

TALK OF THE *Town*

Fellowship of Christian Athletes talent show helps fund activities

The community talent show sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Jan. 30 was a rousing success. An audience of approximately 250 people filled the historic Walker Freshman High auditorium and were entertained by Nicole Johnson, DSHS student and Nashville recording artist; Andy Ray Perry, an Old South Jamboree regular and Elvis impersonator; and award winning Cajun humorist & former French Settlement basketball star Jimmy Little. The "doo-wap" quartet comprised of local political figures Denham Springs Mayor Jimmy Durbin, Walker Mayor Bobby Font, Livingston Mayor Derral Jones and Livingston Parish President Mike Grimmer was a hit, as was Assessor Jeff Taylor on the saxophone. Walker Police Chief Hunter Grimes' strength demonstration and a version of the "Are you Smarter than a Fifth Grader" game show were among the other highlights.

The mission of the FCA is to challenge athletes and coaches to impact the world for Jesus Christ. The organization will use the funds raised from the talent show in its endeavors to provide scholarships to students and athletes to attend FCA Leadership Camps each summer. These camps fortify faith and train youth to assume leadership positions in their local FCA Huddles on campus.

As declared by the U.S. Congress, FCA has

See FCA, p21



Nicole Johnson, DSHS student and Nashville recording artist, gave a polished performance.



Jeff Taylor entertained the audience with "Amazing Grace" & "I'll Fly Away" on the saxophones



The "doo-wap" quartet comprised of Denham Springs Mayor Jimmy Durbin, Livingston Parish President Mike Grimmer, Walker Mayo Bobby Font and Livingston Mayor Derral Jones were a crowd favorite after lip-syncing "Blue Moon."



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SonLife, from p18

estate - and still does - but they felt called to do some type of ministry. They always wanted to have more contact with people.

"First and foremost, we feel that's what this business is - a ministry," stated Kim. "Some people come in here looking for items to help them with grief or other struggles in their life. We don't ever rush anyone in and out; we take time to talk to all of our customers to find out exactly what they want. If we don't have what you're looking for, we'll go out of our way to find it - and will be happy to do so."

She added, "A lot of people end up telling us their story. They may not have that in mind when they come in, but because we care and we're listening, they often end up confiding in us."

They have a wide variety of items for children, from Bibles to CDs and DVDs, craft books and toys. There's also a children's station where the kids can watch Veggie Tales while their parents shop.

Hard candy and chocolates with scriptures printed on the wrappers are hot sellers for Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween and Christmas.

SonLife opens at 10 a.m. Mondays through Saturdays and closes at 6 p.m. daily except for Wednesdays, when they close at 5 p.m. for church. Call them at 225-978-0232 or, better yet, stop by for a nice visit. They're at 7755 Magnolia Beach Rd.

FCA, from p19

the #1 anti-drug program in the nation. Athletes sign a written contract at the beginning of the season agreeing to play drug-alcohol-steroid free. They are assigned a peer on the squad and hold each other accountable throughout the season. Over 300,000 student-athletes made this pledge this year in America. A soberingly effective FCA-produced anti-drug video is also shown to athletes at the beginning of the season.

Each November, FCA holds an annual banquet honoring student-athletes (middle school, high school, collegiate) in Livingston, Tangipahoa, and St. Helena parishes, arranging for a high profile Christian athlete or sports figure to serve as the Featured Speaker. The Huddle Coach of the Year is also announced at this event.

Each FCA Huddle meets a minimum of once per month on campus, most more often. As an example, Denham Springs High School holds monthly meetings attended by about 200 students and athletes, plus weekly meetings attended by 35-40, as well as a small daily gathering where students and athletes pray for their school and coaches.

Fields of Faith is an annual fall event that encourages students and athletes to make a stand for Jesus Christ by gathering at selected football stadiums in the three-parish area. There is usually a praise worship band, an inspirational speaker and kids who share their testimonies. By their example, Christian athletes and coaches are a strong influence on the student body and upon the various athletic teams.

DENHAM SPRINGS'

MOST EXPERIENCED TEAM OF EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS

Clockwise from Top: Charles Williamson, M.D., Lasik and Cataract Surgeon; Bill Williamson, M.D., Cataract Surgeon; Elizabeth Granger, O.D., Optometrist; Edward Langlow, M.D., Glaucoma Specialist

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