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Minorities say civil rights backsliding here

By DEAKIN MILLIS, Glasgow High School

Although this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, things for minorities in Bowling Green seem to be only getting worse — and with little hope of improvement.

Rev. Ron Whitlock, Bowling Green-Warren County Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) president, believes that Bowling Green is still somewhat set in its backward ways.

When Whitlock first moved to Bowling Green from Henderson, as a 5-year-old boy, he was exposed to something he had never experienced: segregation.

When he was in the first grade he got a sparking because he asked his teacher where the white people were.

Whitlock recalls the situation of his school setting. “Our classes were all black. The classrooms were very small; we had three or four grades in one room. We had to use hand-me-down books.”

Fortunately, schools now are in better condition. Grades are split up, classes are desegregated and students have better textbooks.

Whitlock said discrimination is not so evident now, but it is there.

“Right now we don’t have the things that are visibly going on,” Whitlock said. “Back then we could see the racism — in housing and in the jobs.”

Whitlock said the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was successful because he was able to see racial barriers that existed and the people were able to rally behind those barriers of inequality.

“The problem with racism, segregation and discrimination is that it is done in a subtle way,” he said.

Whitlock, who owns TWBB telephone repair service, said his minority employees have often encountered racial problems while on the job. For instance, when one of his employees recently installed a telephone and asked the customer what color phone he wanted, the customer replied, “black, like you are.”

Whitlock believes he was a victim of racial discrimination when he worked for South Central Bell. He discerningly watched new employees climb the corporate ladder.

Local woman gives children chance to live

By TIFFANY ANDERSON, Bardstown High School

When Judy Schwank walks into the village hospital, hundreds of dying children will be there to meet her. Word has spread that she is coming, and as many as 125 homeless, limbless, or sightless children will be waiting for help and waiting to die.

Schwank is trying to help those who can’t help themselves. She’s on a mission to protect Central and South American children from unnecessary death.

It may sound like a fairy tale, but it’s real and happening in Bowling Green.

Schwank has been 35 trips to Guatemala to get sick children and bring them to Bowling Green to heal, and she plans to return in July. She and her husband, William, who is from Guatemala, have kept more than 100 children in their home.

Most (children) only stay two to three months,” Mrs. Schwank said.

The children — ages three weeks to 19 years — come from the poverty-stricken countries of Guatemala, Equador, Brazil, Haiti and Honduras.

Four out of 10 Guatemalan children have a disease which can be cured, and it is these children who will gain a chance for life.

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New language, old friends concern refugees most

By LISA WRIGHT, duPont Manual High School

Moving from one state to another can seem drastic, especially when one isn’t used to the lifestyle.

But what about people who move from one country to another?

For some, adjusting to the freedoms of America after living in a restricted society is difficult.

Southeast Asian refugees living in Bowling Green have learned to make this adjustment.

For 19-year-old Lak Vongsavamh, a Bowling Green High School senior from Laos, the language was the hardest thing to learn.

Vongsavamh fled to America with his family when Communists took over his country in the mid-1970s.

When he arrived he was able to speak and understand some English from what he had learned, but Vongsavamh said school was hard for him. Even though his grades were on a “D” average, he didn’t get depressed.

After studying more, Vongsavamh’s grades began to improve. Now he’s one of the top students in his class with a near-perfect grade-point average.

But he doesn’t feel that he fits in with the other students. Some tease him, he said, but that doesn’t bother him. Acceptance is different where he comes from, Vongsavamh said. “We don’t care if someone is different, or rich or poor, everyone is accepted.”

Vongsavamh misses his best friend the most. “We were like brothers. We always got along.”
Quality of students made integration smooth

By JIMMY HART
Lexington High School

Two former faculty members agree that integration at Western Kentucky University went as smoothly as it did because of the quality of black students involved.

Former basketball coach and athletic director John Oldham and former Dean of Men John Sagabiel, both white and now retired, believe that the extraordi

"When we found out we could, most coaches did."nary character of the black students was key in easing the transition from segregation to integration in the 1960s.

"I think they're the salt of the earth," said Oldham, who began his coaching career in 1964, shortly after the university began to offer scholarships to black athletes.

Oldham said former coach E.A. Diddle, for whom Diddle Arena is named, was responsible for recruiting the first black athletes. "I wish I could take credit for it, but Coach Diddle did it."

Oldham became basketball coach a year after Diddle recruited Dwight Smith and Clem Haskins, the first black basketball players.

"I'm not sure if I'm crazy," Oldham said. "But I'm not sure if I'm just a teacher."

Ardrey believes that a lot of progress has been made. "Time is gonna heal a lot of things," he said. "I credit the black athletes for opening doors."

Sagabiel, however, feels that the ordinary black student, rather than the black athlete, should get the credit for opening doors. When integration came, "because of the caliber of these students, there was absolutely no problem."

Sagabiel still recalls how some segregation lingered, "I'm not saying they double dated."

Sagabiel said that the university started integrating the dorms in 1960. There were few black students and black fraternities and sororities weren't yet in operation, so black students were forced to mainstream, he said.

"They were concerned with getting an education. They were not crucializing or trying to change society."

Sagabiel also believes that Dr. Kelly Thompson, former university president, "I don't think he's the one who did the most." Thompson, in turn, had a good time with a prepared lecture to let them see what was going on."

Oldham said his life was threatened twice and that he received a lot of hate mail.

Haynes says Western trying to increase minority hiring

By LISA ANDERSON
Mount Healthy High School

Western has 11 minority instructors out of 550 faculty, and like most universities, is trying to add minorities. This is where Dr. Robert Haynes steps in.

Western's number of minorities has remained stable the past five years, but Haynes, vice president of Academic Affairs, is trying to increase that with Affirmative Action.

Part of Haynes' job is to use Affirmative Action to "seek out qualified minorities."

"Affirmative Action is an attempt to bring diversity to higher education," Haynes said. "It is where Affirmative Action comes into play."

