-food vending machine sitting on his front porch and a soft drink machine in the yard next to the side of his house.

The vending machines are for the hungry and thirsty customers, he said.

But in his younger days Alexander had a hunger and thirst of his own to provide leadership in the civil rights movement.

At that time, Alexander said the schools in Bowling Green were segregated, and a new school had just been built for white students.

Under the "separate but equal" doctrine of the Kentucky Constitution, black students still had their old, run-down school.

"The blacks in school at that time had equal scores for heat," he said, "while white students had a heater that could heat the whole school."

See Junk, Page 3
Car deals bring success to minority businessman

By SHIRL CHATMAN 
Daviess County

Corinlus Martin is a short man with salt and pepper hair. Sitting behind his large oak desk, he described how he became the most successful minority car dealer in Bowling Green.

Martin, who owns Oldsmobile-Cadillac in Bowling Green, was born and raised on a farm as the youngest of 15 children. He always seemed to have a knack, though, for pushing his way to the top.

After graduating from high school in Muhlenberg County, Martin enrolled at Wright University in Dayton, Ohio where he stayed for two years.

He then transferred to the General Motors Institute in Flint, Mich., to participate in the Minority Dealers Development Program. That was Martin’s start.

Gaining his dealer’s license, he had to take a skills exam. He had to raise capital to get his dealership started. He considered opening the dealership in St. Louis, but those Bowling Green became of his growth potential.

“I looked at Bowling Green as a community on the move,” Martin said. “You have to go where the most potential for greatness is.”

Minority dealerships in America used to be few, Martin said. But today minority dealers have their own organization, the National Minority Automobile Association.

Martin has a lot of competition for car sales, but he would rather have it that way.

“Competition makes everyone great,” he said. “It makes you aspire to do great, and it’s good for the business.”

Martin Oldsmobile-Cadillac has been at its present location on Scottsville Road for nearly three years.

And in those three years, Martin and his business have won several national and local awards. His dealership even has an award dedicated to it by the United Way.

In 1987, Martin was one of the top six car dealers in the country and in 1988, was among the top 10 of 4,000 Oldsmobile-Cadillac dealers nationwide.

Martin’s philosophy on success is simple.

“As long as no matter what their race, can become whatever they want as long as they are willing to work hard,” he said. “In order to be successful you have to aspire to heights beyond where you are.”

Reminders of slavery stir reporter

By NIKITA STEWART
Warren Central

More than 100 years ago, African natives were enslaved and shipped from West Africa via a small island off the coast of Senegal to America. When Mervin Aubespin visited the area last December, he felt as if he had been transported to the 17th century.

“I could feel the heat of the branding irons and smell the burning flesh,” Aubespin said, describing a cell on Goree Island. “Inside my head, I heard the screams. I heard the moaning, the cries of frightened little children snatched from their mothers arms. I heard the voices, the crack of leather whips.”

He felt haunted by the island.

He had been there before, in 1986, while working as a reporter for The Courier Journal. Aubespin took a group of 13 black journalists to Senegal to report the drought, and last December he returned for a “Ceremony of Remembrance.”

The ceremony remembered those who suffered and died during their passage to slavery. Aubespin was invited by the president of Senegal to participate.

“The second time I didn’t go as a journalist. It was a much more personal experience,” he said. “I had a little more time to reflect on how it felt to me as a person.”

“It was a moving experience,” said Aubespin, who has seen a part of many moving experiences, including civil rights marches of the 1960s.

Aubespin was involved in bus boycotts, voter registration and other civil rights activities.

He was a part of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and walked in the famous march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.

He has walked with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and Georgia congressman John Lewis. Aubespin was arrested some 35 times, including once with the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

In 1982, Aubespin invited Jackson to speak at a seminar for black journalists. He invited Jackson because he said “he (Jackson) is a newsmaker.”

Aubespin is a busy man. As former president of the National Association of Black Journalists and associate editor of development for The Courier-Journal, Aubespin travels one-third of the time.

He graduated from high school at 14, and then attended college. A graduate of Tuskegee University at 18, Aubespin taught junior high and high school students industrial arts in Louisville.

He was then hired as the first black woman as the Courier-Journal, and later sent by them to a special program at Columbia University in New York to further his education and become a reporter.

Described by many people as a great orator, Aubespin said he has never written a speech. “I just kind of speak from the heart,” he said.

Aubespin promotes special programs to train minority journalists. He spoke to workshop students and described his beginnings in journalism like “being fly in a bowl of milk.”

Aubespin said journalists have a lot of power because “the history books of tomorrow will be written from the newspapers of today.”

He wants more minorities in journalism, so their views will be taken down history.

One of his students during the five years he taught was Cassandra Clay, who later became Muhammad Ali, the former heavyweight boxing champion.

