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Pilot program a hit

BY ELIZABETH HUEGEL
AND JUSTINA WONG

Mind-opening. An interesting learning experience. Fun.

These are some of the ways students described the Chuck Stone Program for Diversity in Education and Media, held June 24 to July 1, at UNC-Chapel Hill. This is the program's pilot year, but organizers and participants hope it's not the last.

"I hope the program will return," said scholastic media director Monica Hill. "The Chuck Stone Program offers a unique opportunity for students of diverse backgrounds to explore issues and media opportunities at a top-notch journalism school."

The Chuck Stone Program is designed for a diverse range of students. Of the 34 applicants, 20 students were selected from different socio-economic, religious and ethnic backgrounds.

"It was a selective process," said assistant professor Napoleon Byars, who directed the workshop. "We looked for students with an interest in journalism and the ability to write and communicate."

The application process included an essay, a high school transcript and a letter of recommendation from high school advisers. Workshop participants lived in Granville Towers and received special instruction from journalism professors. Students also worked on their own newspaper, *The Mix*, and learned about diversity.

"The country is becoming so diverse," said Senior Associate Dean Jan Yopp. "In order to cover diversity, we have to have newsrooms that reflect the complexion and makeup of society."

The program, named for former UNC professor Chuck Stone, is modeled after a three-week high school journalism program in the early 1990s and targets rising high school seniors. A \$25,000 grant from the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation funded the program.

"We knew we wanted to do something to honor Stone and reach out to high school students," said Speed Hallman, assistant dean for development at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. "We're very excited to be able



Anna Baloch receives coaching from Professor Napoleon Byars on her profile story. Students received one-on-one editing from faculty during the workshop.

PHOTOS BY STACEY AXELROD

to offer this program."

The funding provided for textbooks, meals, lodging and transportation.

The workshop days began at 8 a.m. and ended at 9 p.m., after which students could visit Franklin Street. Participants also sat in on newspaper budget meetings with *The Daily Tar Heel* and *The Herald-Sun*.

"It was really interesting to see a working newspaper in progress," said Meredith Eumont, a workshop participant. "I liked seeing how they got their stories and I hope to see the final product."

The students interacted with professors during lectures such as "Writing Stereotypes" given by associate professor Rhonda Gibson and "Ethics in Media Writing" by associate professor Lois Boynton.

"I'm definitely learning to become a better writer," said

Olivia Graham, another participant whose favorite class was "How to Conduct and Interview" by Byars.

"I love Chapel Hill," Graham said. "I can definitely picture myself studying in the journalism school and working on *The Daily Tar Heel*."

The students also attended a Durham Bulls professional baseball game, shopped at Southpoint Mall and experienced campus life.

Students got a real picture of UNC-CH. "It's a university that truly cares about students and their welfare," participant Taylor Howard said. "It's not just outwardly beautiful." Howard plans to apply for enrollment next in 2008.

Students agreed that the program was a great success and a unique learning opportunity. "I liked the network of friendships we made," said participant Tiffany Thornton.

Left to right:

Ebonee Blackshaw and Professor Queenie Byars discuss a story.

Students Viraj Doshi and Joseph Johnson work diligently to make the deadline.

Kashanna Fair expressively makes a point about stereotyping.





Chuck Stone

His life, career reflect commitment to diversity

BY DESTINI BALDWIN
AND ELIZABETH WANGU



ALEXA ASENDORF
Tampa, Fla.

DESTINI BALDWIN
Charlotte, N.C.

AMNA BALOCH
Raleigh, N.C.

EBONEE BLACKSHAW
Cary, N.C.

CONISHA COOPER
Huntersville, N.C.

VIRAJ DOSHI
Raleigh, N.C.

MEREDITH EUMONT
New Orleans, La.

KASHANNA FAIR
Washington, D.C.

OLIVIA GRAHAM
Durham, N.C.

ELIZABETH HUEGEL
Raleigh, N.C.

TAYLOR HOWARD
Harrisburg, N.C.

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Chuck Stone used an acronym to evaluate his stories: FEAT, which stands for fair, even-handed, accurate and thorough. Likewise, this acronym can be used to describe his remarkable character and journalism career.

Stone was born in 1924 in a segregated hospital in St. Louis. He spent his childhood in Hartford, Conn., and attended Wesleyan University where he was the only black student in his class.

Stone is well known for his journalistic endeavors and continuous efforts in helping spread diversity. Richard Cole, former dean and now a professor at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and a close friend to Stone said, "He was always interested in diversity. If you had to pick one thing he was for, it was diversity."

Stone's love for journalism is apparent by his achievements. "Journalism chose me," he often states. One of Stone's greatest achievements was the establishment of the National Association of Black Journalists, where he was elected its first president in 1975.

Professor Stone was also a good friend with influential people such as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., and John F. Kennedy.

"I was such a close friend of Martin Luther King Jr.," Stone said. "After a service I was offered a position by Martin, the position of executive director of the Southern



"Stone was a wonderful speaker; he always stood up for fair play for all peoples."

-Dean Emeritus
Richard Cole

Christian Leadership Conference."

Stone said he immediately declined the position because he didn't want to live in the South and expose his three children to segregation.

Stone was a prominent civil rights activist who wrote an array of texts illustrating the importance of fairness and diversity.

"Stone was a wonderful speaker; he always stood up for fair play for all peoples," Cole said.

When Cole was asked to describe Stone in one word, he was puzzled for a moment but then answered firmly, "Raconteur." According to the American Heritage

Dictionary, a raconteur is one who has wit and skill in relating stories and anecdotes interestingly.

As a beloved professor emeritus of the University of North Carolina, Stone is most remembered for his charming way with words and signature polka-dot bow ties that only Stone could pull off.