Before Haynes came to Western, he taught at Furman University in Greenville, S.C.

Western had only three other black professors prior to Haynes' arrival. The reactions she got from her students the first time they saw her was predictable.

"For many of them it was the first time they had ever had a black teacher," said Haynes. "I always walked in with a prepared lecture to let them see that I was a professional, and that helped them realize that there was no difference between a black teacher and a white teacher."

But in reality she's not just a teacher.

Last year she took 15 students to the Republican National Convention and the inaugural ball. The purpose of the trip was to teach her students about how power was exchanged in this country.

Although she had a good time, Haynes said she had a hard time understanding how a country that is so rich can spend thousands if not millions of dollars on campaigns when people are sleeping on the streets.

"My students had to remind me of that because I had gotten so caught up in the hype," Haynes said.

Despite such pressures, "I didn't try to treat black players any better or any worse (than white players)," Oldham said. "I told them to get an education first; basketball was second."

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Haynes said it's a good idea to "grow your own minority faculty."

The program is funded by the state for about $112,900 a year, Haynes said, but more is needed.

"They were taking black students that we were taking for granted. Now we're trying to recover."
Good opportunities often mean leaving

By ALYCA BATSON
F. J. Reitz High School

Thirty years ago opportunities for blacks in Bowling Green were limited to teaching, working in barber and beauty shops and cooking or cleaning.

In many cities today, blacks are offered a variety of careers. But Bowling Green doesn't seem to have many new opportunities for young blacks, say local families whose children have found successful careers in other cities.

Many prepare for careers in Bowling Green but find only lower rungs on employment ladders.

"We have always tried to instill in our children the need to get an education and work hard," said Pat Owby. "Today, our son Joseph, who is 38, now is an assistant district attorney in Houston, Texas, but he never could have become that in Bowling Green."

At least three Bowling Green families have been separated by lack of good opportunities for their children. Most of the children are second-generation college graduates and have studied law, education, and business.

In other cities they've found professions as lawyers, coaches, principals, businessmen and musicians.

Alfred Moses, 46, graduated from Fisk University after growing up in Bowling Green. He received his master's from the University of Kentucky and his law degree from Loyola in Chicago. He now resides inPasadena, Calif., where he has a private law practice.

Mitchell Moses, 44, graduated from Florida A&M, after which he attended Butler University in Indianapolis. He is a small business consultant and lives in Overland Park, a suburb of Kansas City, Kan.

Joseph Owby, 38, graduated from Western before receiving his law degree at Kentucky. Now he's an assistant district attorney in Houston.

James Owby, 37, also attended Western. He didn't receive a degree but left to join a musical group, The Spurrows. He now attends Georgia State in Atlanta where he is majoring in journalism.

A photograph from an old family album.


Talitha D. Taylor graduated from Kentucky State and received her master's from Georgia State in elementary education. She teaches language arts and is in an administrative position with the Chapter of Arts.

Sharon E. Taylor, also attended Kentucky State before going on to Georgia State, where she received two master's degrees in physical education and the other in administration. She is now the assistant principal at Secorahy High School in Atlanta.

All these former Bowling Green residents came from an activist background. Their parents have been involved with community organizations and the school system.

The late O. A. Moses and his wife Dolores, the parents of Alfred and Mitchell, have always held a strong interest in the black community and some of the problems facing it.

Local woman stays home to recruit black students

By TRACEY D. SHOBE
Warren East High School

Dolores Moses, a retired English teacher, discusses race relations and opportunities for minorities in Bowling Green.

She said her job goes beyond basic orientation by telling black students about such things as academic programs, tutorial programs and the ups and downs of being on a predominately white campus. She added that a new program has begun to help students work on test taking skills.

Gatewood said one of the main problems among black students is that "they tend to wait until the last minute." She said some black students wait too late to prepare, and it makes it hard on them.

"It's important for students get a good academic base," she said, and it's important "for black student to mainstream within the total university, and not isolate themselves."

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Opinion

Blacks must not allow self destruction of race

One of the questions raised several times during the Minority Journalism Workshop was the ethics of exposing "one of your own."

The question was examined not only in the classroom, but also individually in the minds of students in the program.

What would you do in Washington Post editor Milton Coleman's position when he wrote that a presidential candidate called New York "Hymietown."

The song "Self Destruction" is more than a hot hit if one listens to more than just the beat. It is a hot question focusing on peace among the races.

Dissension within the races exists: There is no denying it.

Blacks experience it and express it everyday. Spike Lee's movie "School Daze" is a classic example of how trivial black people can be to their brothers and sisters.

Whether one falls into the category of a Wannabe, a black person who acts as if he wants to be white, or a Jigaboo, a black person who overbearingly displays his African heritage, blacks should stick together.

Blacks are somebody. Blacks will always be somebody, whether the white man, yellow man — or even the black man — wants to drag them down.

No one can drag someone down unless he lets him. Blacks should keep the doors open for the sake of their brothers and sisters and survival of their race.

If anyone has a problem with his brother or sister, discuss it and try to find a solution. And be sincere. If not, relations among the brothers and sisters will continue to decline until the black man is no more.

—NICOLE T. CURTIS
Sacred Heart Academy

Black journalists must be fair, objective, color blind

Could the reporter live with himself knowing what he had been told? Otherwise the prisoner would still be in jail and the victim would be alive.

What about Watergate where many of the stories were based largely on unnamed sources? If the reporters hadn't investigated and published what they learned, Richard Nixon would have continued as president.

Getting back to Coleman, if Jackson actually called Jews "Hymies" and New York City "Hymie-town," then he is not the best leader for the United States.

Coleman was paid to be a journalist, not a black journalist. Sure, he is black and a journalist, but Coleman did what he had to do.

There are other prominent black people in this world other than Jesse Jackson who could provide outstanding leadership for the nation: Coretta Scott King and Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young to name two.

Let's not follow a leader blindly. Be objective. Keep your eyes open and see the light.

