

SCHOOL

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training for students in layout, design and cartooning. In Theatre Technology, students acquire experience in theatre set design.

So, when you identify the success that this school has had in athletics, you can also turn quickly to the success they have had academically. Six students were recognized this year as being nationally ranked in their

scholastic achievement. The Future Business Leaders of America program at Chaparral has achieved state and national recognition, indicating the strength of the vocational programs in the area this club represents. Parents, faculty, and administration can take pride in the accomplishment of the work of the students at this school. Chaparral High School is the home of champions.

'Webster' Star Emmanuel Lewis To Be Featured On Lead Float In 1986 Tournament Of Roses Parade

LOS ANGELES — Emmanuel Lewis, star of the ABC-TV comedy series "Webster," has been set to ride as a special guest on the lead float in the 1986 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena. The float, a circus-themed entry called "A Celebration of Laughter," is sponsored by Small World Greetings, Inc.

Small World has dedicated the float to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization that grants special wishes to terminally-ill children.

"We're delighted that Emmanuel will be our special guest for the Rose Parade on New Year's Day," said Alan Mark Levenson, president of Small World Greetings, Inc. "He personifies the joyfulness of being a child, and with his trademark laugh, is the perfect representative for our float, 'A Celebration of Laughter,'" Levenson continued.

The 65-foot-long float vividly captures the fun and

excitement of the circus. Trumpeting elephants and circus ponies 23 feet tall are focal points on the float, while live circus acts and clowns perform to the sound of an old-fashioned calliope. The float will be completely decorated with thousands of flowers, in keeping with the annual tradition of the Rose Parade.

As part of its continuing commitment as a national sponsor of Make-A-Wish, Small World Greetings, Inc. has developed a commemorative pin for its "A Celebration of Laughter" float. Levenson hopes to sell 25,000 of the colorful enameled pins as a souvenir of this year's Rose Parade, with the entire proceeds going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

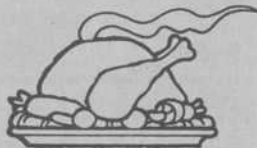
The 1986 Tournament of Roses Parade will be televised on NBC-TV on Jan. 1, 1986. The parade is traditionally one of the most spectacular events of the holiday season.

Student Spotlight

When school officials were asked to identify outstanding students on the campus, theirs was a difficult task. They named several students with high academic achievement and who have demonstrated qualities of leadership and good citizenship. Space would not permit the identification of all these students, so we have selected this week's spotlight to recognize J.J. High, who is the student body president. J.J. is an articulate student who has an excellent grade point average, and is recognized as a leader by faculty, and most obviously, by his peers.

The second student identified was Lagracella Omren. Lagracella is an eleventh grader with a grade point average of 4.0. She was the runner-up in the Ms. Black Teenage Pageant two years ago, and wants to attend the Julliard School of Performing Arts in New York when she graduates. Lagracella said to me that "This is my school and I am proud of Chaparral. I am proud because if you try as a student, the teachers try harder to make you succeed."

With this comment, this week we spotlight and feature two outstanding students at Chaparral High School who have already demonstrated success in a strong academic environment.



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classes. But some youngsters may not fit or meet all the elements for placement in such a program, so our District has developed an academically talented, culturally different committee. Ms. Judi Steel,

the Director of the Academically Talented Program, stated, "This committee will review applicants who have not had the experience background or the training necessary to qualify them for the Academically Talented program, yet these same students may have high potential and would otherwise be denied such an opportunity if a review did not take place."

Today, the Clark County School District has 3,000 students enrolled in the Academically Talented program in grades K-8. Four percent, or 122 of these students are black. This percentage is far below the total percentage of black

students enrolled in the Clark County School District, and would suggest that we in the District have either not identified students with potential, or some of our students lack the basic skills essential for high academic training. In discussing this with school administrators, I have found that both of these situations are true. We in the District have not identified all of the black students who should be enrolled in the program; however, a concerted effort has been made during the past year and is continuing, and many new students are entering the program for the first time this year. We also have a number of students who lack the necessary experience background to qualify, and special attention is being provided these students.


Parents are assisting by contacting the schools, asking questions about the program, and encouraging their children to succeed in their classes for possible

placement at a later date.

This program is providing a unique learning experience for 122 black students.

One other condition exists which causes some students to leave the program and that is peer pressure. By the time that an academically talented student reaches seventh grade we all know that peer pressure becomes extremely important and being classified as a "brain" sets them apart from the group and sometimes their friends. During these formative years, we must support these youngsters and encourage them to continue with their studies while retaining the friendship of their peers. This is a difficult task and yet one that we must embrace.

The 122 students identified, according to Ms. Steel, do not represent high school students, and I am very proud of the number of black students who have a grade point average that is 3.0 or greater.



James Oran Porter
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