Aubespin enjoys speaking to young people and encouraging them to pursue a career in journalism.

“The future rests in the young people of today,” he said.

Known as Uncle Merv by his “babies,” Aubespin receives many thank-you letters and phone calls from the young people he has helped.

Aubespin is grateful for the calls and letters, but said, “There were times when I had to tell students not to look at college from the freedom perspective, but to look at college as an added responsibility. I also tell students to enter college with a positive attitude and the ability to work as a minority.”

Often minority students have a difficult time adjusting to college life. Aubespin said she always tries to help.

“As a counselor, I am willing to help any student I can, but some students need more help,” she said. “I usually have to assist students in filling out applications, financial aid forms and other important papers. Students do not realize how important it is to get themselves organized.”

In addition, students need to start the first semester of college with a good grade-point average so that they don’t have to play catch-up.

Overall, she is confident that the number of minorities attending college will increase.

Student sells for future

By ADRA DIXON
Evansville Bosse

When Paul Board graduates from Western Kentucky University this summer, he will take with him experience which he hopes will make him successful in the business world.

Boards, 25, wants to use his business office administration degree to get a job as a car salesman in Atlanta, Ga.

“I am majoring in business administration because that’s where the money is,” he said. But unlike some students, he put his classroom training to work early.

While visiting a small village in the Huga Region of Senegal, Mervin Aubespin poses for a picture with his guide, the chief of the village and New York publisher Bill Tatum.

Top priority has become recruiting

By ROBBIE McDONALD
Nashville Stratford

The pictures in Phyllis Gatewood’s Puster Hall office provide memories of past and present students at Western Kentucky University.

They also are reminders of how important a college education is for everyone, especially minorities.

“My main wish is that more minorities could attend college,” said Gatewood, 53, Western’s black recruiting specialist and project director of the Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program.

“I get my joy out of seeing students reap the benefits of completing a level of higher learning.”

Gatewood spends her days, and often nights, talking to minority students in Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana about the benefits of a college education. Her work with the governor’s program is designed to make more young black students aware of the benefits of college and consider it an option. Along the way she tries to convince them that they should get their degree at Western.

“Our goal is to make young black students aware of the benefits and values of college by developing a model program that will provide encouragement, special attention and reinforcement for the participants to continue in school,” Gatewood said.

When I talk to students, I try to be honest with them. I tell students not to look at college from the freedom perspective, but to look at the college as an added responsibility. I also tell students to enter college with a positive attitude and the ability to work as a minority.”

Often minority students have a difficult time adjusting to college life. Gatewood said she always tries to help.

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Broadcasters faces race, sex bias

By LISA WRIGHT Louisville Manual

When she was young, Dorinda Carter knew that she wanted to be involved in communications. And now that Carter is older, she is the only black on-air personality at WKCT Radio in Bowling Green. She has overcome all the obstacles that blocked her path.

"In this town I don't think I'm taken seriously in that I'm a woman," she said, "and even more because I'm black. Despite the way she feels about how other people see her professionally, Carter said she likes her job because she loves being around people.

That love of people and communication started at North Hopkins High where she focused on theater and speech. She puts her speech practices to work at WKCT by writing and broadcasting the news. Her beats include local government, the school board, county and airport news.

When out with friends, Dorinda said she tries to talk just like everyone else. But on the job, she shows more professional side of her personality. Despite her preparation and love for the job, Carter admits that "it's not always ice cream and cookies during a broadcast. Sometimes I start reading and I think I know what's coming next and instead of looking I just say what I think," she said. That sometimes gets her into trouble, she said, because she says the wrong thing or gets confused.

She's only been at WKCT six months, and attending Western Kentucky University doesn't allow her to work at the station full time. But soon, that will change.

In the fall, Carter will take two classes, one at 8 a.m. and another at 9:15 a.m. Then she'll have time to work full time at the radio station.

Walking into her office and seeing papers lying everywhere, a cigarette here and a business card there, it's apparent something is happening. And for Carter, it's a promising broadcasting career.

Junk dealer had impact

Continued from Page One

"It's a jungle out there, and you don't know how to play the hunt with that jungle," Carter said. "I think that since they are black they shouldn't have to work, that it should be handed to them," he said. "That's not going to happen." He encouraged all blacks to take a foreign language, so that they can better themselves in getting a good education and a job. He was one of the first blacks graduated from Western Area Vocational School. He also served in both World War II and the Korean War. In the Korean War, he made 30 jumps as a paratrooper. What kept him going through all of this?

"Mr. Lord," he said. "You can look around and see all my Bibles (three) have no dust on them." He attends Taylor AIME church.

While he is proud of the fact that he is close to God, he also points with pride to the results of his own craftsmanship, a chair made from a tree stump.

"I was in the woods messing around when I saw this stump and I thought to myself I could make something of this so I started cutting," he said.

