



# Education



**FBLA members** — Members of the 2008-09 Rivercrest Junior High School Future Business Leaders of America are pictured. The 42-member club is currently conducting a fundraiser with 50 percent of the proceeds benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The FBLA is selling red school mascot T-shirts and anyone interested may contact a member or the school at (870) 655-8421.

## Rivercrest High School Parent Corner

By DIANN TOWNSON  
Academic reports will be distributed to students Friday, Sept. 26. Parents be sure to check with your students about their progress grades. If any questions, contact Rivercrest High School at (870) 655-8111.

Parents you can call the school for an edline password and username to check your student's grades. Contact Lee Ann Graham at (870) 655-7016.

Yearbooks are on sale for \$26. Be sure to get one soon, the price is going to increase. Friend and family ads are also on sale. For more information, contact Jo Pounders at (870) 655-8111.

Rivercrest High School will be having Fruit and Cookie dough sales. For more information, contact Mitzi Smith at (870) 655-8111.

A dance is scheduled from 9 p.m.-12 a.m. Friday, Sept. 26 at the Wilson Show Barn for 9-12th grade students. Admission is \$5.

Rivercrest will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 15-Oct. 15 with a variety of activities.

School picture proofs and order forms were distributed to ninth-11th grade students Sept. 16. Ask your student for the proof envelope if it has not been given to you. Orders must be returned by Oct. 3 to Jo Pounders (room 127) or Debbie Vaughn (office). For more information, questions or concerns, contact Pounders at (870) 655-8111 from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

JROTC and band pictures will be taken Tuesday, Sept. 30.



**FBLA officers** — Serving as officers for the Rivercrest Junior High Future Business Leaders of America are (from, left) Hank Morgan, president; Kelli Pierce, vice president; Taylor Brooks, treasurer; Taylor Rogers, secretary; and Clayton Carlton, historian. Not pictured is Brittany Stewart, reporter. The club sponsor is Danny Harmon.

## Tevin Howard selected as national award winner

The United States Achievement Academy announced that Tevin Howard from Luxora has been named a United States National Award Winner.

This award is a prestigious honor very few students can ever hope to attain. In fact, the academy recognizes fewer than 10 percent of all American high school students.

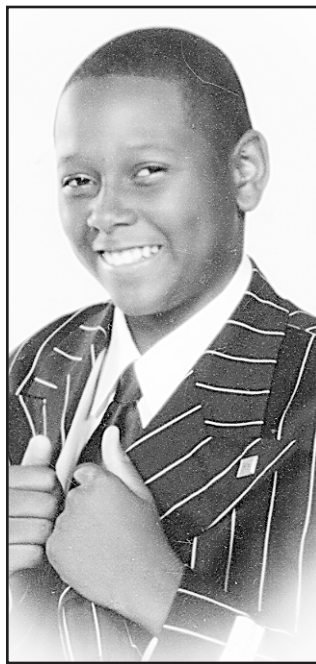
Howard, who attends Rivercrest High School, will appear in the United States Achievement Academy's Official yearbook which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, United States Achievement Academy winners should

be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, founder of the United States Achievement Academy.

The academy selects USAA winners upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors, and other qualified sponsors and upon the Standards of Selection set forth by the academy. The criteria for selection are a student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, dependability, and recommendation from a qualified sponsor.

Howard, is the son of



Tevin Howard

Donna Chew of Luxora. He is the grandson of Johnnie Hooks of Luxora and the late LeAndrezo Hooks, Sr.

## New science program designed to peak interest

By DAVID PIERCE  
Times Staff

As Logan Jones peers through the microscope he seems captivated by the slide which shows a gold fish cell.

The South Mississippi County at Wilson fifth grader raises his head and announces, "If scientists get to do this, then I might just become a scientist."

Although Jones still has his whole academic career in front of him, it's the type of response the Arkansas State University GK12 program is trying to elicit from middle school students.

The GK12 program was instituted by the National Science Foundation after research showed science scores peaked for students in the fifth grade, then declined over the next three years. It's two-fold purpose is to not only peak middle school students' interest in science, but utilize graduate or doctorate students to do so.

ASU has signed on for five years of the federally-funded program and has placed eight Fellows in five school districts across east Arkansas.

Included along with South Mississippi County are Helena-West Helena, Armorel, Cross County and Nettleton.

Shea Harris, pursuing his master's degree in environmental science, spends alternating Fridays at two campuses in the local district either with Patti Misner or Anna Burton's classes at Wilson and Luxora, respectively.

