New school year, same busing burdens

From Page A-1 and the use of racial quotas, even though there was space for him at

In June 2005, the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case. Judge John Heyburn II, a federal judge for the U.S. District Court Western District, who in 2000 reversed the 1974 desegregation order, ruled in 2003 that Meredith's complaint covers the entire JCPS system and represents "most all students and parents."

Opponents of the current JCPS student assignment plan, which operates as a "managed choice" system, say terms like desegregation and reverse discrimination are not what Meredith's Supreme Court case is about.

"This case is about the 14th

Amendment and individual rights," said Honi Goldman, a spokeswoman for Louisville attorney Teddy Gordon, who is representing Meredith. "We are never going to go back to laws that segregate our community. Segregation was a law put on the books by the school board that will never happen again."

Black students currently make up an estimated 35 percent of the Jefferson County public school population. Students are assigned to schools based on the racial composition of the school, which must be between 15 and 50 percent. Race is defined as black or white, with Asian, Hispanic and other minorities placed in the white cat-

Race is only one factor involved

in assigning students to schools, Haddad said.

Other factors include geographic boundaries and student choice through magnet and traditional programs.

The Supreme Court's decision in Meredith v. Jefferson County Board of Education will affect where the nearly 100,000 Jefferson County School students will attend some 152 Louisville area schools. The case has repercussions across the nation for all public school systems that use race as a factor in student assignment.

The Supreme Court will hear Meredith v. Jefferson County Board of Education in the upcoming session, possibly in November or December, with a ruling to come by July 2007.

Christian Academy gets a 'Teddy Bear Picnic' every day



MATT THACKER | contributing photographer

Local artist Clovene painted a 50-foot mural of the "Teddy Bear Picnic" in the lunch room at Christian Academy of Louisville's Rock Creek Campus. Children at the elementary school saw the mural for the first time when they returned to school on Aug. 16. Clovene, who has painted murals for about 30 years, said she tried to hide different images throughout the mural, such as a bear playing basketball, so children would have something new to look at each time they stood in line. The painting took almost four weeks to finish.

Best Dressed of Louisville hits runway Aug. 26

From Page A-1

about fashion, proceeds will benefit two local charities: Kids Acting Against Cancer and Communiwill feature a one-of-a-kind glass sculpture by von Roenn and a 2006 Honda Civic Hybrid donated by Bob Montgomery Dixie Honda. A silent auction also will be held.

The evening will open with a video montage of the 50 Best Dressed of Louisville on giant video screens. Guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres and drinks at five specialty bars and three full bars.

Following the fashion show, Katie and the Cruisers will play dance favorites until midnight.

A club-style after party will ty Health Charities. A live auction be held in the Rathskeller with an appearance by Carson Kressley of "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy."

The dress for the evening is "fashion chic," and Riddle said he's gotten a lot of calls about what to wear. He said people should wear something creative, and that local boutiques have benefited from the buzz the event has created.

"I think this shows that Louisville is becoming more of a cosmo-

politan city because of the amazing response we've had to the event,"

The event's title sponsor is Obsidian Enterprises, with Rodes as the presenting sponsor, and Brown-Forman, Burdorf, Highland Cleaners, Bob Montgomery, Wilson Muir Bank & Trust, and Z Salon as asso-

ciate sponsors. Tickets are \$150 each or \$800 for reserved bistro table seating

For tickets, call Sandy Montgomery at 899-5946.

'My True Self' filmed at Anchorage home

From Page A-1 chaos – I run the pony club."

Actor Gerod Edington, playing a young man with terminal cancer, lay in an upstairs bedroom, Louisville Cardinals pennants scattered

across the wall above his head. The film centers around Ben Fields (Edington) and his decision to forego potentially life-saving treatment in order to make sure his family and friends live a life as happy as it could be.

"My True Self" doesn't focus on him being sick though, Nahata said. "It's about a person trying to accomplish something meaningful in a short amount of time."

With the exception of Erin Gray, from "Silver Spoons," who plays Fields' mother, the cast is young and largely undiscovered.

Fifteen minutes after I received the script I said yes, Gray said.

"When you get all choked up by page 15, it's a no-brainer. I love the story and the message."