While people wash clothes in modern, spin dry machine, he prefers an older wringer washer. He said he believes it just as good a job as the others, probably better.

For Henry, the future of blacks is bright. "We (blacks) know now we're not dumb," he said. "We've got brains and we have to use them."

Professor lends hand to Chinese studying coal

By WENDY WALKER Pleasure Ridge Park

Dr. Wei-Ping Pan, a chemistry professor at Western, and five other Western professors traveled to China recently in hopes that they could eventually set up a coal research center, much like their own here in America.

On May 12 and 13 at the Chung Yuan Christian University, the International Conference on Controlling Environmental Pollution from Coal and Chemical Analysis was held. At this meeting, professors from America and China presented speeches on how to solve the world's coal pollution problems.

Pan said the experts he and others brought from Kentucky was especially appropriate for the conference, because Kentucky has a large coal supply and is it's first major source of pollution.

That problem has given many Kentucky chemists first-hand experience on how to deal with coal pollution problems, Pan said.

"There are three causes of coal science around the world, but ours is the most unique," Pan said.

The major cause of pollution is the sulfur oxide in the coal mixing with water. This releases sulfuric acid into the atmosphere, Pan said, and destroys the natural products of the earth.

In their research at Western, Pan said, they have found some successful methods in taking the sulfur out of the coal, which also destroys our earthly elements in the form of acid rain.

The scientists later traveled to Beijing Coal Science Center. There the focus is mainly on engineering, with emphasis on coal gasification and liquefaction.

Pan said that at Western, the major focus is on chemistry, with emphasis on pollution that comes from burning coal.

During their stay, the professors also visited Hain-ta Power Plant, where coal power is studied.

Aside from just studying coal pollution, the major cause of pollution is the sulfur oxide in the coal mixing with water. This releases sulfuric acid into the atmosphere, Pan said, and destroys the natural products of the earth.

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Equal funding needed for state schools

The question of equality in Kentucky education isn't a matter of racial conflict anymore. For the most part, it's a stark difference between rich and poor regions.

Wealthy school districts, which can support higher educational taxes, are able to spend more money on each student than in the poorer districts.

And that's giving some students a distinct advantage over others.

That realization, brought to the public forefront by Franklin Circuit Court Judge Ray Corns, is leading many people to question funding methods for Kentucky education.

Wealthier cities and counties are able to provide students with special programs such as foreign language classes, better teachers and more sophisticated equipment.

On the other hand, poor districts are forced to stick to the basics — or even less — because they don't have the money that the other districts do.

The rich districts are able to provide their students with vocational education too, which seems to be in large demand today.

The problem is clear.

The state can't sit idly by and watch a large portion of its students get slighted. Everyone should have the best possible education provided for them.

The state's first priority has to be working out a system for equal funding. Each student, no matter where they live, must be provided the same opportunity for a decent education — and possibly even job training.

Obtaining, and keeping, quality teachers for state schools is also a must. How do you provide a student with a good education without supplying them with a good teacher?

These same standards also need to be applied to vocational education, as more and more companies have a need for technically trained people.

If states like Kentucky and Mississippi (which are ranked the two lowest in America for education) don't use more funds for education, and more equitable, funding methods — the state's education record will only continue to drop.

Above all, the attention that needs to be given to these problems must come immediately. Education isn't a game — it's a must.

— Lisa Wright, duPont Manual

Cover up
Keeping issues out of high school papers won't make problems go away

Censuring high school newspapers may be a way to keep controversial issues under wraps — at least temporarily, but it won't make problems go away.

And it may even make certain situations worse in the long run.

If they don't get a balanced view on subjects from their high school paper or other sources — they will still be exposed to the problems.

Students will still face the same problem, but they will be armed with ignorance instead of education.

Since the Supreme Court decision on the Hazelwood case — educators have been tempted more and more often to tell student newspapers what they can and can't report on.

In the Hazelwood case, judges ruled in favor of a high school principal who pulled two stories before they were published.

As a result, student reporters are less apt to report on "sensitive" subjects.

But reporters have an obligation to their community to write about issues that affect the lives of so many people. And just like any other community, each school has its own set of issues that need to be addressed.

If more teenagers were informed about the negative, as well as the positive sides of various issues, then maybe teenagers could make more mature decisions.

Nowadays, children grow up much faster than kids did twenty years ago. It's necessary for children to be informed about subjects like sex and drugs at an earlier age.

And school authorities need to be more flexible when viewing the content of a high school newspaper.

Articles that are well written and balanced have a right to be printed, no matter what is being discussed in the article.

— Robbie McDonald, Stratford

Military brass missed an early opportunity to fight drug trade

Several weeks ago the U.S. Department of Defense openly declared war on the drug trade, which might be viewed as a pretty good thing by most people.

