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TAKE NOTES

Students serve as pages at Indiana Statehouse

The following students served as Indiana Senate pages.

Pages spent one day at the Statehouse assisting senators and senate staff members with a variety of legislative duties and learning about the structure of Indiana's government.

Whiteland Community High School: Junior Justin Brownfield, 17, son of Jeff and Dawn Brownfield of Franklin

Franklin Community High School: Senior Tyler DeKemper, 18, son of Kurt and Penny DeKemper of Franklin

Atterbury Job Corps: Joshua Carden, 19, son of Gary and Rhonda Jeffrey of Indianapolis; Eric Lagen, 17, of Edinburgh, son of Barbara Amy; Shanna Wroten, 22, of Edinburgh; Daniel Boyle, 21, of Edinburgh, son of Diana Satterfield; and Jason Randolph, 24, of Hammond, son of Madeline S. Petee

Clark Pleasant Middle School: Eighth-grader Jess Harris, 13, son of Curt and Jody Harris of Whiteland; and eighth-grader Ashton Perritt, 14, son of Dan and Robin Perritt of Whiteland

Center Grove business students advance in contest

Center Grove High School students participated in the District 8 Business Professionals of America competition Jan. 20.

Seven students will move on to the state competition at the downtown Indianapolis Marriott from March 3 to 5.

They include:

- Kyle Garza, first in fundamental accounting, second in financial math and ninth in marketing

- Alisha Carandang, third in desktop publishing and third in payroll accounting
- Josh Spindler, seventh in legal office procedures
- Grace Gooray, ninth in legal office procedures
- Joan Kim, second in prepared speech
- Cole Britton and Cory McConaughay, second in small business management

Festivities at school to include carnival games

Westwood Elementary School's winter carnival will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 23.

The event will feature games, prizes, face painting, fake tattoos, food and more.

The carnival will be at the school, 899 Honey Creek Road, Greenwood.

Whiteland high school names athletic winners

Whiteland Community High School's December athletic winners are:

For sportsmanship:

Freshman Megan Burzlaff, swimming; sophomore Michael Kirkham, basketball

For outstanding athletics:

Senior Emily Hubler, swimming; senior Andrew Meador, swimming

FAMILY-PERSPECTIVE FILM REVIEWS



Diane Keaton, left, and Mandy Moore star in "Because I Said So."

'Because I Said So'

Rated: PG-13

Suitable for: Teens and older

What you should know: Diane Keaton is a meddling mother trying to find a mate for her daughter, played by Mandy Moore.

Language: One curse with "God" attached and some milder words.

Sexual situations and nudity: Women discuss orgasms and a character stumbles across near-pornographic material on a computer. Characters are shown in bed.

Violence/scary situations: None

Drug or alcohol use: Adults drink champagne, wine or brandy, usually at celebrations or with meals.

— Scripps Howard News Service



Dustin Burton, center, and Heather Dowell, right, listen as Kathy Moore of the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana speaks about financial-aid options to a group of about

20 people at Edinburg Community High School. Burton and Dowell were among four seniors who attended last week's seminar aimed at helping families afford college.

STAFF PHOTOS BY JOSHUA MARSHALL

Affording an education

Avenues open to families seeking money for school

By JENNIFER LEWIS
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Karen Weber sent her first daughter to college 11 years ago.

Her second daughter is a senior at Greenwood Community High School and will attend Ball State University in the fall.

The 11-year gap has presented Weber with a look at how college costs, paperwork and other aspects of higher education have changed in the past decade.

"I don't remember having to go through all this," Weber said.

She attended Greenwood Community High School's financial-aid information night recently to better understand what resources are available and how to start the aid-application process.

The main focus of the night was information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The form allows students to apply for a variety of grants and loans.

The FAFSA also will be the highlight of College Goal Sunday on Sunday. Locations throughout Indiana will offer free assistance in filling out the FAFSA beginning at 2 p.m.

Perry Meridian Middle School, 202 W. Meridian School Road, Indianapolis, and Ivy Tech State College, Room 200, 4475 Central Ave., Columbus, are two locations near Johnson County residents. Other locations can be found at collegegoalsunday.org.

Financial-aid experts, mostly from Indiana colleges and universities, will be available for one-on-one time with families who want help with the FAFSA.

During Greenwood high school's recent financial-aid session, parents came equipped with questions. One wanted to know which parent's income



Celesta Harmon attends a recent financial-aid session at Edinburg Community High School to get information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. For other locations offering FAFSA help, visit collegegoalsunday.org.

to list on the form for a student with divorced or separated parents.

Terri and Kevin Hoover of Greenwood are first-timers at helping a child applying for college aid.

Their goal was to get tips from the Franklin College associate director of financial aid Christina Lucas, who presented information to the group of parents and students.

Lucas and high school counselors in attendance stressed the importance of the Indiana FAFSA deadline March 10.

"Don't wait until the last minute," said Deborah Puaca, a Greenwood high school counselor.

Most scholarships have even earlier deadlines, falling between December and March, Lucas said.

Another tip: Don't pay for FAFSA help.

Some Web sites and agencies charge a fee to complete the form, which is not necessary, Puaca said.

"Watch out for scams," she said. "The FAFSA is free. Don't pay any

agencies that say they'll do it for you."

Scholarship searches also are available for free.

Parents should never pay someone to find scholarship opportunities for their child, Lucas said. Her presentation included Web sites that offer free searches, including fastweb.com.

Parents learned their children can apply for both grant money, which is often need-based, or scholarship money, which is based on academic or athletic achievements. Grants and scholarships do not require repayment.

For expenses beyond those covered by "free" money, Stafford and PLUS college loans, which have fixed interest rates, are available for students and parents.

Lucas urges parents to utilize the financial-aid office at whichever school their teens choose.

"Do not be afraid to call for assistance," she said. "Feel free to use your financial-aid administrator."



What is your favorite thing about school?

"Recess, because you can hang out with all your friends."

Admira Sarajlic, 11, daughter of Enisa and Admir Sarajlic of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary School



"Birthdays because you get a party!"

Shelby Jarrett, 11, daughter of Gina and Ronny Jarrett of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary



"When it's Valentine's Day. You get candy and cards."

Bruce Pleak, 11, son of Bruce and Jamie Pleak of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary



"Spring break, because you don't have to go to school."

Dakota Osborne, 11, son of Denise and Anthony Osborne of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary



"The Christmas party, because we went bowling."

Beth Adamson, 10, daughter of Brenda and David Adamson of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary



"Field trips. You get to travel to different places."

Reid Abney, 11, son of Bruce Abney of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary



"Recess, because of friends."

Wesley Rees, 11, son of Diane and Johnny Rees of Franklin, fifth grade, Creekside Elementary



LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS AND GIRLS



A speaker recently visited Indian Creek Elementary School students for a presentation on drums from around the world.

Above left: Indian Creek students participate in a percussion session. **Above right:** Student Jason Hall plays a large drum.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

GIVE US YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

What's the buzz at your school?

The Daily Journal is seeking announcements, story ideas and photos from area schools.

To submit photos of school activities or information about school news and events, send the details by e-mail to schoolnews@thejournalnet.com.

Or you can call the newstip line at 736-2712.

Be sure to include a daytime phone number in case we have questions.