Nahata, a Ballard High School graduate living in California, finished the script for "My True Self" when he was 22, seven years ago. After studying everything from political science to economics at Bowdoin College in Maine, it was only after dropping out his junior year that Nahata discovered a

renewed interest in filmmaking. "The story has changed as I've grown older," Nahata said. "At that time I was very opinionated about life. I thought that if you weren't in a select few professions then you weren't living life genuinely. Now I know people are born to do everything - it isn't up to me to tell anyone how to be happy."

Something Fields also seems

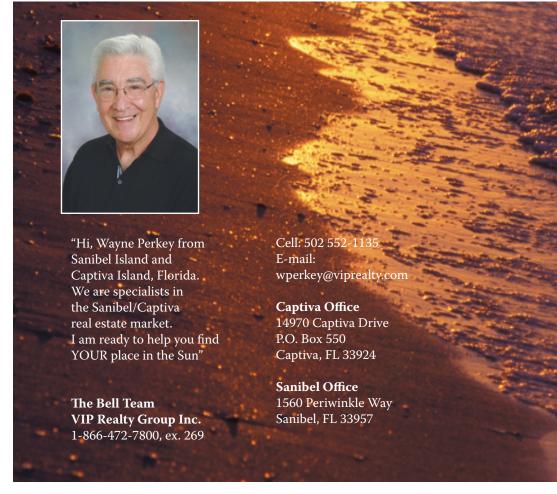
"My True Self" will be Nahata's first full-length, feature film. He said he will probably go the film festival route, though the lofty

"If nothing else happens with

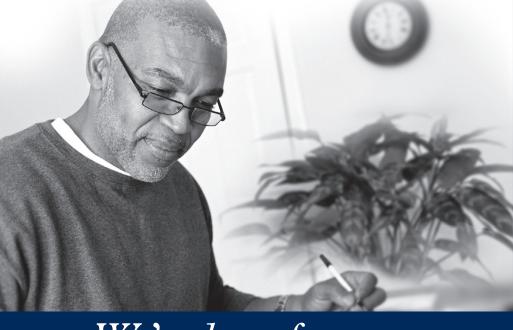
the world.

this movie, if I can pack a theater full of family and friends and they can see what I've been thinking for the last seven years, then it's a dream come true," Nahata said.

goal is to have it in every theater in







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Seven-year-old holds birthday party fundraiser

too many her age. This was just an amazing sign of her love and com-"I just want to help people," Lau-

ren said with a big smile.

Lauren was introduced to The Healing Place through her grandfather, Artie Meyer, who has volunteered there for three years. Although Meyer was the inspiration for the second grader at Anchorage Public School, the idea to hold a fundraiser, he said, was all Lauren's.

Lauren visited The Healing Place at Christmas with her grandfather and mother, Lisa, to donate two carloads of toys.

"I took a lot of my toys and the other kids are probably playing with them now and probably like them," Lauren said.

A few months later, Lauren

called her grandfather with an unexpected request.

"(She) called me and said, 'Papa, when you give me my birthday party instead of having my friends bring me a gift I'd like them to bring donations to the Healing Place.' We let the idea grow from there," he said. "I'm quite proud of her. That's quite something for a 7-year-old to think

Mulder and Joy Jewell, peer mentor supervisor for The Healing Place, attended Lauren's Aug. 6 party at Meyer's farm in eastern Jefferson County to thank her per-

Jewell is a former client of The

Healing Place and continues to work their to help other women reclaim their lives as well.

"Not only does the world need more children like Rosie, but the world would be a better place with more people like her," Jewell said. "It's a wonderful gesture and so generous, she's a very generous little girl. It's amazing to me that someone who is 7-years-old wants to help people ... who are homeless, helpless, hopeless, alcoholics and drug addicts. The Healing Place stays open through generosity from the community.

'She is definitely one of a kind, far ahead of her time," she contin-

ued. "I'm so honored to witness this gift of generosity."

Lauren's parents, Emmett and Lisa Graft of Anchorage, are equally proud of their daughter.

"I was very proud that she would want to donate something instead of receiving," Lisa said. "This was her own thinking and idea. You never know with children what they're

So far, Lauren's birthday has raised \$3,400 for The Healing Place with donations still coming in through the mail. To make a donation to The Healing Place, call 585-4848 ext. 206 or visit their Web site at thehealingplace.org.





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