—ALLONDA SPAULDING
Union County High School

Race more important than career, if choice necessary

"Journalism is a powerful profession. You can make a difference in people's lives," said John Pillow, a reporter for The Courier-Journal.

The power that a journalist has can make a difference in society, but when the journalist is black he has an extra responsibility.

During many black journalist's careers, there are situations where they must decide if they will be loyal to their race or to their career. When these situations arise a black journalist should place the welfare of his race before journalism.

It is apparent that the number of positive black role models are decreasing drastically. Time after time, day after day, black teenagers are turning to drug dealers, professional car thieves and teenage mothers as their role models.

Journalists should not "cover up" the errors of the society. But they must make efforts to show minorities in their best light instead of printing unnecessary negatives.

During the last presidential election, a black reporter quoted the Rev. Jesse Jackson as saying New York is "Hymietown." Although this statement was to be "off the record," it was printed in the Washington Post. This article bruised Jackson's campaign, scarred a positive role model and may have produced a minor setback in American history.

Journalists, especially black journalists, should not anxiously search for quotes which they can take out of context. They should use their influence to provide positive role models to young minorities.

Journalists often do not think of the long-term effects these negative examples may have on minority children of today. Nor does society consider the lasting effects negative role models have on the black culture. The lack of good role models is producing a lack of goals. Without goals, the black future is becoming non-existent.

Journalists must work to destroy the stereotypes which have kept people of all minorities restricted to those things which are second best. Black journalists have the power to motivate, cultivate and educate society. And black journalists must use these powers to assist in the advancement of the black race.

—Tiffany Anderson
Stratford High School
Lisa Anderson loves to write. This Cincinnati also loves government, but insists English is by far one of her stronger points.

Anderson plans to major in journalism at Franklin College in Indiana next fall. She chose journalism for the opportunity to express the facts to the public.

Although facts are one of the central elements in being successful in journalism, Anderson loves creating her own fiction stories, too. "I can easily describe a situation using creative writing." Anderson said her mother influenced her the most, instilling in her the motivation to strive for all of her goals. One of her teachers, Mrs. Maddin, also encouraged her to do well in English.

Anderson said the workshop is fulfilling and enriching and she highly recommends it.

Some of Anderson's hobbies are writing, modeling, photography, talking to honeys and just plain ole' chillin'.

She says that "being able to drive yourself to limits you never thought you could reach makes that person the success you desire. Motivation is the key to success."

Nicole
By Tracey Shobe
Warren East High School

To defy the stereotypes that are often given to students at an all girls school is one thing Nicole Curtis would like to accomplish as an ambassador of Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville.

Her job as an ambassador consists of speaking to girls at other schools to recruit them to Sacred Heart. Curtis said students of schools such as hers often get the image of being snobs.

She hopes to encourage more girls to attend Sacred Heart, and especially be a role model to encourage black girls to attend.

Curtis is also concerned about the problem of Apartheid in South Africa. "Some would be amazed at how much hatred there is generated towards a race, or person or their achievements," Curtis said. She added that she would like to do something "heroic" to make the public more aware of Apartheid that people would be stirred into action.

Being a successful writer/journalist is her career goal. She has begun preparation for that already. With the help of her mother, she learned about a program at Northwestern University for aspiring journalists. A few weeks later she received a phone call informing her she had been accepted for the five-week program.

In fact, she had to leave Western early to get to Evanston, Ill. She was sad to leave her friends but excited about the new challenge.
success turned inside out, so keep trying and help them make decisions.

Jackson Central kept Jackson from becoming active at school. A demand for attention from other teenagers, she is thinking about her own future. Jackson is not concentrating on the future, she is thinking about her own future.

When Jackson isn't concentrating on the future, she is thinking about her own future. She plans to attend Howard University or Tennessee State University, but until then she works for the Jackson Sun and hopes to become a successful journalist.

Tina
By CARLETTA TAYLOR
Pauls Valley High School

When listening to Tya' Jackson, 17, one would never suspect that back home in Jackson, Tenn., she is somewhat shy. "If I'm at school and there are people, I don't know I'm shy until I open up," Jackson said.

The tendency of "opening up" hasn't kept Jackson from becoming active at Jackson Central Merry High School in the Business Club, Latin Club, Keystone Club, and Student Council representative.

Tina
By LISA WRIGHT
Pauls Valley High School

Being an only child has its advantages and disadvantages, second-year Minority Journalism Workshpper Deanna Mills said.

"When I was younger I never had anyone to play with, but as I got older I discovered that I had the advantage of not ever having to worry about hearing, 'Can I go?' If I had a little brother or sister I may not have been able to go to some of the places I did," Mills said.

She has been to Washington, D.C., St. Louis (to see the Cardinals play) and Cancun, Mexico, with her Spanish class.

At Glasgow High School where she graduated with a 3.6 grade point average she was Foreign Language Club president, Student Council secretary, vice president of the Future Homemakers of America, vice president of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Debutante Club and a member of the Beta Club.

In the fall she will attend Western Kentucky University as a public relations major, and would someday like to play a big part in the world of broadcasting.

One of the most exciting moments in her life was when she was chosen to represent her school at a drug awareness forum by presenting a speech in front of Kentucky Gov. Wallace Wilkinson.

"This moment was so exciting to me because, besides the media being there, I got my big break as a school news correspondent on WCLU-AM 1490."

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Allynda
By JIMMY HART
Lexington High School

Though she is not set on journalism as a career, 16-year-old Allynda Spaulding said she feels that the Minority Journalism Workshop has been informative.

Spaulding, a Union County High School senior, is interested in writing behind the scenes at a television station. She said the workshop field trip to WBKO studios peaked her interest in television.

"I liked the technical aspect of it," she said.

She said that the workshop would help her in deciding on a career. One thing that drew her toward a journalism career was the amount of information that journalism has on public opinion.

"Power; I like power," she said. "Whatever journalists write, people tend to believe it."

