# Report: Black motorists more likely to be stopped, searched

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo .-Black motorists were 40 percent more likely to be stopped by Missouri law officers than white motorists last year-a percentage virtually unchanged from 2002, according to a report released Thursday by Attorney General Jay Nixon.

searched than whites, the report found.

The annual report is the fourth since Missouri began tracking traffic stops under the state's racial profiling law, enacted in August 2000.

Statewide, law enforcement officers made almost 1.4 million traffic stops last year, conducted more than

74,000 arrests, the report found

Nixon warned that statistics alone neither prove nor disprove that racial profiling

"Analysis of the data-particularly the data supplied by individual law enforcement agencies-has proven to be a springboard for con-

structive dialogue between the agencies and the communities they serve," Nixon

The report includes data from 616 law enforcement agencies. Gov. Bob Holden could withhold state funding from 56 agencies around the state that did not meet the reporting deadline, Nixon

#### Black motorists also were Culinary school feeds needy, teaches job skill

By Cheris F. Hodges

The Community Culinary School of Charlotte has been moving people from welfare to the workforce while serv-

ing the hungry The school provides food service job training for people who are chronically unemployed, according to a release. With food from the Community Food Rescue, students at the culinary school are trained to prepare nutritious meals. The meals are then served to homeless people and other people in

need through the Friendship Trays program. Over 700 meals are distributed to the elderly and homeless

"We're a three-prong group that works against hunger," said the school's executive director, Linda Vogler.

Culinary students take classes for 12 weeks, where they learn professional food preparation, sanitation and job seeking skills. The school is one of the few job-training programs that offers the option of day and evening

Vogler said the school also

offers life programs that work on self-esteem, teaches students how to save money and teaches a strong work

Students are recruited from social services agencies, homeless shelters, halfway houses, the court system and work release programs.

"Some of them come in and have food experience and those students move through the program faster," Vogler said. "And some don't have experience.

Vogler added that having prior experience in the food industry is not a require-

Since 1998, the school has graduated over 275 people and has a 98 percent placement rate. Graduates of the school have gone on to work in local restaurants, country clubs and retirement centers. One thing that sets graduates apart from other job seekers is that they receive sanitation certification from the National Restaurant Association.

We don't have a problem placing the students," Vogler said. "In Charlotte there are about 8,000 entry level (food service) positions.

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### LORD LIFT US UP WHERE WE BELONG BLACK UNITY WALK

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## Fitness helps aging and aged

Continued from page 1B

she could move with ease She then began daily trips to the gym to work on her upper body. Those initial visits were difficult. "It was frustrating," she said. "In the beginning, all I could do was cry and keep moving.

But each visit to the gym she'd focus on doing what she could and then try to do a little more. "If I could get 10 movements in a day and then do one more, that was an achievement," she said. "There is a cycle of pain that you can let yourself get into because you're not only suffering physically, but going through that mental anguish as well. But you have to stay away from that

For the next three years, Edie stuck to it, visiting the gym, walking, working and willing her body to do what it was once capable of -and it

## Male teachers a rarity

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. Bridgeforth Middle School students get an unusual experience when they go to Mike Luke's science class. They probably won't see

another male teacher for the rest of the day. That's because Luke is one of just a few male teachers at the 475-student school in Giles County

"I've had a few male col-leagues. It stays steady just a handful at any time," said Luke, who has been teaching for 27 years. "Some have to leave. We're not refilling the ranks as fast as they retire.'

Giles County is not alone. Across Tennessee, 14,500-or about 21 percent-of the state's 68,000 public school teachers are male. The percentages are usually lower in elementary and middle schools, and higher in high schools.

'We do need more men,' said J.B. Smith, principal of Bridgeforth, in Pulaski. "Many times, these children are without men in the home. Men are needed

as role models. A National Education Association survey shows only one out of every five teachers is male, a 40-year low. Specific information is available Tennessee because the state does not track teachers by gender each year.

"The doctors told me that if I wasn't so determined, I'd be in a wheelchair right now, she said. "I didn't let it control my life. When you get sick, that should be an encouragement to exercise. If you're healthy, you want to work at keeping that good

Edie's passion for fitness continued to grow over the years, so much so that she took courses to get certified to teach others how to stay fit through avenues like voga and aerobics

By 1999, Edie felt in control of her life again.



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