Just as Stone evaluated his stories using FEAT, the same acronym can also be used also to evaluate and describe him. A fantastic teacher with an easy-going personality, an ambassador for freedom of speech and a true inspiration to all participants in the Chuck Stone Program.

u DID YOU KNOW? t

u Origins of State Names. When most recite the "50 Nifty United States" they take for granted that the state names are American born. In fact, the reality is quite different. "What you find is that many are not of English origin," Assistant Professor Paul Cuadros said. Cuadros names several trends. "For example, in the Midwest, you find mostly indigenous names, and in parts of the South and Southwest, you see Spanish language names because either Spain or Mexico had inhabited those lands before America." (Paul Cuadros)

u Innocent Until Proven Guilty. Britney Spears lost a libel case against *Us Weekly* because she was not able to prove defamation, or the fact that the information would cause her to "be held up to hatred, ridicule, or contempt." Spears, who expressed her sexuality publicly on

several occasions, wished to sue the magazine over its statements about an alleged sex-tape of Spears and her then husband, Kevin Federline. The judge ruled that because of her status as a public figure and her hypersexuality, a sex tape would not defame her reputation. (Cathy Packer)

u Photojournalism. There is much more to taking a picture than meets the eye. Photographers have to think about contrast, portrait or landscape, background, linear lining, and the hallowed Rule of Thirds, among other things. (Stacey Axelrod)

u Dolphins and Sea Lions, Our First Line of Defense. The government is looking for new terrorism detectors— an underwater system involving dolphins and sea lions. Their abilities are apparently more advanced than modern

technology. (DTH budget meeting)

u Daily Tar Heel Members Scare Away Future Reporters. Students visited *The Daily Tar Heel*, UNC's student newspaper, and sat in on a budget meeting. Reporters discussed story ideas and updates on photos. Summer Editor Clint Johnson, while answering questions about how time consuming working at the DTH was, responded, "Last year's Editor-in-Chief Joseph Schwartz said he pulled in about 80 hours a week." Some students were apprehensive about potentially working at the DTH. Most students still want to work on the publication, however. "Actually going to *The Daily Tar Heel* encouraged me even more to work at the DTH," said Elizabeth Huegel, a Chuck Stone participant and Raleigh native.

Compiled by Amna Baloch

A passion for fashion

BY CONISHA COOPER

A self-proclaimed modern day Audrey Hepburn and workaholic, Alexa Asendorf, 17, dreams of a life in the city equipped with a corner office and editor's desk at *Vogue* magazine.

It was only 18 months ago that Asendorf first became passionate about fashion and interested in pursuing a career in magazines. Her journalism experience, however, runs beyond a high school newspaper.

"I don't do school newspapers," said Asendorf.

This past year at Asendorf's school, Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Fla., the school newspaper was censored because of a controversial story.

"There were statistics about IB versus traditional kids that broke it down into race. A lot of people were upset about that," Asendorf said. "When you're in high school, you're limited."

Instead of writing for a high school paper, Asendorf writes for the *St. Petersburg Times*. She is part of the X-Press Team, a 12-person group of teenagers ages 13-18 who work on the paper under the leadership of editor Sherry Robinson. She also participated in the Poynter Institute High School Journalism Program. Like her journalistic experience, Asendorf's career goals are ambitious for her age.

"If I could do anything, I would run *Vogue* magazine," said Asendorf. "I want to run *Vogue* because it's more than a fashion magazine, it's the Bible. If a guy being a sports reporter and obsessing over basketball is a respectable career, then so is my obsessing over clothes and working for a fashion magazine."

Asendorf lives at home in Tampa, Fla., with her mom, dad and brother. The fast paced, high style life that Asendorf dreams of will require her to someday make the move from her life-long home in Tampa to the big city, but she isn't afraid. She is interested in attending colleges such as Northwestern University, Columbia University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Not only does she have her life together as for career goals, but Asendorf has also got her entire future mapped out.

"I want to give time to myself and become financially stable before I give my life to someone else," said Asendorf.

"I've always been really independent. I was really young when I decided who I was," she said.

One day Alexa Asendorf's name just might appear somewhere in *Vogue*.



Moves changed her life

BY MEREDITH EUMONT

Destini Baldwin is always on the go, whether in North Carolina or New Jersey. Her confidence and playful attitude create a sense of comfort and friendship in anyone who is lucky enough to encounter her presence.

Baldwin, who moved to New Jersey from North Carolina when she was 7, considered her first move to be unexpected and sudden. "I cried every day until I met my best friend," she said.

Baldwin quickly grew to love New Jersey, particularly the accepting attitude and the overall way of life. She made many friends and traveled to New York City often to visit family members.

At age 16, Baldwin was shocked to learn that she would be returning to North Carolina.

The move was tough because Baldwin did not remember much about her childhood in North Carolina and feared that the racial equality would be different from New Jersey. Baldwin missed her New Jersey friends and was hesitant to make new ones.



Blackshaw aims to be famous

BY OLIVIA GRAHAM

Ebonee Blackshaw, 17, is beautiful and courageous. Beautiful because of the way she lights up a room and courageous

because of her ability to face her fears. But what Blackshaw really wants to be is famous, and she hopes to achieve that goal through journalism.

"I started thinking about journalism when I was 6 years old,"

Blackshaw said. "I've been writing poetry all my life. In fact, I've written more than 500 poems and collected them in journals. I plan to have them published one day when I'm famous."

If strength is a requirement for success, Blackshaw is well on the way to achieving her goal. That strength was evident the day she received a phone call informing her that her father, who lives in Georgia, had suffered from an aneurysm.

"I was either going to break down or stay positive," Blackshaw said. "I chose to remain positive." Blackshaw's father, Troy McIntyre, was 37 when he was rushed to the hospital. She immediately flew to Georgia to be at his side.



She moved back to North Carolina in the middle of the school year, so it was hard to integrate herself into E.E. Waddell High School. However, with encouragement from friends and family, Baldwin became more comfortable in her new home and started to make new friends.