She plans to major in mathematics at either the University of Louisville or Western Kentucky University when she graduates from high school.

Her hobbies include playing softball and volleyball. At her high school, she is Speech Club vice president, a color guard member, a six-year band member and Future Homemakers of America historian.

In church, she serves as junior choir president and Sunday school secretary.

Spaulding visits the Higgins Learning Center for retarded children and rest homes in Union County.

She also likes listening to rap and soul music. Her favorite song is "Pump It Up" by new rapper M.C. Hammer.

Carletta
By TINA L. POLLARD
Union County High School

From basketball to soccer, 17-year-old Carletta Taylor manages to enjoy everything but rocks.

The senior at Paducah Tilghman High School is president of the Student Council and also a member of the mock trial. She likes to talk about politics and daily issues, however, she hates talking about the formation of rocks.

Basketball isn't one of her favorite sports, it is the sport for her. "Detroit Pistons are a very talented team and so is Michael Jordan," of the Chicago Bulls, she said. She also likes to watch baseball games and go bike riding.

Asked whether she thinks a reporter should be black first or be a journalist first, Taylor said, "That depends a lot on the situation." For example if you were conducting an interview, that's one thing. If you're talking one on one, that's something else.

During weekends Taylor usually spends her time at the movies or at Putt-Putt golf. She and her friend, Laurel, enjoy attending Christian youth music concerts. Taylor says Christian music has a good message.

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Meet the staff...

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Taylor said she only likes to go shopping only to get a particular thing, not just to waste time. She said she could find better ways to spend time.

Taylor is often called “Peanut” by her friends because she always takes peanut butter with her when she goes away from home — just in case she doesn’t like the food.

Detrick

By ALYCIA BATSON
Reitz High School

Spending time with his family, playing ball with his buddies around the neighborhood and being with the best he can be are among the qualities that make up Detrick Wells.

Around his hometown of Paducah, the 17-year-old junior at Paducah Tilghman High School is known for his devotion to basketball and football.

“I don’t think or at least I can’t remember a time when I wasn’t playing some kind of ball,” Wells said. “I know that I may not be as good as some of the other guys on the team, but I work hard and as my coach says if you work hard at something in the long run good things will come from it.”

And good things are happening to him. Not only has he lettered three years in track and two in basketball and football, but also he was named the 1989 MVP in basketball, won the Outstanding Junior-cup in football and was named to the 1988 All-State Football team.

Next year he will be captain of both the basketball and football teams.

Despite his success, he is still a down-to-earth guy. He credits it to his belief in God and his close relationship with his family.

“A lot of athletes will say, ‘I’m good because of this reason or that,’ not giving credit to who’s really due. I thank God for the abilities he has given me because he simply didn’t have to do it.

He recently joined Greater Love Missionary Baptist Church, where he is a member of the youth fellowship.

Besides playing sports, he also enjoys writing and is a sports reporter for his school newspaper, The Bell. “You know, some of my buddies think it’s funny or even strange that a ‘jock’ writes, but I enjoy it. Don’t get me wrong, it’s hard work and everything but I feel it’s worth it.”

He plans to attend Notre Dame University and major in psychology and minor in journalism.

Although he doesn’t really have any desire to play professional football, he said he would like to be a newscaster for ESPN.

Lisa

By DEANNA MILLS
Glasgow High School

It only takes one look into the glazed brown eyes of Lisa Wright to see one of her most important traits: she’s not afraid to dream.

The 18-year-old graduate of Manual High School in Louisville, has enrolled for the fall semester at Western Kentucky University where she plans to pursue a career in journalism.

Wright likes to talk on the phone, but unlike most other teenage girls she does not like to shop.

“Being close to God and being shy around big groups of people but outgoing around groups of small numbers” is how the third year veteran of the Minority Journalism Workshop describes herself.

“I appreciate this workshop because a lot of the time black people aren’t given the chance to show their true potential,” Wright said.

In 10 years she would like to see herself behind a podium at Western Kentucky University sharing her journalism experiences with aspiring young minority journalists. If she cannot do that, she hopes to own The Courier-Journal.

Modeling is passion, but runway may lead to advertising

By DETRICK WELLS
Paducah Tilghman High School

For Andree DeLoach, modeling is a passion. But she realizes that not everyone who wants to be a model succeeds.

That’s why she is preparing herself for a career in advertising.

DeLoach, 17, of Nashville, Tenn., is one of 19 students attending the Minority Journalism Workshop.

Although DeLoach said her first career choice is most definitely modeling, “if my modeling career doesn’t go anywhere I would like to be in print advertising.”

DeLoach has been interested in modeling since she was 8 years old and got her first opportunity to model at 14. Her first modeling job was an earrings ad for Floyds of London Inc., a retail jewelry company with an outlet in Nashville. Though she wasn’t paid, she considered it a start.

“I do a lot of free-style modeling,” DeLoach said. “I do it for the experience not the money.”

In a crowd, DeLoach’s 5 feet 10, 125-pound frame puts her heads and shoulders above most people. Her most notable features are her long silvery hair and full lips.

“I’ve always thought of my lips as big,” DeLoach said, “but I learned in modeling school that big lips were a very good asset in modeling.”

Some models today have silicon injected into their lips, but DeLoach said she was fortunate that God gave her full lips.

DeLoach’s size five figure is average for a models, who usually wear sizes ranging from three to eight.

DeLoach defines a model as a representative who tries to sell a product with the body.

DeLoach, who attends Whites Creek High School, attended the Barbizon School of Modeling and has taken modeling classes from Suzonne Ford in New York.

If DeLoach does make it in modeling, she wants to be either a runway or print model or both.

But she said her backup career in journalism will still involve modeling. She hopes to focus on fashion as part of her work in print advertising.

Besides modeling and writing, DeLoach enjoys dancing, singing, reading and participating in community civic activities. She is an active member of the Metropolitan Interdominationa Church.