But for others who have watched in horror as drugs have torn the fabric of our society apart, there is only one thing to say — it's about time.

For decades drugs have dealt a serious blow to America. Used by all races and cultures, drugs can be found from the penthouses of Manhattan to the ghettos of Los Angeles.

The situation is, and has been for too long, a sad comment on a self-centered society.

And the Pentagon, along with the legislators who oversee it, have taken their own sweet time combating such a monumental threat to the foundation of the United States.

Like many short-sighted Americans, Pentagon officials and high government officials have spent too many years concentrating on what they see as a potential threat from the Soviet Union.

All the while they've done little or nothing about the threat of drugs in our nation.

The federal government should stop trying to combat a possibly fictional communist threat, and protect our borders and our future against this real drug trade.

If the armed forces can secure our country with tens of thousands of nuclear missiles and troops, then our country should at least have the capability — and the desire — to safeguard its citizens from the corruption of drugs.

— Frank Oldham, Clarksville
Workshop ‘88
Introducing...
WBKO growing after changes

By TYRONE REASON
Bowling Green

According to weatherman Reg Taylor, many of the needed changes recently made to the WBKO television station are the responsibility of one man.

Taylor was referring to the new station manager and news director — Steve Crabtree of Hartin.

"Steve and I came in and cleaned house," Taylor said, and he is the major reason for the vast improvement in the award-winning station.

Taylor explained the operations of the broadcast station to the workshop students.

He said WBKO recently spent thousands of dollars on the redesign of the broadcast room and technical area. Now more than ever, the station has taken on the look of a modern broadcast operation.

Taylor has been at WBKO television for three years and is certified by the National Weather Association. He said that working for a small market station offers many more opportunities than working in larger cities.

At a smaller station, Taylor said, there is the chance to do more and gain more recognition.

WBKO, an ABC affiliate, started on the air as WLTV more than 20 years ago. It was a small operation then and was included in the Nashville viewing area.

Today it is an ever-growing station with a viewing area of its own, and it competes with the stations in Nashville for ratings.

The station now has the highest ratings in its history and it provides a wide range of TV programming. And according to Taylor, the future of WBKO looks great.

Highland shepherds workshop flock

By ADRA DIXON
Evansville Bosse

Jim Highland, director of the 1988 Minority Journalism Workshop, said getting involved in journalism and teaching were some of the best decisions of his life.

And by moving his position from Western and minority journalism workshops, he said, he gets a great chance to tie those two crafts into one.

"I am very proud of my students," he said. "I like each and every one of them very much.

"This was Highland's first year as director of the workshop, but he was the main instructor last year and said he enjoys the program.

"In this workshop, we try to teach them something a day," he said, "and maybe they will remember it for the rest of their lives.

During the regular school year, he teaches reporting and writing classes in the journalism department at Western.

Highland was also interim head of the journalism department for three years.

He said the minority workshop program is going strong now, but its future was uncertain several years ago.

"The minority workshop has been together for a total of five years," he said, "and after the third year of the five, the workshop was lost because of a cutback in funds.

"Since then the workshop has come back for two more years," he added, "and has been highly successful.

Students make splash

By JASEN KIEFER
Reidland

The word "water" took on a special meaning for minority journalism workshopers when they visited Opryland.

Not only did they spend most of their time on water rides, they also found getting wet was a welcome relief from the 100-plus degree temperatures.

"It was a very hot day, and I got very wet," Tyroneseason, a Bowling Green High School junior, said. Season was talking about why he appreciated the Old Mill Screamin, the park's newest water ride.

Nikita Stewart, a Warren Central junior, enjoyed the Screamin simply because "it was fun." Adra Dixon, an Evansville, Ind., Bosse High School junior, said the ride "took my breath away.

The theme park, which opened 17 years ago, focuses on country and western music, but it offers a variety of rides for younger people from 60 mph roller coasters to 5 mph "Tim Lizzie.

One of the biggest attractions is the Grizzly River Rides, another water ride, which Erica Berry, a Jackson, Tenn., Northside High School graduate, called "just like being on the river.

Workshoppers Robbie McDonald and Christi Stewart were roller coaster fans.

McDonald, a Nashville, Tenn.
Limited Edition

Photographer says preparation is key to quality pictures

By TYRONE REASON
Bowling Green

Gary Hairson says that looking for good pictures is a lot like spending the day fishing.

“Sometimes you get them, sometimes you don’t,” said Hairson, who is now photo editor for the Jackson Sun in Tennessee.

Getting quality pictures, Hairson said, is often a matter of preparation and being in the right place at the right time.

Hairson started his photography career after being recruited to Western. He interned at his hometown paper, the Henderson Gleaner, and also worked with Western’s Public Information Office.