Baldwin's two moves forced her to become more outgoing and social. She hopes to use those two characteristics when she travels the world after completing college.

A lover of the diverse cultures of the world, Baldwin plans to travel to remote places such as Africa, Greece and England. In these countries, she hopes to uncover the beauty and splendor of these unfamiliar places.

After traveling, Baldwin wants to live in New York City and possibly write for a magazine like *Vogue* or *Marie Claire*, maybe as a freelance writer.

"I want to live a fast-paced life and I feel the only city that can keep up with me is New York City," Baldwin said. Her pink hair highlights and hot pink nails demonstrate only a trace of her creative personality.

Despite Baldwin's desire for spontaneous living and extensive traveling, she wants to eventually settle down. She appreciates her family and values the support that her family gives.

Small but mighty, she speaks out

BY TIFFANY THORNTON

Amna Baloch stands out in a crowd. But at 4 feet 11 1/2 inches, Baloch has heart and spirit that are anything but little. She is a left-handed logical thinker with little imagination, but has courage to believe in an afterlife that is nothing short of imagination.

Baloch believes her life is "a short journey to God." She dedicates her life to secure her afterlife because that is her "way of life." She lives for the time when her life is no longer mortal.

"I love to praise God at least five times a day," said Baloch, who is Muslim. "I respect other religions, but personally my religion is right for me. But I accept that not everyone has the same beliefs."

Amna (peace) Noor (light) Baloch (Balochistan, a province in Pakistan) lives in Raleigh, N.C., and attends Needham B. Broughton High School.

"People call me 'small but mighty' because for a short person I say things that are just, well, surprising. Once someone gasped when I said 'slaughtered,' like they didn't expect that to come out of my mouth."

Baloch not only has a love for her religion but also has a love for words. She devotes herself to praying five times a day and to reading every night. Reading selections range from David Sedaris' satires to Willa Cather's *My Antonia*. This love for words has sparked burning curiosities in their roots and origins.

"Even though everyone said take Spanish or French, I decided to take Latin to learn the roots of all the romance languages."

She participates in Broughton's Muslim Students Association (MSA), debate team, International Club and Broughton Book Club. But she rarely discusses her accomplishments and goals.

"There's always someone better than you, so why brag?"

"Islam teaches you values like being humble and how important it is. Because you are not the best and you are never the best."

Baloch's interest in language has sparked wide-ranging career interests from linguistics to medicine to journalism.

But her ultimate goal in life is "not to worry about money. I don't want to be rich, but I just don't want to be in debt."



Family inspires

BY ALEXA ASENDORF

The defining aspect of Conisha Cooper's life is her family, which is anything but ordinary. At age 15, Dawn Harrell, Cooper's mother, found herself pregnant while living with her parents, five sisters and eight brothers in a small town in rural North Carolina.

Harrell raised her daughter while attending high school and continued her education until receiving a master's degree in engineering.

"My grandma already had a lot on her hands with 14 kids and couldn't take on the responsibility of another one," Cooper,

16, said. As a first generation college graduate, Harrell is her daughter's inspiration.



By the time Cooper was 4 years old, her parents had called it quits. From kindergarten to the second grade, Cooper's paternal grandparents cared for her while her mother worked toward a graduate degree.

Though Cooper remains close to her father's family, she sees her biological dad and his son Terrell, 16, only a few times a year.

When Cooper entered the fourth grade, her mother married William Crowder, who became her stepfather. Crowder's work has caused the family to move frequently over the past few years. Up until high school, Cooper had never spent more than two years in the same place.

Now happily situated at the Northwest School of the Arts focusing on theatre, musical theatre and playing the flute, she is facing another looming move. Her stepfather has spent the past two years commuting weekly between Huntersville, N.C. and New Jersey for work. He is now seriously considering relocation to the Northeast.

Cooper's family recently expanded with the addition of Christian, 2, and Gabriel, two weeks old.

"It was upsetting at first because they do need constant attention, but I'm leaving next year and they need our mom more," said Cooper.

Cooper says she considers her mother in every decision and constantly strives to live up to her mother's expectations.

"My mom has always told me that each generation is supposed to be better than the one before it," said Cooper, "I really take that to heart and try to make it reality for my family."

Doshi lends a helping hand

BY JOSEPH JOHNSON

It's hard to find many people who are as confident and comfortable with themselves as Viraj Doshi. Sporting his trademark baseball cap Doshi, 17, looks directly at you and speaks with a voice that projects self-confidence.



"With all the people who need help, it's hard not to become involved in my community," said Doshi.

Doshi is the president of the Spanish Club at Ravenscroft High School where he is a rising junior. Club members are also committed to giving back to the community and recently visited a local church whose

congregation is mostly Hispanic. Together, they helped teach some of the congregation to speak better English.

Doshi's commitment to helping others is evident whenever a new group of foreign exchange students enters his school. He does whatever he can to make sure that they are comfortable and understand their new environment.

Just as Doshi uses his knowledge to help others, he hopes the Chuck Stone diversity workshop will help student participants do the same. He also hopes to benefit from other students' knowledge and become a more intellectual journalist.

As the editor of his school's newspaper and copy editor of the yearbook, Doshi wants to help his classmates become better journalists.

"I hope this workshop will help me to become more aware of the things my news-

paper is putting out," said Doshi. "With the tools that I am learning at this program, I can help make Ravenscroft High School a better newspaper—maybe even the best school newspaper in all of Raleigh."

Journalism skills won't be the only thing that Doshi plans to take back to Raleigh. He's learning more about diversity, too.

"My school is mostly white with only about five blacks and five Asian kids among about 90 students," said Doshi.

Doshi wants to take the information about diversity back to his school so that students will learn to become more open to differences. After only a few days here, he is already more accepting of others.