“Although modeling is my first love, the preparation that I’ve taken educationally will be the backbone of my success,” DeLoach said.

DeLoach poses during a fashion shoot near the end of the workshop.
Literacy changes lives

BY LISA ANDERSON
Mount Healthy High School

Although we may remember the school teachers who taught us to read or the various children's books we loved, we really don't remember at what time we became literate.

An illiterate adult who learns to read and write after falling out of a literacy program, however, never forgets the days that changed his life.

Elizabeth Lyons has changed many lives.

Lyons is on the Barney River Area Development District (BRADD) board of directors. In 1984 she received a "small lump of money" from the state to begin literacy institutes within the 10-county BRADD area.

In 1986 Lyons worked with WBKO to show specials on the program and some of its students. Lyons also worked with ABC and its Plus Project to put on a five-hour program.

BRADD's Literacy Program includes people of all ages and races, most of whom never had the opportunity to go to school.

Lyons said, "20 or 30 years ago it was most important to have food on the table."

Other common reasons for illiteracy, Lyons said, are because the people were not encouraged or had poor eyesight which set them back.

She said that the time it takes for a student to learn to read depends on that student's dedication and willingness to learn.

Lyons cited three examples of students who went on major achievements. One who had cerebral palsy wrote an autobiography. Another wrote a story about lamps.

The most successful accomplishment by any literacy student was that of a Lexington man by the name of Billy Duvall.

Duvall had to quit school when he was a young boy in order to work on a farm. His hard work in the Literacy Program paid off when he was named the top winner this past April at the "Slices of Life" banquet.

Many adults get discouraged as they go through the program because the nurturing they received from family members is lost. Wives no longer ask their husbands to read medicine labels, and parents no longer ask their children to read cooking directions.

"When they start to see this person change, this becomes real uncomfortable for them," Lyons said. When illiterate adults learn to read, they enter a world that they never thought they'd enter or understand.

The oldest student that Lyons remembers in the program was a dedicated 79-year-old man diagnosed with cancer who eventually died before he could complete the course.

Not only does Lyons work with illiteracy as a part of her BRADD activities, she also educates areas through her involvement with the NAACP.

Lyons is the director of the Youth Improvement Program, which helps young adults learn to read, they enter a world that they never thought they'd enter or understand.

Lyons said, "I've never forgotten the days that changed his life."

Refugees are adjusting to American ways

Continued from Page 1

What he most likes about America is freedom, something he never had in his native country.

Hung Trinh came to the United States with his family as Vietnamese refugees in 1980.

When they escaped on a nighttime voyage from Vietnam, a group of Americans who were on a boat saw the refugees. Many of the Vietnamese were sick and starving from the long journey, and the Americans couldn't believe they were still alive.

All of the refugees were rescued and brought to America. Besides his wife and children, Trinh's brother, sister and parents escaped, too.

Though it was a tradition in Vietnam for the family to live together, family members moved into separate houses when they got to Bowling Green as a way of adjusting to American life.

"Family traditions have remained the same. We all go in the way of our father," Trinh said. Whatever one generation does, the following generation usually does the same.

For instance, Vietnamese women are expected to obey their husbands.

One of the things that Trinh really likes about America is the fact that everyone is entitled to voice his opinion.

"In Vietnam you can go to jail for five years just for talking about the government party," he said.

"It's easier to acquire an education now, than later," said Herbert Oldham. The director of pupil personnel for the Bowling Green City School system said he tries to tell students the advantages of getting a good education.

Staying in school critical, educator says

KIDS sponsor urges minorities to get involved

BY NICOLE T. CURTIS
Sacred Heart Academy

Drug and alcohol use among teenagers today is a trendy conversation topic, but not everybody takes steps to solve the problem.

But Beth Allen, a business teacher at Warren East High School, is doing just that. She is one of four sponsors of the nationally-recognized Warren East KIDS (Knowledge and Information in Drug and Alcohol Substances).

The KIDS team was recognized last week in Washington, D.C., by President George Bush as one of 27 "drug-free" schools in the nation and the only one in Kentucky.

Freida Bailey, who represented the KIDS members in Washington, said, "It's an honor to be a part of something that stands for such a good cause." She added that the involvement the sponsors put into the program "plays a big role in the success of the team."

Allen stressed that being a drug-free school doesn't actually mean the school is completely free of drugs. "It means we have an active program, and students are aware of the problem."

The award was based on things such as activities sponsored by KIDS and the concept of its intervention program.

Under the intervention program, a student who is caught with illegal substances is sent for an evaluation, Allen said.

If the results of the evaluation show a problem, the student goes through treatment with a counselor, who tries to steer the student away from the problem.

As a sponsor of KIDS, Allen said she spends about three hours a week along with other sponsors — Debra Richey, Pegy Cowles and Kamil Howard — organizing and supervising activities.

She said she began working with the team after helping one year with After Prom, a KIDS-sponsored activity held after the Junior-Senior Prom to give students a substance-free place to have fun.

Allen said she became involved in KIDS "because I like the concept of the program."

She said "not enough" minority students are involved in the program. "That's where the problem is. As minorities, we seem to take a back seat."

Allen said KIDS serves as a support group for students with substance-abuse problems.

"KIDS will help, because students who are caught (with drugs) need that support," Allen said. "They've gone through something traumatic."

"I try to instill in them the necessity of getting a well-rounded education," Oldham said. "From there I can only hope they make the right decisions.

Oldham recently received an award from the Bowling Green Human Rights Commission based on his years of involvement.
**Students more dedicated in Korea, professor says**

**By ANGELA MOREHEAD**

J. Graham Brown School

Dedication is necessary for success in higher education, according to Dr. H. Youn Kim, an associate professor of economics at Western.

Kim should know because his dedication helped him win an award for distinguished research and creative activity.

"I feel good about myself," Kim said. Since childhood he has wanted to be a teacher, and that's what he has accomplished.