While working in the Public Information Office, Hairson said he had a lot of contact with official staff and important faculty members. He even had to work with the president of the university on several occasions, he said.

“That job pretty much matured me,” he said.

But Hairson said that aside from his photographic talents, other things also helped him do well when he first started out.

“People often thought he was older, he said, and ‘it helped.’

Hairson admits that he had to prove to himself that photography was what he really wanted to do, because he was also very interested in going into music.

But in the end, he went into photography and soon became a university photographer.

He went to the Jackson Sun in 1986, where he was recently promoted to photo editor.

Hairson, 25, said that during his many assignments for the Jackson Sun, he has never been beaten up — but he has been harassed several times.

“It’s my job to take your picture,” he said. “That’s what I do.”

Before he goes out on assignment, Hairson said he tries to read about his subject to get a feel of that person or thing. He said it’s important to capture a subject’s personality.

You have to be creative to be a photographer, he said.

He said that the only way to become an excellent photographer is practice. “You have to shoot every day.”

Hairson believes that a photographer is a lot like a reporter except one uses a camera and the other uses a pen and paper.

The only difference is that as a photographer, Hairson said, “you’re a reporter with a camera.”

Hairson has covered some thrilling events, but he stressed one particular event, a birthday march for the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“To feel the strength, the pulling together,” he said, “it was really interesting.”

Hairson will be covering the Democratic Convention in Atlanta this summer for the Jackson Sun and Garnett News Service. While there, he plans to get pictures of presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson.

Hairson wants to continue taking pictures for a living for about 10 more years, he said, and then become director of photography at a major metropolitan newspaper.

“What motivates me,” he said of his work, “is when people call me up to complement me.”

That, he said, makes it all worthwhile.

Photographer wants pictures to have impact

By SHIRL CHATMAN
Daviess County

Sam Upshaw, a photojournalist at The Courier-Journal, said he values a picture that has impact and leaves an impression on the reader.

Upshaw started college at Jefferson Community College in Louisville, where he took a course in pre-dentistry.

“I started off with pre-dentistry and was pretty good at it,” Upshaw said, “but as I freelanced pictures more and more often, I found myself wanting to change my mind about my major.”

Upshaw then transferred to Western Kentucky University and started to freelance for the College Heights Herald.

His first internship was at the Louisville Defender. He also interned at the Los Angeles Times and the Tennessean.

Upshaw said the internships provided the experience he needed to become a photographer at The Courier-Journal. With more experience, Upshaw said, he can only get better.

Students tour Corvette plant

By FASEN KIEFER
Reidland

To celebrate Corvette’s 50th year, a limited edition model will be produced during the 1988 model year.

While the Minority Workshop students who toured the Corvette plant in Bowling Green didn’t get to see any of the 2,000 special editions on the assembly line, they did get a look at the popular American sports car in all phases of production.

When Corvette production first began in 1953, 300 of them were produced in Flint, Mich. All were polo white, with two standard options — a heater and an AM radio.

According to tour guide Pam Shook, the ‘88 limited edition Corvette has the same body design as the last four Vettes and will be polo white just like the ‘53 model.

The wheels, body side moldings, door handles and revised emblem are also white.

Badges signifying Corvette’s 50th anniversary decorate the hood above the front side grill panels.

Workshoppers who walked around the assembly plant didn’t seem terribly surprised when Shook told them that the Bowling Green plant has more than one million square feet and is the size of 22 football fields.

Every hour during a work shift, she said, 1 Corinthians are fully assembled for a total of 88 Vettes in a day.

An order sheet follows each car through the plant, Shook said. The order sheet tells assembly line workers what specifications are necessary for each car.

The Corvette’s legendary small-block engine has an engine speed of 1554 miles per hour. Its quarter mile time is 14.21 seconds at 97.2 mph.

Gary Hairson asks students which pictures they want to run during the news meeting for the Limited Edition.

Photographer gives students a big hug of appreciation.
TV account exec bitten by media bug

By ERICA BERRY
Jackson Northside

Looking at Life magazine and growing up with television, Steve Benson "got bitten by the bug of communications" at the young age of 16.

Benson, who graduated in 1981 from Western Kentucky University with a degree in photojournalism, has moved from a small television station in Bowling Green to WTVF in Nashville.

Benson said he hopes the move to a stronger, larger station will result in even greater responsibility in the communications industry.

"No, that is incorrect," Benson said. "I am going to own a television station. I am going to own a newspaper."

Fresh out of college, Benson started work at WIKO in Bowling Green as a cameraman. After a few years, he went to Nashville's WTVD channel 5 and worked as a videographer.

Just recently, he switched from the news side of the business to become an account executive in advertising. Benson said he hopes the move will allow him to make more money, so he can eventually get into ownership.

Looking back at his career, Benson said, he wishes he could have attended a minority journalism workshop.