Journalism is Doshi's passion, and he hopes to use it to get into college so he can pursue his dream, which includes studying medicine or law.

Eumont's sun still shines after the storm

BY DESTINI BALDWIN

"I had never experienced any personal tragedies so Hurricane Katrina came as a complete shock," said Meredith Eumont. In the wake of Katrina, Eumont had lost everything. This catastrophic ordeal made her,



at only 16, re-evaluate her life for what is and isn't important.

Eumont, the oldest of three children, has always lived a sheltered life. Living in her own comfort was all she knew.

"I was so used to depending on people and never doing anything by myself—I didn't even go to the bathroom by myself," Eumont said, laughing as she sipped her coffee.

It's really hard to believe that just less than two years ago this sunny, blue-eyed girl had lost everything. Her home was destroyed. Her family had to relocate to a small town just outside of New Orleans.

"It was really different from New Orleans. The only thing to do was to go to the local Sonic."

Having gone through such a life-altering event has made Eumont more accepting of things she doesn't know. She's found this new security in herself as well as independence.

"I'm more open to things now like coming here. Being away from home and alone was a really big step for me," said Eumont.

Now, two years later, Eumont and her family are trying to move past Katrina. She is concentrating on her senior year at The Academy of Sacred Heart, an all-girl Catholic school. Her main concerns are

polishing up her G.P.A a bit and spending as much time as possible with friends.

"I want my senior year to be really memorable and exciting," said Eumont.

She's really excited about graduating and attending college next fall, maybe joining a sorority and hopefully pursuing a career in journalism.

"I'd really like to live like this crazy exciting life before I settle down," laughed Eumont. In New York Eumont would like to pursue a career writing for a variety of genres.

"I'd like to write for tabloids like *People*, fashion magazines like *Vogue* but I'm also interested in politics too," said Eumont. Even though she would like to live in New York, Eumont eventually hopes to move back home and have a family.

"You always have to come back home," said Eumont.

Watch out, Katie Couric: New anchor in town

BY ELIZABETH HUEGEL

From the steel drums to the anchor desk, Kashanna Fair has a plan to make it happen.



Fair is a rising senior at Theodore Roosevelt High School in Washington, D.C. She is an active member of her school orchestra program, playing the Double Second, which is two steel drums with

15 notes each.

"The program is very demanding with practices two hours a day and eight hours during the school week," said Fair. Saturday practices start at 10 a.m. and last to 6 p.m.

Her favorite experience with the orches-

tra was when she traveled to West Africa to play for the ambassador and 200 young children. "It was an experience I will take with me forever," Fair said.

She explained that members of the orchestra held hands going back to the bus because the young children chased after them. "I felt like a rock star," Fair said.

Her love for children is evident in her work as a mentor for kids with mental disabilities. The program is referred to as "GearUp" which stands for, Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. She said the program is challenging but this is what makes it appealing to her.

It's a way for high school juniors and seniors to get involved with younger children to prepare them for the real world. Fair likes the challenge that comes along with this responsibility, and will definitely do it

again this coming year.

Fair's main aspiration is to be a news anchor for either The Today Show or NBC news. "I love David Gregory," Fair said. "I remember going to the White House to see him when I was little."

"I love news," she said. Fair confessed that she watches the news at least twice a day, which may be rare for teenagers.

Aspiring to be a news anchor is not far-fetched in her eyes. When she heard she was accepted to the Chuck Stone Program, Fair was surprised because she had never worked for a newspaper desk before.

She has enjoyed herself and hopes to benefit from the experience by leaving with a new knowledge and being recognized for her writing.

"Diversity is not always what the eye can see, but it's about what the soul beholds."

God major influence in her life

BY EBONEE BLACKSHAW

Olivia Graham actually cares about the people she meets.

Being a busy reporter and selling ads for her school paper, contributing to church charity functions and participating in Habitat for Humanity while working a part-time job seem to keep her busy. Graham's simple style, soulful eyes, and tomboy demeanor may fool you when you first encounter her sweet, caring personality.



Graham, 17, is a giving person and appreciative of what she has, but she fearlessly stands up for her beliefs. Growing

up as a dedicated Christian, Graham is at peace with herself despite what others seem to think about her faith. She is often openly praying aloud for what she wants.

Despite what others think, Graham genuinely cares about people and always looks to help others. Graham attends Riverside High School, where she is involved in extracurricular activities. As a reporter for the school newspaper, she enjoys interviewing people as a way to meet new students.

"It gives me the opportunity to get to know people I wouldn't usually approach if I wasn't in journalism," she said. She doesn't enjoy advertising as much.

"I feel as though I am not a good salesperson because it's forced," she said.

She is involved with Habitat for Humanity and will travel to Honduras to help deliver school and medical supplies. Graham also works with orphans and chil-

dren from disadvantaged backgrounds. She said that visiting with the kids is personally rewarding and so much better than just sending money.

Even though Graham appears like a happy person on the surface, she has had more than her share of stress. Her father was shot while at work last year.

"I was shocked, and I was scared," said Graham. "It was like I was in a daze."

Although it took some time for the reality of what happened to set in, Graham chose to stay strong for her family. "It has shown me that I am not easily broken," said Graham.

You would never be able to tell that someone as mellow as Graham had experienced anything so dramatic. Her father is doing well now and Graham is still smiling more.

"I look to God for everything."

P.R. has job appeal

BY KASHANNA FAIR

She buys *Vogue*, *Teen Vogue*, and *Seventeen* every month, never missing a beat on the latest fashion trends. But someday, Elizabeth Huegel, 17, intends to make her own fashion statement.

If journalism doesn't work out for her, Huegel plans to work in fashion merchandising and advertising. She is interested in the clothing division of fashion. She says she likes putting outfits together.

Public relations has also sparked an interest with her.