Kim, originally from Seoul, South Korea, has been a faculty member at Western for six years. He received his undergraduate degree at Sogang University in South Korea.

He majored in economics because he said it was a popular major for college-bound Koreans even before because of the program's excellence.

To be the successful person he wanted to be, he came to the United States in 1975 and enrolled at the University of Cincinnati where he earned his master's degree and doctorate in economics.

"Coming to the United States was not easy," Kim said. His most difficult adjustment was the language. Even though English was learned as a second language at the junior-high level in Korea, it was still hard for him.

Kim's teaching, research and writing never stops, but he likes them.

"The only thing in working so hard," Kim said, "is that I can't spend all the time that I want to with my family." It's something that concerns him but things are working out, he said.

After a year of work at the University of Cincinnati, Kim went back to Korea, got married and came back to the United States. Kim and his wife have two children, Raymond and Stanley.

The better research facilities in the United States prompted Kim to return. He also wanted to take advantage of better educational opportunities.

Even with all his accomplishments, his ultimate goal is to become the best researcher, at least at Western.

Kim raises his children on Korean principles. He wants them to be responsible and disciplined. He believes that young Koreans are more responsible than young Americans, especially in the classroom.

Because of the discipline with which Korean children are taught, there are fewer problems with Korean teenagers. He also teaches his children to be respectful to others, especially elders, another strong Korean philosophy.

Kim said that he wishes American students would be more responsible and dedicated.

Efforts and study habits of the American people don't compare to those of Koreans, Kim said. That really concerns him, especially when it involves some of his own students at Western.

He wishes more students had a "dedication to education," because education is so important. If more people were dedicated, Kim thinks their attitudes and behavior would be improved.

Although he likes Bowling Green, Kim often thinks about going back home. He and his wife, Jae Jang, miss their families and friends dearly.

*Newcomers integrating Japanese and American cultures*

**By RONA R. COBB**

duPont Manual High School

Once separated by thousands of miles, Japan and America are next-door neighbors in Bowling Green.

The Japanese, most of whom are here because the companies for which they work decided to locate in this community, said they are comfortable in their business and personal relationships.

Yet, there's still alienation.

Max Fukunaga of Bando Manufacturing of America Inc., who arrived here a year ago, said that at first children would stare at him.

But now he believes people are "very friendly and cooperative to outsiders like ourselves."

Living in a small city such as Bowling Green has some disadvantages. There are no Japanese restaurants, and there are not as many houses to rent as in Japan.

Even though there are drawbacks, there are also advantages. Ken Sasaki, a recent graduate of Warren Central High School, said Tokyo is crowded and loud.

"One thing Japan is lacking is vacation area," Fukunaga said, and the houses are very small.

Being able to relate to the community better by already speaking English was in the Japanese residents' favor. Some, like Saburo Araki, Bando Manufacturing manager of administration, are still trying to perfect their English by looking at television and reading various types of literature.

Araki's 3-year-old son knows English better than Japanese, and at times it is difficult for his parents to understand him in English.

Sasaki, who will attend the University of Kentucky next fall to major in business, said that if one can speak English in Japan he is considered important. He hopes to get a job that is English oriented.

Araki believes it is very important to learn English. He said many Japanese people believe the Atlanta-born child has the right to double Americanization of the United States and Japan.

Maintaining the Japanese culture is significant, too. Some find it is very difficult to do because of the location of Bowling Green and the small number of Japanese.

Fukunaga, who helps other Japanese adjust to the community, said that when he visits Japan he goes to the bookstore and gets different types of books and brings them to the United States. His company will also subscribe to a Japanese newspaper so he can keep himself informed on current events in Japan.

Some Japanese still observe old traditions. When he enters his home, Shu Yabuushi, Topura Waggner Nisho Iwai vice-president, takes off his shoes, an ancient Japanese tradition.

There are decorative Japanese items in the home, and Japanese meals are cooked and served. "I try to eat at least two to three Japanese meals a week," said Fukunaga.

Through these practical traditions comes an integration of Japanese and American culture. Honor student Sasaki, who lives with his parents, is a part of the very small five percent of Japanese Christians. Most Japanese are Buddhists.

Another American quality Sasaki has adopted is his love for pop artists such as Whitney Houston and Michael Jackson.

Even though Sasaki believes that his education might be hampered by attending an American university, he still prefers to live in the United States.

There are real differences between Japanese and American in their business relationships.

*Educator has dedicated life to keeping youngsters in school*

**Continued from Page 8**

With the school system and another award from the Greenwood Optimist Club, for which he was recommended by his superintendent,

An educator of pupil personnel, Oldham is in charge of making sure all students above six years of age are in school. That also includes working with children with behavior problems and dropouts.

When a child hasn't been attending school, Oldham said the first thing he has to do is talk with the parents and discuss why the child has been absent.

Following that, the child's parents may be taken to court and prosecuted, and the child may be removed from the home indefinitely.

Over the years, Oldham said the overall student is much better educated.

Blacks are sometimes stereotyped as athletes first, students second. Oldham said, "Any student who has the ability, their first priority should be academics."

He added that there are some students that just don't have the ability and for them athletics and the grade requirements that go along with it help give them a "push" to keep their grades up.

Oldham said all students should "be serious about education." He said the student can take an attitude of either "pay me now, or pay me later." He added that the opportunities are there for black students if they take advantage of them.

Oldham's advice: "Get all you can today, because tomorrow is much harder."
Critics say Prop 42 isn’t good answer

By THOMYA HOGAN
Northwest High School

New National Collegiate Athletic Association guidelines raising the entrance and eligibility requirements for college athletes discriminate against blacks and single out the student athlete.

At least that’s the opinion of two Western coaches, a sports writer for the New York Times and a Lady Topper basketball player.

The new guidelines, Proposition 42, requires incoming freshman athletes to have a 2.0 overall high school grade-point average and score the minimum of 700 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or a 18 on the American College Test (ACT). Proposition 48 was passed to change the entry requirements for college athletes, it was to be tested for three to five years before taking any definite action.