"Taking advantage of it (the workshop) will get you further than you know," he said. "It's important for working skills. It's a good thing to know how to write stories."

Benson said he would like to see more blacks in the field because "the opportunity is there."

"There is a bigger picture," he told Minority Journalism Workshop students, "but don't forget the elements."

Benson said that to achieve high standards of progress, blacks have to work with the small components first.

Workshops and seminars are all worth the time and effort, because eventually they'll lead to bigger and better things.

"Either you quit or work hard to get something."
'Man in the Mirror': A reflection of change

By REWA LYNK
Union County

"I'm looking at the man in the mirror. I'm asking him to change his ways." -- From 'Man in the Mirror' by Michael Jackson.

Singer-songwriter Michael Jackson and video producer Quincy Jones combined their talents to ask nations throughout the world for change by writing "Man in the Mirror.

This is the second time that Jackson has co-produced a Top-10 video hit with Jones. The first was USA for Africa, which grossed over $15 million in sales to help the hungry in Ethiopia.

The song and video by the duo contain much of the same type of imagery and pleas for worldwide change.

Segments of the video range from the burning crosses of the Ku Klux Klan to the stirring Ethiopian children of Africa. It shows viewers pictures in the world both past and present.

There are clips of foreign leaders, such as Khadafi and Khomeini that show the anti-American feelings of many countries.

Then come clips of Martin Luther King, Jr. making his "I Have a Dream..." speech and Kennedy in Congress speaking the civil rights movement.

And then comes South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, expressing his grief over unsuccessful attempts to free his country from the white minority that currently rules South Africa.

Through these images and many more, Jackson attempts to uncover society's flaws by opening the audience's eyes to such scenarios.

This video has an appeal that captures the heat of viewers and makes Community "look in the mirror" at themselves and the future of their country.

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Entertainment

The film was bound to succeed, but the picture's animated co-stars take it beyond innovation.

Besides Roger Rabbit himself, we are introduced to his voluptuous wife Jessica, a gang of weasel henchmen who carry real (not animated) guns, Binnie the Cat, and near the end of the film - a half-human, half-animated super villain.

There are even cameos appearances by many old-time cartoon favorites. Daffy and Donald Duck have a duet at a nightclub. Mickey Mouse and Bugs Bunny also parachute side by side, just to mention a few.

The special effects are ground breaking - from an animated cab driving down the streets of L.A. (with a human passenger in it, no less) to cartoon characters that produce shadows.

As for the human cast, their fine performances are not sidelined by their animated co-stars. Bob Hoskins is lovely as private eye Eddie Valiant, and Christopher Lloyd is wonderful as Judge Doom.

The film is well balanced, and the action never lets up. This isn't true of Disney fare however, as the film contains one actual killing and some mild profanity.

Roger Rabbit is cinematic entertainment - at its best.

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Rocky Rabbit leads new movies

By FRANK OLDHAM
Clarksdale

"Who Framed Roger Rabbit," a Walt Disney-Studio- Steven Spielberg collaboration, may very well turn out to be the box-office smash of the year.

Robert Zemeckis (Back to the Future) brings audiences this colorful, non-stop action tale of a cartoon hare and a burnt-out colorful non-stop action tale of a gum ·

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O'Neal jams on Hearsay

By CHRISTI STEWART
Pearl-Cohn

Hearsay, the most recent Alexander O'Neal album, is still on the charts and is fast making a name for O'Neal and his fellow musicians with the recording's innovative style.

O'Neal's album is arranged as if it were live at a party - with an exceptional guest list that includes quite a few well-known artists and music personalities.

Each song has an introduction, which is a scene from the party that is going on, and all the intros have something to do with the upcoming song.

The album contains the hits "Faito" and "Never Knew Love Like This." - O'Neal's duet with Cherelle. Other hits on the album include "(What Can I Say) To Make You Love Me," and the title cut, "Hearsay."

Another outstanding cut, "Sunshine," a special slow jam on the tape, talks about that most important person in one's life.

Another slow jam on the tape is "Crying Over Time," in which O'Neal explains how he feels when his "sunshine turns to rain."

The recording was produced by Flyte Time in cooperation with Jimmy Jam, Terry Lewis and Jellybean Johnson. The rhythm arrangements were made by Jam and Lewis except for "Criticize," which was arranged by Johnson.

All songs were written by James Harris III and Terry Lewis, except "Criticize," which was written by Gary Johnson and O'Neal.
Young minister leads old church

By NIKITA STEWART
Warren Central

The Rev. Christopher Battle said his decision to become a preacher was a hard one to make — it was something God called him to do.

"I just made the decision to accept the call of God," said Battle, who serves as pastor of State Street Baptist Church.

The 35-year-old preacher is the youngest pastor in the Bowling Green area, but he said age isn't really a factor in his work.