"I am interested in public relations because it's a job that keeps you busy, and I like being busy," Huegel said. "I think it's fun to interact with people being a representative of a company. I think I'll represent a company well."

Her family has been supportive in her endeavors so far. They have told her to test the waters, and whatever she chooses they support her.

Huegel's mother moved to the United States from the Dominican Republic at age 18. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in medicine. Her success story helped Huegel become just as driven.

Huegel wants to share that drive with others. She mentors incoming Wakefield High freshmen and helps them with the problems transferring from middle school to high school in Raleigh, N.C.

"With the ninth grade program there's a center which was an old Winn Dixie grocery store. They will be having school there because the main high school is overcrowded. As a peer mentor I get to come down to the Winn Dixie."

Another activity that Huegel is involved in is the International Thespian Society, an organization of actors from around the world.

"I have been in plays since the seventh grade," said Huegel.

With the society, she has been able to advertise for their programs and plays. She works together with other students to broadcast and advertise programs to classmates.

How does Huegel feel about this generation?

"If we learn and accept each other and our differences we would become more active and able to better the world more than the leaders now."



A team player on and off the court

BY OLIVIA NELSON

Taylor Howard's fashion sense is the cherry on the sundae of her well-rounded character. "I like to shop at American Eagle, Hollister, Abercrombie and Fitch and Forever 21," Howard said.



Howard belongs to more than a dozen service and academic extracurricular activities and is the definition of what it means to be selfless.

Howard is unable to participate in her church youth group during the school week, but her time and dedication on weekends more than makes up for it.

"We go out to dinner and go to concerts

as a group. I mean, we just have a lot of fun," Howard said.

As for school activities, Howard describes the Junior Civitan as a club that is "strictly community service." Her involvement in the club has included fundraisers for battered women's shelters and juvenile diabetes. During her junior year the Junior Civitan held a talent show to raise money for children with diabetes.

"We sold bracelets, collected non perishable food items and collected toiletries."

Howard also belongs to the Beta Club, which requires her to maintain a 3.8 GPA.

She has played organized basketball since the third grade. Her dad taught her to dribble a ball when she was 4.

"I can't see myself not playing," Howard said. "When I'm playing, I feel like nothing else matters; my grades don't matter, the college I'm going to go to doesn't matter.

The only thing that matters is getting my hands on the ball."

Howard now plays on her school team and local AAU team.

Howard was involved in Habitat for Humanity. Her mother served on the Habitat board. At the time Howard was too young to participate in the program, but her mother's spot on the board allowed her to help in other ways.

"I gathered toys and brought them to homes," Howard said, "I brought them things like kitchen supplies too; they were going to need household items."

Howard comes from a close-knit family. She has a sister, 28, a brother, 25, and a sister, 12.

Howard believes her sister needs a role model. "She's going to need a positive influence. Why shouldn't I be one at home?"

Talented student-athlete Jacobs sets lofty goals

BY ALEX RHODES

Ethan Jacobs is 16 years old, well dressed and has an intriguing personality. He's a basketball player and a court jester.

During the Chuck Stone workshop Jacobs frequently joked with fellow students. He also worked hard and contributed to discussions about diversity and the media.



Jacobs is active in the community and contributes by being a part of the Youth Advisory Council, Habitat for Humanity, "We the People" and the NAACP.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Jacobs resides in Charlotte, N.C., where he is a rising junior at Providence Day High School.

Jacobs is aware of how others may view him. His usual attire is collared Polo shirts, casual jeans or shorts, fresh shoes and a clean haircut.

"Looking better clothing-wise reflects on who you are," said Jacobs. He isn't interested in huge shirts and baggy jeans. He thinks by wearing collared shirts, casual jeans or shorts, and fresh shoes make you look more presentable to people.

Jacobs is a leader too, and at 5 feet, 9 inches tall he is the point guard on the varsity basketball team. He also participates on the Charlotte Clippers AAU basketball team.

His dream is to be offered a scholarship to play basketball at the college level and to one day play for the Cleveland Cavaliers alongside LeBron James.

"I love basketball a lot and I realize that to play in the NBA and even college is a long shot, but I think my work ethic can land me

on a college roster," said Jacobs.

Another of Jacobs' ambitions is to be a sports columnist for ESPN on shows like *Around the Horn* and *1st and 10*. He idolizes Stephen A. Smith because he's exceptional and able to argue his point of view and opinions on his show *Quite Frankly*.

"My family is pretty normal with occasional arguments and disagreements," said Jacobs. Jacobs has two older brothers Evan, 18, and Eric, 21. Evan attends Brown University and studies engineering.

"Evan is my best friend because I can open up to him anytime and he actually listens," said Jacobs. Eric attends Stanford University and is majoring in psychology.

Other than playing basketball, Jacobs enjoys writing about current and sometimes controversial sports issues so he can practice his sport columnist skills for his school newspaper, *The Eagle*.

Johnson gives back

BY VIRAJ DOSHI

At first glance, Joseph Johnson II seems like an intimidating figure. He wears an XL T-shirt, baggy pants, gold chains and has a stern look on his face. However, Johnson's helpful nature, amicable personality and impressive achievements are at odds with the stereotype that goes with his outward appearance.

Johnson, 17, a native of Charlotte, is an honor-roll student at E.E. Wadell High School. Because of his high academic achievement, his school allows him to take advanced classes at nearby Central Piedmont College.



"I'm taking actual college classes, so now I'm not as worried because I know what to expect," Johnson said.

Johnson says that, by attending college classes, he is "planning for the future" because "that's all I have to

work with." While Johnson may modestly claim academics is his only talent, others may disagree, with good reason.

Johnson also actively participates and is a leader in school activities. For example, he recently was appointed as peer leader in his school's Mentor/Mentee program. Also he was secretary for the school's Deca Club.

However, his impressive resume is not limited to school activities. He is involved in a Neighborhood Awareness group.