Even though the minimum three-year period has not passed, the NCAA is now trying to add Proposition 42 as an amendment to Proposition 48.

The consequences of not meeting these requirements for college admission are: 

See PROP, Page 11

McNeal hoping to play in NBA

By DETRICK WELLS
Paducah Tilghman High School

Young men on hot, steamy summer courts everywhere dream of turning pro, of becoming the next Larry Bird or Michael Jordan as they swish the nets again and again.

Brett McNeal only recently dared to dream that dream. And now through hard work and with the addition of four expansion teams in the National Basketball Association, he may get his chance.

"I never really thought about professional basketball until after my junior year in college," McNeal said. "It hasn't really hit me that I have a chance to play professional basketball. I'm just concentrating on making it happen.

In the NBA draft held Tuesday, McNeal was not selected. But because of the NBA's growth, he will have a chance to play in the "Big League".

McNeal participated in pre-draft camps in Chicago and Portsmouth, Va. "I think I did pretty good in Chicago and I did okay in Portsmouth," McNeal said.

McNeal says he would like to return home to Minnesota to play in the NBA, but otherwise has no preference. His best chance to make the NBA may be to try out with the Minnesota Timberwolves as they swish the nets again and again.

See McNEAL, Page 11

Lady Topper recognizes role on and off the court

By ANDREE DELLOACH
Whites Creek High School

Pushing for position under the basket for a rebound is one of the responsibilities of Michelle Clark, center of the Lady Topper basketball team.

Although Clark is not a starter, she will play a key role in the success of the team. "By being a senior and the younger players will look to me to help lead the team," Clark said.

The Lady Toppers have had seven straight 20-win seasons and have played in the post-season NCAA tournament each of the last six years.

Clark's high school team, Atherton, went to the Girls Sweet 16 three consecutive years and lost the state championship by one point in her junior year.

Her team didn't make it to the tournament her senior year, but she said she wasn't discouraged. She worked harder to succeed.

Clark believes her game improves when she plays with men. "Some girls feel that playing with the guys is too rough," she said, "but I like to play with guys because my game improves at a faster rate.

"Should the rules be changed when girls play on boys teams? "I don't want any charity," Clark said.

Clark's philosophy is, "You can achieve any goal with hard work and faith." Her dedication brought her scholarship offers from Tennessee, Louisville, San Diego and others, in addition to Western.

A recreation major and psychology minor, Clark is working this summer in basketball camps where she said she advises her players to "stay in school and go after your goals. Your biggest enemy is yourself.

As a basketball player, Clark believes she has a special responsibility to the community.

"You have to watch what you do in the community because you are a leader," she said. "You also have to have your priorities in order.

Lady Topper senior Michelle Clark talks about her successful basketball career.

See ATHLETE'S, Page 11

Adjustment depends on individuals

By THOMYA HOGAN
Northwest High School

Life for black students can be hard, especially when they are athletes at a predominantly white school.

Yet the difficulties they face depend on the person, according to Russell Foster, a senior linebacker on Western's football team, and Rodney Ross, a senior forward on the Hilltopper basketball team.

A Florida native and "beach bum," Foster came to Western from a predominantly black high school, and he said his freshman year was a complete turnaround.

He adjusted because, "I can feel comfortable anywhere I go." Although many people here are friendly, Foster said they are intimidated by his size. He weighs 220 pounds and stands 6 feet 1 inch.

"My first reason for being here was to play football. Western was the only I-AA school to offer me a full four-year scholarship," he said.

Yet, he said former head coach Dave Roberts seemed to favor white players. "He would work the black players like mules, just pushing and working," Foster said.

But Foster likes new head coach Jack Harbaugh because he treats everyone as equals. He takes "no nonsense.

One of Foster's biggest complaints is his social life.

"On campus, there is no black entertainment at all, except for Niteclass on Thursday nights," he said. "Other than that, all I do is hang out with my buddies and play tennis. I also go to the library a lot because I like to read.

The linebacker described the relationship among black students as "for each his own" attitude. For example, he said a black speaker came to Western, and there were more white people than black people in the audience.

Blacks tend to stick together more at a black college, he said.

But the discrimination does not end socially. In the classroom, he said, "White students can get away with more.

He said academic advisement is "weak," and classes are "not so challenging." He blamed part of that on the lack of black professors. In trying to change it, "you are just talking to other white people.

Ross, an Atlanta, Ga., native, also is on a four-year scholarship with only I-AA school.

But he said that's not his primary reason for being here. "The people here are really nice, they have a small class size, and it has a good basketball tradition.

For Ross, membership has its privileges.

"I get invited to a lot of white frat parties just because of the fact that I am a
Prop 42 isn’t the answer, critics say

Continued from Page 10

requirements would not only mean the athlete would not be able to participate as a freshman, but also would be ineligible to receive any grant from the institution.

Michelle Clark, a senior basketball center for the Lady Toppers, believes that Proposition 42 is discriminatory against blacks and that it is unfair that standardized test scores can determine acceptance into a college.

"Some people don't take good tests. Some of the smartest people could fail the test but that doesn't mean that they are not worthy to get accepted to college," Clark said.

New York Times sports writer Tommy George does not consider Proposition 42 to be discriminatory, but he does find it most interesting that the group that will be most affected will be the incoming black athletes.

George docs not consider Proposition 42 is unfair that blacks and that it is unfair that people are involved in my career.

He said his job as a journalist is to bring information that will enlighten and entertain the world.

"I see all journalists as a link to the world," he said.

He explained different aspects of writing and read a few articles from newspapers to workshoppers.

"Good writing is like music," George said. "It's easy to read when it flows like music. It should have a beginning, middle, and end. Make your stories shine by creating an atmosphere that is fun instead of the mundane. Take chances and think about what you want to say and how it's to be said.

