



# DAILY JOURNAL

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2007

Johnson County, Indiana

50 cents

WEATHER



Today  
Skies: Mostly cloudy, rain  
Temps: High 61; low 44

MAP, PAGE A8

NEWS

Greenwood firm's secretary attacked in robbery attempt

A secretary at a Greenwood business was struck in the mouth by a man who asked for money shortly after she opened the office Thursday morning, according to her employer.

She was taken to the hospital, and a police dog searched for the attacker, said Paul Caldwell, the business owner.

The attacker was not located. The secretary at RE/MAX Select Realtors on Emerson Avenue was opening the office about 7:45 a.m. when a man followed her into the building, Caldwell said.

The man asked the secretary for money as she was making coffee, he said. When she said she didn't have any money, he became upset, hit her in the mouth and ran, according to a news release from Greenwood Police Chief Joe Pitcher.

Police were called at 7:52 a.m.

The receptionist described her attacker as a 25-year-old man, about 6-foot-1 and 200 pounds, and wearing a black cloth jacket, blue jeans and a black Chicago Cubs hat. The news release said he smelled of alcohol.

WEB EXTRAS

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DEATHS

- Bargersville  
Kenneth H. Hogan, 85
- Greenwood  
Gary K. Goodman, 50  
Lorrein Goodman, 40
- Indianapolis  
James A. Collins, 83
- Elsewhere  
James M. Green, 95  
William C. Haddix, 40

INDEX

- Accent.....A6-A7
- Classified.....B6-B7
- Comics.....B5
- Editorials.....A4
- Obituaries.....A5
- Police, fire.....A3
- Sports.....B1-B4, B8
- Southside.....A3
- TV listings.....A7
- Weather.....A8

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LIFE AT SCHOOL

## Hands-on learning



Franklin's annual intensive classes fun but may be on way out



Above: Teacher Heather Harris, right, watches 16-year-old Ashton Sullivan take the Pepsi/Coke challenge in an intensive class Thursday at Franklin Community High School. This year's series of classes included topics like

medieval history and the United States in the 1980s. Below: A display of movies and clothes illustrates '80s culture. Top: Andrew Darr, 15, assembles a muzzle-loader in his intensive choice, a class about gun safety.

By SARAH LIPPS  
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Clad in polka dots, parachute pants and huge belts, the students in Heather Harris' class will recite the McDonald's menu to the tune of the famous jingle at the fast-food restaurant next week.

Call it their final exam. The high school students from Franklin Community High School are learning what it was like to live in the 1980s.

They are taking part in the annual week of intensive classes at the high school.

This may be the final year for the annual tradition. Some of the classes, such as trips to a cowboy camp or New York, are too expensive for some students. Also, many students don't even sign up for courses, Principal Jon Milleman said.

About 65 other courses were planned this year. Students are taking classes about the medieval world, studying games and strategies, or singing in "Franklin Idol."

Some are learning to draw the human form or dance to Latin music. Others are investigating a staged crime scene with the aid of local law enforcement officials.

The teens in Harris' class also learned about former President Ronald Reagan's political and economic policies, life under the impending threat of nuclear attack and a new epidemic called AIDS.

Students could take classes to help them decide which college to choose or prepare for the SAT. Some are shadowing medical or business professionals at their jobs.

Others took trips to hike in the Smokey Mountains, golf and explore the history of the South, see a play in New York, go on a Caribbean cruise or visit Hollywood.

Most classes cost \$50 or less. A few cost \$50 to \$100.

The expense of the trips, which cost as much as

\$1,550, is the primary reason why the district is considering not having intensives next year, Milleman said.

Most students cannot afford to go on those trips, and that does not fit with the school's philosophy to give each student the same opportunities, he said.

Other concerns with the annual tradition have to do with some students needing to be assigned to intensives because they don't bother to sign up, Milleman said.

Many students and teachers have said they like the classes because they create an opportunity for teachers to get to know the students.

For example, in the Gospels and Hollywood class, teens' feelings about God, religion and questions of faith came up.