"I want to give back to the community as much as I can," Johnson said.

His inspiration to do more for the community can be attributed to his participation in the Morehouse Leadership Program. Since the program emphasized the need for African-Americans to become leaders in their communities, Johnson became more involved in his community.

All of these different types of experiences have opened up Johnson's eyes to problems in his community. "At my school there is a lot of diversity, but it seems no one wants to accept it," Johnson said. "For example, there are gay people at my school but no one wants to get to know them."

Johnson said he's fortunate to be chosen for the Chuck Stone Program where diversity is celebrated. Johnson initially had little interest in journalism. In fact, his primary reason for applying was to get a feel for his dream college, UNC, and to see things in a different light.

Johnson said he benefited from the workshop because it introduced him to journalism.

Johnson is not sure about his future plans. "I'm waiting until college to make a final decision," he said.

Criminal justice calls her

BY ELIZABETH WANGU

At only 17, Ashley McBride already holds one of the most crucial positions as a leading member of her school newspaper staff at McKinley Technical High School.

McBride is the editor-in-chief of her school newspaper and is determined and motivated to pursue a degree in journalism.



McBride's long-term goal is to become a criminal defense attorney. In addition to her leading role in her school newspaper staff, she is also the co-captain of her track team.

McBride is eager to be involved in journalism. "Through talking with people they can persuade you into thinking in a certain way ... to not dismiss their views on a particular topic."

Even when McBride was asked whether she would still be willing to pursue journalism if there was no pay in return, it was apparent that she was still eager.

"I feel like it's my job to tell people the truth and what's out there," McBride said that she loves to help others. She felt as though informing them of their surroundings and telling them the truth was a way in which she could help others.

Seeing how determined McBride was to pursue journalism, it was ironic that her long-term goal was to become a criminal justice attorney. When asked why she wanted to pursue law after college rather than continuing her studies in journalism, she admitted she was confused.

"I always wanted to be a lawyer up until high school when I joined the newspaper then it all changed," she said. Although she still wants to be an attorney, she is still certain about pursuing journalism. "... To be a good lawyer one must have journalistic experience." McBride is convinced that the skills that she will acquire from journalism will help her career as an attorney.

Editor-in-chief of her newspaper and co-captain of her track team, McBride is a hardworking well-known leader within her school. She claims to be patient and persistent which are the two qualities that one must possess to be a good leader.

McBride said, "Being in charge, not being bossy and being able to listen at a deeper and compassionate level makes me a good leader."

McBride also believes that her leadership in school will help her as a journalist and a lawyer in the future.

"Being a leader means that I have people skills. To be a good journalist and lawyer you should easily relate with people, and I can do that."

Sports interest feeds his writing

BY ETHAN JACOBS

Alex Rhodes doesn't let the negative things in life affect him.

A 16-year old rising senior, self-described as "skinny and handsome," Alex is a talented individual. He attends Ronald Wilson Reagan High School, in Winston-Salem, N.C.



Rhodes was born in Detroit, Mich., where he lived for eight years. For the most part, it was a time of getting into trouble and finding himself in the principal's office. However, his misbehaving and troublemaking ended abruptly when his parents separated.

"I felt like it was my fault, but of course it wasn't, they just had differences" Rhodes said.

Those differences led him to a completely new environment.

"Winston-Salem was such a better place to live. I wouldn't be successful today if we hadn't moved," said Rhodes.

The new scene created a successful environment for Rhodes. He jumped at the opportunity to be involved in numerous extra-curricular activities in his town and at school, including the Spanish and Key

clubs, Humane Society and school newspaper. The activity that he takes the most pride in is, without a doubt, basketball.

Before moving to North Carolina, Rhodes had never played basketball.

"I really got interested in basketball when I moved to Winston-Salem," Rhodes said. "My step-brother introduced me to the game."

Since picking up the game Rhodes has attained much success with his AAU team the "Kappa Magic" and has become a starting guard on the varsity team at school. "My relationship with basketball is straight love," Rhodes said. "I don't know what I would do without basketball, but I can imagine that I wouldn't take care of my body the way I do."

Journalism is second only to basketball.

A sports reporter for his school periodical, *The Rooster*, and for a local paper, *Triad Sports Weekly*, Rhodes' writing has been praised by numerous teachers. In large part, he feels that his success has come from his extracurricular activities. "It's a lot easier to write about sports when you are already familiar with a lot of them," Rhodes said.

He often wonders how this journalistic success has come about.

"I wouldn't mind going to UNC for journalism, if I can't get a scholarship for basketball," Rhodes said.

Newspaper job, diversity her goals

BY TAYLOR HOWARD

"Journalism is an essential part of democracy," said Olivia Nelson. "Journalism's job is to open people's eyes." Nelson has a love and devotion for journalism and diversity.

Nelson, 17, has a passion for journalism that did not always exist. In fact, she was originally interested in public relations. Just this past summer Nelson attend-



ed a writing camp at Duke University and wrote an article about how employers check applicants' Facebook and Myspace pages.

In fact, her work was so effective that some of her camp counselors were fired

because of the inappropriate items found on their pages. Nelson's article not only opened up her community's eyes but hers as well. She came to realize that her love for people was much deeper than just talking, but she too enjoyed the writing aspect of communication.

As a rising senior at Athenian High School in Oakland, Calif., Nelson said, "I want to look back on it and feel like I did a good job balancing everything and that I made my parents proud." Her parents will have no problem seeing that she is a student who values her education and plays both softball and runs track.

Nelson's time is also dedicated to Students of Color, a club where students of all ethnic groups come together to discuss current conundrums concerning minorities and possible remedies to problems. This organization is a big part of Nelson's life and she treasures her weekly meetings.

However, Nelson's dedication does not stop there. She is a basic editor for her high school's newspaper. Her job entitles her to write headings, proofread and be a recourse for her peers when they have trouble getting contacts for their stories.