Battle made his decision "to accept the call" in 1984, and has been pastor at State Street for two years.

Battle said he was especially proud to lead such a historic church. State Street was established in 1833 and is celebrating its 150th year as the first black church in Bowling Green.

State Street has an interesting history. Battle said, because some of the first members were slaves. They were allowed to worship at the predominantly white First Baptist Church — but not to take an active part in decision making.

They also had to sit in a certain area of the church. Battle said.

But in 1836, the black members of the congregation decided to have their own service. They started in the basement of the First Baptist Church and eventually

Secretary helps family business

By FRANK E. OLDHAM
Clarksville

Kelly Burnam may spend her days working on account books and ledgers, but she also occasionally gets her hands into more unusual work — at her family's mortuary.

Burnam, a senior secretary and bookkeeper at Western's Office of University Publications, does part-time work at the Burnam & Son Mortuary, which is owned by her father Claude E. Burnam.

Burnam first began working there in 1978.

"I first did things from cutting grass to painting," said Burnam, "and some bookkeeping.

But as she got older and did more work with her father, Burnam said she started actually handling bodies in the funeral preparation process.

Eventually, after several years of specialized training, she received her mortician's license and can now work on her own.

"To many, such a profession would be considered morbid and revolting, but Burnam said that to her — it's just another job.

"You just get used to it," she

said "It's no big deal." Burnam added that preparing bodies for burial is more than just a skill, it is considered an art form.

When someone has an accident that results in death and possible mutilation of the body, she said, reconstruction is essential for open casket funeral.

Cosmetic work is also usually necessary on almost all corpses. She said, so that they will look natural to relatives and loved ones.

And an embalming process is necessary to preserve the body until the funeral takes place.

For one professor, arguments, conflict put bread on the table

By ADRA DIXON
Benjamin's Bouse

Most people try to avoid conflict in their work, but for Dr. Almanah Rahim — arguments are what put bread and butter on the table.

Rahim, who teaches courses on management and organizational behavior at Western, is also the founder of the International Association for

Conflicts.

His association works worldwide to solve problems — big and small. They also advise organizations and corporations on how to more effectively communicate and bargain for what they want from other people.

Aside from his work with the international mediation association, Rahim is also the author of more than 50 articles and book chapters on strategic relations, arbitration and negotiation.

He also recently edited and published a book on managing conflict.

Some of the arguments the association settles, Rahim said, are even between countries.

"Mediation and arbitration involve two parties that have a conflict," he explained, "and it needs to be solved. That, he said, is where he and his colleagues come into the picture.

Sometimes though, he said, even his organization's help doesn't clear up the conflict immediately.

"If the arguing parties don't agree with the mediator," Rahim said, "then the arbitrator steps in and does the same thing. This process goes on until some agreements are made," he added.

Although many people take what he does for granted, Rahim said setting disputes isn't an easy or simple matter. All too often, he said, it takes intricate planning and preparation.

It's not easy, but Rahim said that what his association does is necessary.

"Unless you can communicate," he said, "you can't deal with conflicts.

Sizzling

Meat packer expanding business

By DEANNA MILLIS
Glasgow

As a state government employee, Curt Sullivan didn't like what he saw when he watched some people who worked for a meat packing firm multilab a pig.

So he decided to open his own spotless clean meat processing firm, Omni Custom Meats, in Smithsville.

"The name of the game here is turnover," Sullivan said. His firm handles 250 tons of meat and produces 400,000 pounds of spare ribs weekly.

He said his company initially did custom killing, but it switched to full scale processing because there is more profit in it.

"We concentrate on supplying distributors, and the distributors concentrate on supplying restaurants," said Sullivan, who delivers his product to only two local stores. About 40 percent of Omni's meats are shipped out of state.

Sullivan recently decided to expand his businesses. When he is in full production, 15 people will be working on the assembly line, cutting, trimming fat, weighing, packaging and freezing the meat.

"There are several ways to look at meat packing," he said. It's not one of your more attractive places to be.

Originally from Cincinnati and a graduate of Kentucky State University, Sullivan, his wife Sharon and their three children live in Bowling Green. His wife is a nutritional researcher and the treasurer of his company.

"The business was begun on a prayer and sustained by faith," he said. "We're just waiting to see where this will all end."
Sports

Athlete juggles books, balls

By DEANNA MILLIS
Glasgow

Not all athletes can juggle sports, academics and a social life, but Jeff Whitney has learned to do just that. Whitney, a 1988 graduate of Warren East High School played basketball and baseball in high school. Not only did he excel athletically, but he also maintained a 4.6 grade-point average and was class valedictorian.

"Being involved helped me spread my time wisely and become better organized," Whitney said. "I had to work ahead." He said that if he had an assignment due on Monday and had to play ball all weekend, he would have to do his homework early while everyone else did their homework on Sunday night.