The conversation sometimes strayed from the topic of whether the book and movie "The Da Vinci Code" was historically accurate.

"I know this doesn't have to do with anything ..." students would preface comments before guiding the topic to the existence of God, psychics or inexplicable phenomenon.

Teacher Terry Buckner took a diplomatic approach, allowing students to make their points and ask questions without giving a direct answer: "We're not studying what we believe, but why

(SEE LEARNING, BACK PAGE)

"Sometimes people get upset when you talk about religion, and I like to debate with people."

Tyler Gadberry

A 16-year-old Franklin junior on an intensive class about the "The Da Vinci Code" and "The Passion of the Christ"

## Unique classes offer lessons

C-P officials study impact of separate P.E. for boys, girls

By TRACI MOYER  
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School officials didn't plan to segregate the boys from the girls in an eighth-grade physical education class.

But when the schedules had been assigned, the boys were in one class and the girls in another.

The situation at Clark-Pleasant Middle School has generated serious discussion on the future of single-sex classes.

Students are more focused, discipline problems are almost nonexistent, and the teenage pressure for attention from the opposite sex has been eliminated, teachers said.

"It's better for the kids, especially at this age," said Tom Stubbeman, a physical education teacher at Clark-Pleasant.

Federal laws passed in the 1970s prohibited single-sex classes in public schools except for physical or sex education classes.

In November, the U.S. Department of Education relaxed those rules, allowing schools to separate students based on gender if enrollment was voluntary and a similar co-educational class was open to the students.

Since the change, schools across the nation have started shifting toward gender-based education where boys and girls are taught by learning styles or subjects they naturally do better in. Recent studies show students excelling in the single-sex classrooms with higher test and overall performance scores.

In 2002, Clarksville Middle School in Clarksville started experimenting with single-sex classes with its seventh-graders.

Before offering the classes, 35 percent of the boys were passing the state's language arts exams, and 54 percent of the girls were passing.

(SEE CLASSES, BACK PAGE)



Clark-Pleasant Middle School is testing single-sex physical education classes. Riding exercise bikes during a recent class are, from left, Robert Shelley, 15; Cody Phillips, 13; Jacob Faulkner, 13; and Matt Horn, 13.

## As market for health care grows, need for staff increases, too

Aging baby boomers, growing medical facilities combine to trigger greater demand for Greenwood campus

By CANDACE BEATY  
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Aging baby boomers mean greater demands on the health-care system. And Johnson County is seeing a boom in medical facilities.

Community Hospital South is expanding its facility by one-third.

Kindred Healthcare Inc. will open a hospital at County Line Road and Emerson Avenue in 2008.

Growing health facilities mean a greater demand for trained medical workers.

A new Greenwood college will offer medical assistant and medical records programs, hoping to capitalize on that growth.

MedTech College plans to open a campus for 400 students in August, school president and chief executive Joe Davis said.

The school's main campus is on the northeast side of Indianapolis. About 425 students are enrolled in classes at the

school, which can accommodate 500, Davis said.

Since the school opened in June 2004, short-term courses and medical assisting programs have been added, he said.

School officials picked Greenwood for the second campus because of its proximity to hospitals and medical offices.

"We feel it's an underserved area," Davis said.

With an aging population, medical professionals are needed in hospitals, medical offices and

nursing homes, he said.

MedTech will join Franklin College and Ivy Tech Community College in Franklin and Indiana Wesleyan University and ITT Technical Institute in Greenwood as higher educational facilities in the area that offer medical programs.

Ivy Tech and Indiana Wesleyan offer nursing programs, and ITT Tech offers health information technology.

The 15,000-square-foot, one-story MedTech school will

include classrooms, three medical labs, and student and teacher lounges, Davis said.

MedTech will spend \$2.2 million to build the building, pay fees and lease the land, said project manager Alan Armstrong of the Indianapolis construction firm A.J. Armstrong Inc.

The school will be built in the South Park Business Center near Interstate 65 and Main Street, just north of the Indiana

(SEE HEALTH, BACK PAGE)