Speaking of jobs, Nelson does plan to make a career in journalism by working for a newspaper. However, her overall goal in life is much bigger. "I want to be completely and 100 percent selfless but selfish too," said Nelson.

She wants to make a difference in the world by writing about topics that everyone can relate to.

"I don't want to wake up each morning and do something for myself," said Nelson. "Instead I want to help others."

As long as we are able to remain humble, then our world is one step closer to being a perfect society, Nelson claims. "The world would be a perfect place if ignorance did not exist."

Thornton outfitted for success

BY AMNA BALOCH

Tiffany Thornton, 17, wants to run a fashion magazine one day and use her experience as a journalist to reduce her dependency on others.

"Some people might be in charge of a whole corporation, but they don't know how to run each specific task," Thornton said. "I don't want to have to fully depend on somebody making my money." Thornton is involved in dance, track, mentoring, SAT prep and was chairman of a planning committee for a national conference about teenage issues.



She believes her mixed ancestry will give

her an advantage in the fashion world. She is Chickasaw Indian, Italian and African American.

"I can bring something new to the table," Thornton said.

Thornton, a D.C. native, complains about the hypocrisy of living in the nation's capital.

"Living in D.C. is a contradiction because it is the capital of one of the richest nations in the world," Thornton said. "That is where all our political leaders live, but the education sucks."

When asked if she lives in downtown D.C., Thornton stares incredulously.

"Downtown? That is where the president lives!"

Her eyes light up when she is questioned about career goals. "I love fashion, it is just like a passion!" Thornton is definitely confident about her choice for her future career, but she acknowledges the hardships

she faces.

"Because I come from an inner city, I think differently," Thornton said. "Most people in the fashion world are very privileged so they are used to being surrounded by fashion and they already had a head start, but I am not that privileged."

Thornton plans to keep her family in mind once she achieves material success. The eighth child in a family of 15, she knows it is hard to financially maintain a big family.

"I make my career decisions based on how it will benefit my family," Thornton said. "The whole point in me being successful is to help my family."

Thornton said responsibility is a double-edged sword. "You just have to be patient. ... I am not able to do things like go out with friends since I am older than seven of my siblings."

Always inquisitive

BY ASHLEY MCBRIDE

Elizabeth Wangu, 16, is not a mall-strolling, boy-chasing girl. She volunteers to help the elderly, fundraises for the Leukemia Foundation and speaks Swahili.

She is a member of Ladies of Distinction, a high school sorority that emphasizes sisterhood and volunteerism.

"It is so fun helping people and we all do it together, so it is not strenuous at all," Wangu said.

In order to stand out in her class of 400 at Athens Drive High School,

Wangu maintains a high GPA and is an active member of the Spanish Club, Key Club and the Choral Ensemble.

"It's hard to balance them all, but I'm well organized," Wangu said. "I try to avoid procrastination."

Although she does not write for her school publication, Wangu has developed a fond interest for the craft. She is skeptical about everything and everyone and she is always asking questions. The Kenya native has always wanted to be a lawyer, but is unsure of the life it may bring.

"All of the lawyers who I have talked to say their life is their job, so I'm really skeptical," said Wangu. "I cannot put work and social life over my family."

Like many girls who have school and social problems, Wangu looks to her mother and her sister for support. Whenever there is a sad moment in her family, they are there to uplift everyone. "They are the epitome of perfection, to me," said Wangu.

Wangu was born in Nairobi and lived there until she was 8. "When I came to the U.S. I learned so many new things," Wangu said.

Wangu found it incredibly hard to meet new friends and adjust to her new culture. "It was crazy because where I'm from everyone is like you and in the U.S. everyone is so different," said Wangu.

Although Wangu goes back to Kenya to visit family, she still misses her friends and the food. "It's amazing because we can e-mail each other or talk on the phone and it is just like the old days."

Her favorite things to eat were samosas, mandazis and goats. Samosas are deep-fried rolls with stuffing and Mandazis are croissant-sized pastries.

"When I go back, I'm looking forward to eating some rolls and goat."



Kayla Wildy: A not-so-bratty Army brat

BY JUSTINA WONG

The "muscle" behind the Leavenworth High football team is not a guy. Kayla Wildy, 17, may be a poet and the future *CosmoGirl* editor, but friends know not to mess with this football manager who dreamed of being linebacker.



"I just wanted to tackle people," she said. "I wanted to be a linebacker."

Wildy, who lives in Leavenworth, Kan., never expected to become a football manager.

"I wanted to play football, but then my dad got really mad. He kept telling me, 'That's not a girl's sport so you don't need to be doing that.'"

Wildy advises other girls not to be afraid to go for their football dreams.

"And don't listen to your dads," she joked.

Wildy's father, a U.S. Army major, is also the reason she calls herself an "army brat." She has lived in Germany, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Kansas. She treasures her overseas experiences most.

Wildy not only learned the new language but also experienced the German culture. She found Germans to be more open.

"If you turn on the TV, you might see something you wouldn't see in America, like a naked lady," said Wildy. "Same with billboards."

Being the daughter of a military officer also has its disadvantages, according to Wildy. With each move she faces the challenge of not only making new friends, but keeping old ones.

To help adjust to this demanding life-

style, Wildy releases her emotions through her poems. She once won a Poetry.com contest with a poem entitled "Love Hurts."

"It's about a girl finding out that the person she loves doesn't feel the same way about her," Wildy said.

Wildy admits her passion for writing poetry began during middle school while she lived in Germany. "I think I just wrote love poems. I had a crush. He was half German," she laughed.

In the future, Wildy wants to be editor of a magazine like *CosmoGirl* or *Seventeen*. "It just seems like fun," she said. She seeks a balance of fun and news and believes those magazines offer it.

