

# Local Boys and Girls Club offers help, support to area youth

By Ken Lopez  
Staff Writer

After the Harrisburg High School boys basketball team captured their second state title in history last year, Hersheypark Arena was ablaze with wild celebration. Players Mike Moora, Andre Fountain, and Aaron Taylor stepped away for a moment to remember the club that helped them get there.

"It's been a great place for all of us and we'll never forget what it has done for us," said Moora, speaking on behalf of his two teammates. All the boys transferred from cross-town rival Bishop McDevitt for a shot at the title.

The B&GCA on Berryhill Street is where hundreds of area children gather nightly for activities, sports, and support they might not get at home. As laughter fills the lobby furnished with air hockey, pool tables, and inspiring messages, it is hard to believe the building used to house a 7-Eleven convenience store.

It is an inviting exclave in the desolate

cityscape that surrounds it. "The schools can't do it alone," said club director and Harrisburg school board member Sherman Cunningham. "We all have to make it work in order to give kids a brighter future and beat the streets."

Neighborhood residents and community leaders took that initial step in 1981 with a sixty thousand dollar project culminating in a grand opening that same year. The club, which added a gymnasium and multi-purpose room in 1985, expects to have the outdoor basketball court repaved by the spring of 1999.

The club is a worldwide organization with over than 2,065 facilities that provides an escape from the pitfalls of inner city life for millions of children.

Hundreds of kids hustle through the building's cramped doors as dusk descends. Some, such as Moora come to play basketball. Six-year old Tray, however, is nervous over a spelling quiz and has arrived to seek homework assistance. That's where West Shore residents Eunice Rogers and Jane

Wilshausen come in.

"It's really great to offer the slightest bit of help; every little bit counts," said Rogers, volunteering for the past six months as part of her parish mission program. The women provide children with warm meals, educational games and activities as part of the Harrisburg Mission Fund.

The fund, supported by several area churches, has raised more than one thousand dollars for local and global charities, according to Market Street Presbyterian Church pastor James Brown.

"We have people stepping forward to demonstrate that we want to be part of making these children's future's brighter," said Brown, who called the club a "community treasure."

The lobby walls are filled with posters featuring past celebrity guests like actor Denzel Washington, former L.A. Laker guard James Worthy, and comedian Bill Cosby. Other shots included former Golden State Warriors center Ralph Sampson, and current Minnesota Vikings head coach and Harrisburg na-

tive Dennis Green.

Cunningham talks about Sampson's visit. "Everybody here did a double-take upon seeing Ralph's enter," he recalls, grinning, "Look, he's taller than the fence," the kids exclaimed!"

Cunningham opens the library door, unveiling seven computers and crowded bookshelves. Technology changes, but the goals of the club are permanent, he said. "Even though I don't get paid this is still a great job because I'm rewarded daily with smiles and happiness."

Nightfall has slowed activity within the club as a group of kids initiate a short game of touch football on the basketball court. Back inside, Moora and Fountain are locked in a furious game of "21." They return to the club every night to prepare for the season. "If it wasn't for Sherman and the volunteers here, I'd be whole different case," said Moora, vividly recalling the final seconds of the championship game.

Cunningham concluded, "destiny is better when you have the right direction."

## College to offer midnight classes

By The Associated Press

SYLVANIA, Ohio — Bunsen burners aglow at midnight and Freud under a full moon? It could be the scene next month when Lourdes College in Sylvania begins to offer midnight classes.

The Catholic college near Toledo will offer a general psychology course and a gen-

eral chemistry course that will meet one night a week from midnight to 2:30 a.m.

"It occurred to me the last few years, we're very much more a 24-hour society," said Thomas J. Estrella, psychology department chairman. "I think society's needs have changed."

He'll teach the psychology class and said he'd consider a dozen students a success.

## FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

If your class meets: Then your final is:

M/W/F 8-8:50 a.m. - 12/16, 8-10:30 a.m.

M/W/F 9-9:50 a.m. - 12/15, 8-10:30 a.m.

M/W/F 10-10:50 a.m. - 12/14, 8-10:30 a.m.

M/W/F 11-11:50 a.m. - 12/17, 8-10:30 a.m.

M/W/F 12-12:50 p.m. - 12/18, 8-10:30 a.m.

M/W/F 1-1:50 p.m. - 12/15, 2-4:30 p.m.

M/W/F 2-2:50 p.m. - 12/16, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

M/W/F 3-3:50 p.m. - 12/18, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

M/W/F 4-4:50 p.m. - 12/18, 2-4:30 p.m.

M/W/F 5-5:50 p.m. - 12/18, 5-7:30 p.m.

T/Th 8-9:15 a.m. - 12/17, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

T/Th 9:30-10:45 a.m. - 12/14, 2-4:30 p.m.

T/Th 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. - 12/16, 2-4:30 p.m.

T/Th 2-3:15 p.m. - 12/15, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

T/Th 3:30-4:45 p.m. - 12/18, 2-4:30 p.m.

\*For classes meeting M,T,W or Th in the 5-7:30 p.m. or 6-8:30 p.m. time periods, your final exam will be during your normally scheduled class period during finals week.

## Student Government

SGA President Sean Limric, along with all SGA members, would like to extend warm holiday wishes to all students, faculty, and staff. We hope you and your families have a safe and happy holiday season.

Thank you to all staff, faculty, and students who donated so generously to the SGA Food Drive. The South Central Pennsylvania Food Bank is extremely grateful for all the contributions.

Get involved in THON, the Dance Marathon! Help kids with cancer! Anyone who is interested should see Jodi Gutshall in room 216, call at 948-6137, or email her at HYPERLINK mail to: jlg178@psu.edu.

The SGA web site will be coming soon. It will be operational within the first few weeks of the Spring semester.

Students are needed for the Rites of Spring, Awards Banquet, and Finance committees. Please contact SGA Treasurer Michele Myers at the SGA office located in 216 if you are interested.

SGA meetings are held every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. All students are encouraged to attend. You can contact the SGA office with any questions at 948-6137.

## Student Court

Our Web Page is up! Visit us at [cs.hbg.psu.edu/~dvc104/sc](http://cs.hbg.psu.edu/~dvc104/sc)

The Student Court met on Thursday the 19th to go over a few things. We discussed trying to plan events for next semester and getting involved in SGA committees. Our getting involved in committees would require a bylaw, which will be handled by the Constitutional Revision Committee. The passage of this bylaw is the major issue currently facing the court.

The Constitutional Revision Committee has met twice in the last two weeks. Chief Justice James W. Cushing and Associate Justice William Graham are both on that committee. The issues covered were bylaws regarding Senator's attendance exemption, office hour sign-in requirements, excused absence limitations, and finance committee guidelines. The attendance exemption and finance committee bylaws were hammered out, but the other bylaws were either rejected or required revision.

The Student Court exists to serve the student body. If anyone, member or non-member of the Student Government Association, has any questions, concerns, or problems with actions or decisions made by the Student Government Association, its members, its committees, or clubs under it, please do not hesitate to bring the matter to the court for review and possibly a hearing to resolve the matter.

If anyone has any concerns feel free to call me at 930-0826, e-mail me at [minddrive@psu.edu](mailto:minddrive@psu.edu), or leave a message in the Student Court mailbox in 216 Olmsted.