"I never had any setbacks in my career because I invested in my future," he said in closing. "I chose writing over the parties because I knew there would be plenty of parties. I'm doing the things I like.

Sportswriter urges students to work, keep dreams alive

By DIONNE MARIE FLYNN
Woodward High School

To give something back to a program he once learned so much from, a New York Times sports writer gave words of encouragement to Minority Journalism Workshop participants.

"You all are helping to break down stereotypes and barriers that exist for black Americans today, being black and wanting to write," Tommy George said.

"The more you apply yourself the better you will be no matter what field you choose. Don't let your dreams die!

The National Football League writer for the New York Times returned to Western, his alma mater, because "I am interested in seeing you all succeed in your choice of profession, especially in journalism.

"I want to give something back." George said. "This is where I learned a great deal from a great deal of people, and because the experience with The Newspaper Fund, a subsidiary of Dow Jones. While you are here, make use of this program," he urged the workshoppers.

George said his career began when an article he wrote for his high school newspaper went first place out of 730 in a national contest.

"I initially thought that I would be a psychiatrist, but my friends encouraged me to pursue writing after winning the contest," he said.

"I realized that I was fortunate in being blessed with a sense of humanity, getting to know people for who they really are," George said. "People want to read about things they can feel as oppose to theory. The psychiatrist in me carried over into my writing. All the things I like and my experiences are involved in my career.

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Athlete’s free time is limited

Continued from Page 10

Haskins says daughter will help Lady Gophers

Continued from Page 10

Haskins has been interested in basketball since the third grade, but she once said her father never pushed her to excel in the sport.

Haskins is a graduate of Warren Central High School, which won the Sweet Sixteen, Kentucky's state championship, her senior year.

She holds several career records at Western. She's third on the all-time scoring list with 1,796 points and first in career assists and steals with 731 and 285, respectively.

She was named an All-American in 1984, 1986 and 1987 and was All-Sun Belt Conference 1983-1987.

Her father said, "Her ability to relate to young players will help in recruiting. She'll be a good asset to the team."
Blacks need to solidify

Continued from Page 1

rate ladder of success as he stayed on the same rung.

Whitlock strongly believes that blacks need to admit to themselves that they have a problem within the black community and be willing to do whatever it takes to solidify it.

Whitlock said that the black race needs to become a better support system.

"We need to encourage our brothers and sisters to be the best they can be in all of these things and we're not pushing our people the way we should."

Whitlock is not the only person who experienced a cultural shock when moving to Bowling Green.

"Bowling Green is about 20 years behind compared to metro areas according to the number of minorities in different jobs," said Gwendolyn Downs, executive director of the Bowling Green Warren County Human Rights Commission.

Downs moved to Bowling Green from St. Louis nine years ago. "To move here is a total adjustment."

Not only was Downs shocked by the time warp in which she said Bowling Green appears to be stuck, but she was also awed by the lack of black role models in Bowling Green.

"There are a very few places where you can see minorities in the business world," she said. "We have no one who is sensitive to the needs of minorities." Downs also feels that there aren't enough blacks in decision-making positions.

She's concerned about keeping black Western graduates in Bowling Green.

Even though Downs agrees that minorities have made leaps and bounds in acquiring privileges, she is quite disturbed with the way minorities are exercising these privileges.

"Brown vs. the Topeka, Kans., Board of Education (the 1954 Supreme Court decision striking down separate but equal) was the turning point for blacks because we were taking the fight from the streets to the court system, which is where it belongs," Downs said.

"I have no sympathy for anyone who doesn't vote or register," Downs said. She pointed out that people such as John Chaney, who was beaten and shot to death in Mississippi in 1964 while trying to register to vote, sacrificed so much for the privilege. But now, she said, "there seems to be so much apathy," she said.

According to Downs, education is the key to all the problems facing minorities.

"More effort, monies, and time need to be spent in teaching and educating those on different cultures. It (education) will drop some of the myths people have," Downs said. "There'll be more understanding and as a result, there will be more respect. It should start at elementary (school) and continue in the work place." Downs believes the employment practice changes are "going to have to start with the city and county as the role model for private enterprises to emulate."

Whitlock and Downs both agree the struggle is not over. It has only just begun.

Unless the black community pulls together to support each other, "we're going to continue to reach up," Downs said, "but no one is going to be there to pull us up."

Woman sacrifices, children live

Continued from Page 1

Guatemala isn't poor."

Children rummage through junk yards searching for food.

"One out of three children are severely malnourished," said Schwank, who is also a nurse in Bowling Green. "And babies die because their countries don't have ventilator machines."

All heart machines are unplugged because there is no money to support them. And it isn't uncommon for children to be killed on nearby railroad tracks.

With the assistance of Pam Coff, president of the Kentucky-Tennessee chapter of Heal the Children, Schwank has placed children in 40 homes across Kentucky and Tennessee. Heal the Children is a volunteer organization designed to help sick children in countries around the world.

"Fifty-five to 60 kids stay in Kentucky. They are in Liberty, Lexington, Louisville and Bowling Green. There are also some in Nashville," Schwank said.

About 200 children are on a waiting list to come to homes in Kentucky and Tennessee. Most of the children are from El Salvador and Guatemala.

The children's surgeries are paid for as a donation by hospitals, a cost of $2.5 million dollars in the last two years.

Gatewood enjoys working in her community

Continued from Page 3

In addition to working with high school students, Gatewood is also involved in a three-year-old program called "Project Aims."

The program involves seventh and eighth grade black students from Hopkinsville, Franklin and Bowling Green. "It gives them an early push and motivation to make them go on in high school," Gatewood said.

Students meet twice a month on Satur­day mornings and participate in a variety of activities. For example, once a year the students get to spend a week on campus, go to classes, and in general get a feel of college life.

Gatewood said students are placed in the program by request of a parent. It's state funded, so there are no fees for the students. Students remain in the program for two years.

Gatewood said she enjoys working in her community, with black students. "If a student has a need, I couldn't turn them down."