

FREE SPIRIT MEDIA

newsletter • may 2005

YOUTH PRODUCED TELEVISION FOR CHICAGO AND BEYOND



HoopsHIGH COVERS ELITE GROUND

After covering games at Crane and Westinghouse all season, the HoopsHIGH crew tested their broadcasting skills by shooting at two big-time venues: the UIC Pavillion and the United Center. The crew worked extremely hard at the Pavillion, covering four games in one day for the quarterfinal round of the City Championship Tournament. "I was tired," remembers camera operator Terrence Barnes, "but it was exciting." At the United Center, the crew shot Crane and New Trier's battle for the State Super Sectional title. Two lucky HoopsHIGH members enjoyed prime seats on the court floor, shooting alongside industry camera operators.

A BREAK TO MAKE BEATS

Students at North Lawndale College Prep recently took a break from their usual video production activities to spend a week studying sound design. Each year, NLCP sponsors an Intersession week, during which students choose a "college" from various workshops organized by NLCP faculty. Free Spirit Media transformed its classroom into the College of Beats. Two visiting artists, Kenny Smith and Carnell Newbill, offered their time, equipment, and expertise to teach students how to produce original beats and songs. Students worked with professional audio mixers, synthesizers, and percussion instruments, and wrote their own lyrics to record over their beats. By the end of the week, the "Talented 24" had created a full CD of original material!



Lorenzo Patton, HoopsHIGH color commentator, at work and at play.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Lorenzo Patton

"Safe to say, baby - it's gettin' ready to go down!"

When HoopsHIGH fans hear commentator Lorenzo Patton's voice at the start of each show, they know they are about to watch another exciting, action-packed game. Since joining HoopsHIGH last summer, Zo has added senior leadership and a little comedy to the show. His interests outside of HoopsHIGH include baseball, tumbling, and telling jokes, but broadcasting remains his career choice. "I felt like I made the big time," he said after shooting the Prep Bowl at Soldier Field, and next year he will continue his path to the professional industry by studying communications at Eastern Illinois University.

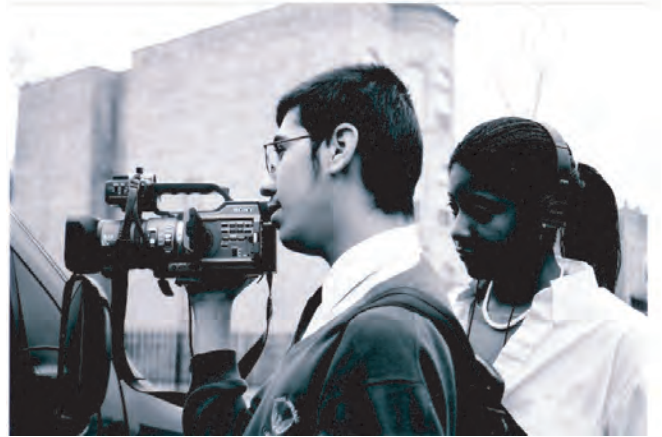
NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The 2004-5 school year has been incredible for Free Spirit Media. For the first time since FSM's inception in 2000, our programs have had nurturing and dependable homes - Humanities, Documentary and Drama Production at North Lawndale College Prep, and HoopsHIGH Sports Media Production at Crane Tech Prep. As a result, FSM is delivering consistent service and focusing on what we do best: inspiring youth to express themselves with the tools of video production. The young people that we are working with are responding in so many positive ways - from seniors preparing to study broadcasting and engineering in college to freshmen staying in school with an added sense of purpose. We are so grateful for everyone that is making Free Spirit Media's success with youth possible. Thank you.

Jeff McCarter
Founder and Executive Director

TUNE IN TO OUR WEEKLY SHOW
to view the HoopsHIGH Game of the Week
and short pieces from our humanities program

Saturdays at 8 P.M. - CAN TV Channel 19



North Lawndale College Prep students Ricardo Chaidez and Jasmine Jefferson working on Jasmine's short film, a parody of Pulp Fiction. You can view it at the Big Showcase on May 17th.

Please join us for the 1st Annual **BIG SHOWCASE**

North Lawndale College Prep students show off their productions to friends and supporters.

Tuesday, May 17

Open House at 3 p.m., Showcase at 4 p.m.
NLCP Auditorium - 1615 S. Christiana Avenue

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Please consider making a donation to Free Spirit Media. Your contribution will be an investment in our youth - in their skills, their confidence, and their potential. Always feel free to contact us with any questions or ideas. Thank you for your interest and support.



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