"They have really serious things in there, as well as fun things," Wildy said.

Wildy is currently a reporter and photographer for her school newspaper *The Patriot*.

Budding cartoonist wins state competitions

BY KAYLA WILDY

Justina Wong, 17, may come off as shy and quiet but she keeps her focus on what she enjoys doing, drawing. Staying focused paid off for her, and she won many awards for cartoon drawings.



"One day I was in the back of the class doodling when the school newspaper adviser, Daniel Roubian, saw my drawing," Wong said. "He then asked

me to do a sample caricature of Bush and Kerry to show the newspaper staff. I knew they were not expecting much but I went all out and they loved it."

That's when she took the title of editorial cartoonist at her school newspaper, *The*

Bull's Eye.

As a freshman at Diamond Bar High School in Southern California, she was the only underclassman who was invited to the Southern California Journalism Education Association write offs. While there, she competed in a timed cartooning competition and won first place. She also competed in a N.C. media contest and won second place.

When she moved from Diamond Bar, Calif., to Apex, N.C. it was a culture shock. Justina, a proud Taiwanese-American, moved to a predominately white neighborhood.

Although she prides herself on being Taiwanese she also doesn't mind explaining her heritage to those who may be unaware of where she is from. She quickly recovered from the culture shock and continued with her journalism career. She applied to the school newspaper, *The Legacy*. The *Legacy*

staff is considerably smaller than the *Bull's Eye* staff. Everybody had to have a story as opposed to *The Bull's Eye* staff where writing a story was a privilege.

"My most interesting story was one I covered for *The Legacy*," Wong said. "It was about the student body president. He was definitely a character and he stood out by the way that he dressed and talked."

Justina started with journalism in middle school under her mother's instruction. She didn't like it but she pushed herself to try it in high school, thinking it would be different. She ended up sticking with it.

By attending the Chuck Stone diversity workshop, she hopes to learn as much as she can and apply her knowledge to improving *The Legacy*. This summer she also plans to visit her father in California. When she returns home to begin her senior year, she will start her first job at Chick-Fil-A.

In diversity, unity thrives

BY OLIVIA GRAHAM
AND TAYLOR HOWARD

Twenty students checked in between 3 and 5 p.m. on Sunday and within the hour of their arrival they were acting as if they had known each other for years. “It is remarkable how a group of strangers who come from different backgrounds have so much in common,” said Tiffany Thornton, 17.

At one of the sessions students talked about current racial issues and their own unique experiences. One student was impressed and encouraged by his peers’ comments. “Oh my god I’m dead, these people are so deep,” said Ethan Jacobs, 16, after the session.

Students in the program range from Panamanian to Austrian.

“After being in this program I am going to encourage people in my school to not be so closed minded,” Kashanna Fair, 17, said. All of the students agreed that this week was worthwhile, and that all of them will leave with more than they came with.

Workshop Ethnicities

Black
Italian
French
Taiwanese
Indian
Cherokee
Kenyan
Cuban
Austrian
German
Dominican
Trinidadian
Panamanian
Costa Rican
Irish
Filipino
Pakistani
English
Hindu Indian
Vincentian
Jamaican
Chickasaw



PHOTO BY STACEY AXELROD

Conisha Cooper and Alexa Asendorf check word usage in AP Stylebook, given to each student to use as a resource.

Differences limited in stylebook entries

BY MEREDITH EUMONT
AND ASHLEY MCBRIDE

Despite its prominence in the journalism world, *The Associated Press Stylebook* sometimes inadvertently limits ways in which people are classified.

There are many terms in The AP Stylebook that classify people according to race, religion and sexuality. Many of these words have multiple synonyms, but The AP Stylebook prefers certain terms to others.

“If you are part of an oppressed group, and if social pressure is bad, then you will associate with what people call you,” said Philip Meyer, Knight Professor at the UNC School of Journalism.

People who consider themselves “homosexual” have been identified by many names, such as gay, lesbian and queer.

In the 2006 edition of *The Associated Press Stylebook*, it is preferred that a writer use the term “gay” or “lesbian” rather than “homosexual.” The book allows the term “homosexual” to be used only in “clinical contexts or references to sexual activity.”

“There are different meanings of the word gay, and to reduce it to one usage limits

people’s ability to express themselves,” said Olivia Graham, a Chuck Stone diversity workshop student.

“The point of using The AP Style Book is to be politically correct, but in the process, you are actually offending people,” said Alexa Asendorf, another participant in the workshop. “Society is constantly changing and making things that were unacceptable or crude yesterday commonplace today.

“Depending on an individual’s sexual orientation or race, they have their own preferences as to what they want to be labeled,” Asendorf said. “The AP Stylebook should understand that and leave more room for personal expression and preference in writing.”

Other terms in the book characterize a group of people. In the 2006 edition of The AP Stylebook, it states that black is “the preferred usage for those of the Negroid or black race.”

The entry also advises against using “Colored” because it is considered derogatory in the U.S. According to the book, the term African-American should only be used in quotations or as the name of organizations, but never to describe someone’s ethnicity.

On the contrary, Caucasian is the only entry for members of the white race. Since so many people refer to themselves differently, there shouldn’t be restrictions on how people are defined.

“Race is a social construct and the changing stylebook is trying to follow existing social structures,” Meyer said.

“In being politically correct, you’re trying to eliminate stereotyping, but The AP Stylebook wants white people to be called Caucasian and black people to be called black,” said Asendorf. “If you’re going to set standards, they should be equal—black and white.”

It is wrong to use the generic version of black to describe an African American when the formal version, Caucasian, is used to describe a white person. The book advises journalists to capitalize the term Caucasian, but not black. However, both terms are proper nouns used to describe people and some say should be used in a similar grammatical way.

“The AP Stylebook is setting a standard for people to follow and sets the bar for political correctness, but it needs to leave room for change,” says Asendorf.