When you're involved in a lot, you meet a lot of people and social life comes easily," Whitney said.

In addition to playing baseball and basketball, Whitney was president of his class all four years, president of the E-Club, vice president of KIESER team, treasurer of Beta, and a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, math and history clubs. 

Hattie Whitney, Whitney's mother, has played a significant role in her son's life.

"I attribute a lot of my success to her," he said. "She played on me constantly, especially about my homework. She taught me never to settle for less than the best." Whitney said his role model is his mother, who has been a single parent to him and his sister, Michelle.

"She has always been there for us and has always provided for us," he said.

Writer enjoys people stories.

By REWA LYNK
Union County

One of Tommy George's first stories was written on a brown paper bag, but 11 years later the bag has been replaced by a computer terminal at the New York Times.

George, a Western Kentucky University graduate, is a sports writer for his newspaper and covers the National Football League.

"I think it's really exciting to be able to capture the world on paper to relay to the masses of people someone else's story," he said.

A 1978 Paducah Tilghman graduate, George was voted Most Friendly, was a baseball and track team member, was sports editor of his high school newspaper and was voted Mr. Tilghman.

He got into journalism in an unusual way. "I found me," George said. His English teacher advised him to take a journalism class.

Initially, his work was criticized, but George said that changed when a story saluting Tilghman's past football stars was published on the front page and distributed at the game.

Another high school assignment, written on a brown paper bag and published in the school newspaper, won first prize in a Quill and Scroll contest.

As George sees it, the role of a journalist is to provide information, to enlighten and inform the public.

"I feel you have to understand people and really care about them in order to tell their story," George said. "You have to become a link between the individual and the masses. Always remember the human element.

George has been writing professionally for six years, and sometimes he travels to three or four cities in a day.

"It takes much to get the job done, and sometimes that means going on the road," he said.

George came to the New York Times following three college internships including a Dow Jones copy editing internship on the Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, and after five years of fulltime work at the Detroit Free Press.

Tommy George, a sports writer for the New York Times, gives writing tips to Frank Oldham. He worked with all the students in the Minority Journalism Workshop on how to improve their writing.
Psychology professor drawn by need to help students

By DEANNA MILLS
Glasgow

The average professor might be thought to be a tall, looming man who grows when students ask him a question—but that isn't the impression Dr. Livingston Alexander gives. Alexander, the assistant to the vice president of Academic Affairs, likes to think of himself as a master of Academic Affairs, a native Texan, he is modest and soft-spoken educator and administrator at Western.

That fondness for Western and his work must have shown, because Alexander, a native Texan, the assistant to the vice president of Academic Affairs, likes to take a little different approach.

As protests marched in Forsyth County, Ga., Robert Barks Jr., holds picture of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Continued from Page One

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Continued from Page One

many, he said, “If you have 10 times the number of students, you need 10 times the benefit.”

White males make up 3 percent of the total number of professionals in city newspapers across the country, employed by black-owned publications.

The newspaper industry has a work force that is more than 80 percent white, while a class that is 10 percent white, said Lee Payne, assistant managing editor for Newday.

A total of 55 percent of the daily newspapers.

Vocational schools face increased demand for training

Continued from Page One

Continued from Page One

Courier-Journal editor committed to open doors for blacks

Continued from Page One

Limited Edition
June 30, 1988

Reporters find raw hatred in Forsyth County march

Continued from Page One

Reporters found themselves on a street surrounded by a mass of angry Klansmen and others who were cursing and waving rebel flags. A yellow-faced, toothless man pressed his face against the windshield and cursed them.

Mitchell described it as “raw hatred.” He said the situation was much worse than they expected. Reversing quickly, the men headed for the beginning of the march.

Mitchell and Henderson soon joined the marchers, numbering 30,000 strong, and made their way through the streets of Cummings. On one side of the street beyond a human wall of National Guardsmen, a mass of beligerent Forsyth residents jeered and taunted the marchers, who responded with cheerful replies of “We love you.”

The reporters were soon forced to leave the marchers and the hostile crowd to phone the story to Louisville. Inside a phone booth, a small mob passed them and began to beat on the outside and chant insults.

“My heart skipped a beat,” Mitchell said. Both men admit they were scared, and they found their job as reporters becoming complex. They were there to watch and write about the family and not become involved in the actions.

“Our job as reporters is not to be a part of the story,” Henderson said. “...but through our story show people what is like.”

Through the story of Joyce Minter Harris and her children, Mitchell told the story of a family who stood up for something that they believed in. On one more personal level, the incident put a new experience under the hat of two professionals.

“It’s amazing that journalism gives you some experiences that you expect. I’ve written and said, ‘and some that you never dream of.’”