"Scientists are stereotyped as old, bald-headed guys, in a white lab coat," said Harris, smiling as he described the scientist he envisioned, "and that tends to give students a false impression of the field. We want to open up the exciting world of science and maybe, just maybe, some of the students will pursue careers in the science field."

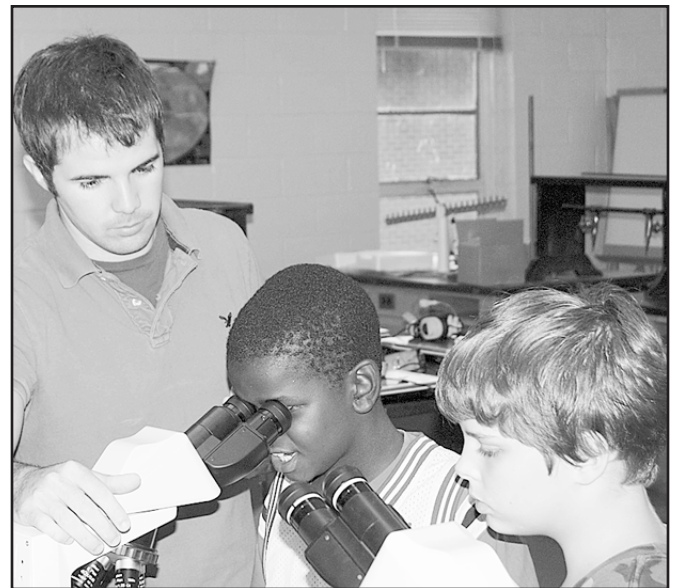
Judging by the students' reaction as Harris explains the parts of a microscope, before allowing them to view numerous microscopic slides, he seems to have captured their attention. They take turns viewing slides of everything from ditch water to snake blood as Harris incorporates a lesson on plant and animal cells.

As he discusses plant cells, Harris seems to be touching on his own research which is also an element of the program.

Harris' research is in the field of Phytoremediation — using plants to clean polluted sites — and another goal of the program is to improve the Fellows' communication skills so a lay audience can have an understanding.

Misner and Burton became involved after submitting requests to be included in the program and the measure of its success will be found in the students' benchmark scores.

"We're only in the second week here," Misner said. "So it's still too early to see if it's having an impact. But were committed to making this work."



Shea Harris (left) with Wilson Middle School students

## South Missco Menus

The breakfast and lunch menus for the week of Sept. 29 - Oct. 3 for the South Mississippi County School District elementary schools are as follows.

### Breakfast

**Monday** - Cinnamon toast, juice or fruit, milk;  
**Tuesday** - Honey buns, juice or fruit, milk;  
**Wednesday** - Egg on toast w/sausage, juice or fruit, milk;  
**Thursday** - Waffle w/syrup, juice, milk;  
**Friday** - Biscuits and gravy, juice or fruit, milk.

### Lunch

**Monday** - Chili dog

w/cheese, French fries w/ketchup, confetti slaw, orange sherbert, milk;

**Tuesday** - Italian spaghetti, tossed salad w/ranch dressing, peach cup, yellow cake w/icing, bread sticks, milk;

**Wednesday** - Hot ham and cheese sandwich, carrot stick s/dressing, fried okra, strawberry shortcake, milk;

**Thursday** - Minute steak w/gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, plain Jello, biscuit, milk;

**Friday** - Barbecue on bun, baked beans, cole slaw, cherry crisp, milk.

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The breakfast and

variety of cereal are served daily.)  
lunch menus for the week of Sept. 29 - Oct. 3 for Rivercrest High School and Rivercrest Junior High School are as follows.

### Breakfast

**Monday** - Cinnamon toast, juice or fruit, milk;  
**Tuesday** - Honey buns, juice or fruit, milk;  
**Wednesday** - Egg on toast w/sausage, juice or fruit, milk;  
**Thursday** - Waffle w/syrup, juice or fruit, milk;

**Friday** - Biscuits and gravy, juice or fruit, milk. (Additional lines for sausage and biscuit and a

variety of cereal are served daily.)

### Lunch

**Monday** - Pig in a blanket, French fries w/ketchup, confetti slaw, orange sherbert, milk;

**Tuesday** - Italian spaghetti, tossed salad w/ranch dressing, peach cup, yellow cake w/icing, bread sticks milk;

**Wednesday** - Soft taco, whole kernel corn, strawberry short cake, milk;

**Thursday** - Minute steak w/gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, plain Jello, biscuit, milk;

**Friday** - Barbecue on bun, baked beans, cole slaw, cherry crisp, milk.

(Additional lines for taco salad, nachos, salad bar, pizza and a variety of sandwiches are also served daily.)



# The South Mississippi County School District

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