

Can We Talk?

Fourteen-Year-Old Tackles Peer Issues as Radio Show Host

BY SABRINA JONES
Chronicle Staff Writer

Amanda Buthea is a talented young girl with big dreams.

She is a 14-year-old rising freshman at Reynolds High School who aspires to be a journalist and civil rights leader. And some works of this budding poet is reminiscent of a young Nikki Giovanni.

Buthea, who wants to attend UNC-Greensboro to study communications, has gotten her first big break as the host of a new radio talk show that is geared toward teenagers.

"Our Generation," a Sunday morning program on radio station WMQX AM-1340, was created as an outlet for teen-agers to voice their concerns, said Leon Henry, creator of the program and WMQX's gospel director.

"It was basically my idea to have a teen talk show because teens need an avenue to ventilate their ideas and thoughts," said Henry.

"We hear a lot about teen-agers getting into trouble and I wanted to show that teens can do some positive things, especially black teens."

The program airs Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. and will air the third Sunday of every month during the school year. Program topics include teen-age violence, drug abuse and teen-age pregnancy.

Buthea was selected to host the program following an interview with her counselor, Andrea Bush, at Cook Elementary School. Bush hosts the program "Educational Keynotes" on WMQX. After hearing Buthea recite a poem at a school reception, Bush invited the young girl to appear on her show. "Our Generation" will replace "Educational Keynotes" during Bush's absence during the summer.

Buthea's radio experience began early. In third grade she read her poem "My Favorite Christmas" over the radio after she won first place in the station's poetry contest.



Amanda Buthea sits in the control room at WMQX radio station.

The honor student is proficient in speaking and writing as demonstrated by her school activities. She is president of the debate team; she won third place in an oratorical contest and received an academic excellence award signed by President Clinton.

As the host of "My Generation," Buthea wants to make a dif-

ference in the lives of her peers. She is also a co-producer and helps with the show's writing.

"I want to talk to teens and let them know what's out there to help them make it. I want to let the adults know what our generation is about and let people know that we have a voice and we can speak out for ourselves," she said.

Vacation Bible School Holds Finale Parade

By DELEITHIA SUMMEY
Chronicle Staff Writer

If you live on Cleveland Avenue, 14th Street, Highland Avenue or 12th Street, last Saturday evening, it's guaranteed that you saw a crowd of people in costumes waving flags and singing "When the Saints Come Marching In" along with the tunes of a trombone.

This sight that you witnessed was the Parade of Nations, a grand finale of the Vacation Bible School at Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church 1225 N. Cleveland Ave.

During the celebration, youths ranging from pre-kindergarten to junior teens recited memory verses from the Bible, sang hymns, such as "Onward Christian Soldier," and represented the countries of Egypt, Kenya, Hawaii and China by

adapting their native dress.

In addition to honoring those with perfect attendance, the three winners of the essay contest called "Why I Am Happy with Jesus" presented their essays, which expressed gratitude and love.

The winners were Courtney Harris of the kindergartners, Jamal Allens of the primaries, and Brittany Davis of the junior teens.

Although there were only three categories, Haroline Holmes of the prekindergartners was recognized for her participation and effort.

At the end of the annual program, Sister Ernestine Swift, director, stated, "It's (Vacation Bible School) been two weeks of spiritual teaching, trials, praying and fun."



Sims Center Sponsors Youth Programs

The William C. Sims Recreation Center held a girls' sleep-over on July 16. The girls participated in makeup clinics, aerobics classes and self-esteem talks. Deborah Cook Harris, Barbara Cook, Belinda Peoples, Lillie B. Whitaker, Annette Sunday and Adriene Wilson led workshops.

The following girls participated in the program: Sindy Abbott, Lyreather Horne, Michelle Davis, Kesha Fulton, Frederica Dillworth, Kesha Patterson, Tasha McCall, Samantha Johnson, Dianna Wright, Aralia Wilson, Sharonda Singleary, Nichole Nicholson, Latasha Gillis, Kawana Booker, Natasha Sunday and Angela Sunday.

The young girls gathered in groups to discuss personal hygiene, and makeup and to go swimming, play games and do aerobics.

Kirby Green was the girls' advisor. Clarence Brown was the boys' advisor.

The Sims center also took 14 children from Happy Hill Gardens to Northside Bowling Lane on July 15.

The children who participated in the event were James Sawyers, Travis Bristow, Tomont Williams, Tyrone Jefferson, Ronnie Wilson, Natasha Sunday, Nichole Nickelson, Kesha Patterson, Tramond Cobb, Tasha McCall, Arifah Lyons, Lyreather Horne, Antinio Nicholson, Tyrone Davis and Leon McCorkle.

The Sims Recreation Center took 15 children to the Stop the Madness Program at Kennedy Middle School.



Several children from the William C. Sims Recreation Center frolicked in the warm sun last Saturday at the "Stop the Madness" program at Kennedy Middle School. The event, sponsored by STEP ONE, offered games and plenty of other types of fun.

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