2010 Summer Transportation Institute
Writer’s Workshop
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A Brawl For It All

By Tamunoibi Dabipi

There was a time when dragons lived in peace with other dragons from all the four nations. Dragons from east, west, north, and south. Did you know also that these dragons had powers too? Well, a dark dragon came and its name forever more would be Ariz.
He was a cruel dragon, bloodthirsty for power, so he started a big war between the dragons. He was from the north and he banded with the south. When the East heard about the war they banded with the West. The cries of the dragons were tremendous. The children didn’t have a chance to live. After being attacked by the north and south for too long, they went to the Dragon of Prophecy and he said. “Go onto the humans. There is a warrior of great power who will defeat the Evil One.” So the dragon went on to the humans in search for this warrior, so they would once again live in peace.
..... 20 years later the dragons are still fresh and ready for battle and in the village of Tarna, the Chosen One awaits. Little did the dragons know that, in this case if there was a chosen one for light, there is one for dark also.

In a poor farm home there lived two brothers. There was Chan the younger and Chun Lee, with two very different destinies.
The father of the boys was so busy one day that he sent both of the boys to get food for the family. Their mother gave the boys supplies for the way. Both boys were very talented hunters. They were also very good fighters as well. No brother bested the other in anything. Not in knowledge or in fighting. So when the boys were in the forest and out of nowhere there came two gillnets and it came on the boys hands. One with a dragon of light for Chan Young and a dark dragon for Chun Lee. There was a great white light and it knocked both of them unconscious. When they woke up their abilities had increased a thousandfold. The dragons had sensed it saying, ”We have found our Chosen One but the dark dragon Ariz had sensed a dark power just as strong.”
Ariz was thinking that he could use this to destroy the East and the West dragons. I must find this power. When they woke up Chan Young went to Chun Lee and said,” I feel so light.”

“Me too,” said Chun Lee. Then he said, “Hey we still have our bands on I can’t take them off. Maybe training will help.” So they went to train. They had powers they didn’t even think they had. When they went back home they said they would hide their new abilities. After supper, Chang Young went into the forest for a walk. While in the forest, a great white dragon came to him saying,” You are the chosen human.”

Chan Young was frightened. He tried to run but the dragon’s wing blocked the path. Chan Young asked, “Who are you?”

The dragon said, “I am Wang dragon from the East. You must help me so my world may be saved”.

“How am I supposed to help you?,” said Chan Young.

”By flying on me of course.”

So they flew and what joy Chan Young had that night!

“There is a chance,” said the dragon.

Meanwhile Chun Lee was at the house when a big earth quake struck without notice. Chun Lee survived but their father died. With grief and anger Chun lee said, “I could have saved him,” and he was sad.
Then the dark dragon Ariz came and said, “Join me and you will never feel this sadness again”. So Chun lee joined the dark dragon. TO BE CONTINUED........
My future by Sierra Cooper

When I turn 19, I’m going to graduate from Bennett High School in 2014. I’m going to get a job at the mall and go to College for 3-4 years. To get my Masters degree in sociology to become a social worker or a adoptive counselor. I want to become a social worker or adoptive counselor because I like helping people but I want to work in the department for kids if I become a social worker, or I might stay in college to take extra classes or courses like learn psychology and other useful subjects. And I’m going to work in Baltimore or Salisbury Maryland at DHS (Department of Human Services). Then I’m going to move to a nice apartment with a patio by the water. Get a car and have a family and move to a middle class neighborhood.
The Taking

This was the summer of 1983 and I was walking to work trying to get all of my 6 house plans together as quickly as possible so my boss doesn’t give me trouble, at least not more than he usually does. Walking and trying to do something else not being able to see is not an easy task. Finally after I was almost there I got all of my plans together. Then still my boss gave me trouble because he said they weren’t neat. He gave them back to me. Then after about an hour sitting at my desk wondering what was taking so long for my wife to get back from Paris, something unusual happened, my wife called. Go ahead and laugh but she was supposed to step in my office not call my office. She said it was very important. She said that she was staying put. I didn’t really understand until she started to explain it to me. She also said that if I wanted to stay there that was fine but she is staying there and if I want to then move. I wasn’t going to just leave her out of our family so that is exactly what we did we all got up packed up our stuff and moved. I didn’t even know where I was going.
Chapter 2

Do you know when you get that funny feeling inside that you left something behind? Well I did, I left all of my house plans worth 3,793,000 million dollars. So we had to go all the way back and none of it was there. This was after a week or so. I was so disappointed. Then a week after that, someone had just bought my six house plans and then I was extremely angry! No check that extremely upset! I don’t know what I felt but my wife was very angry. I was arguing with her all night and it even put a hole in the at our new house don’t ask me how, but all I know is that that would have paid rent, put food on the table, and everything els. I didn’t know what to say to anyone.

Chapter 3

What are you doing I said to myself I thought I was going to explode but that was physically impossible. I had to go back. I took the next flight to Kansas were I was going to settle a case with the man who found them I knew exactly what I was going to do. I was going to see if he could sketch houses like that which he probably couldn’t. Don’t jinx it I said to myself. I talk to myself a lot. It was too late though he had already known how to make housing designs like an architect. It was blown but
wasn’t going to give up I was going to keep trying and never give up because I know what is rightfully mine.

Chapter 4

I was in the middle of the courtroom putting my house designs under a microscope because I sign so small; finally I got a breakthrough I thought. Then there it was my small, small signature. Then he turned it over and there it was his signature. I was really upset after that. Can you run that test were you can see which one is older? The judge said it wouldn’t make a difference but he ran it anyway. He also said it would take a week and a half for each of them to come back. I couldn’t wait that long. I’m not that patient. Then after a while of talking and arguing he brought out his little hammer thing and smacked it down and said meeting in six weeks. I was going to stay put for those six weeks and not go anywhere but my apartment and that courthouse. Ok, maybe to McDonalds, or somewhere to eat, and maybe the mall for clothes, but nowhere else. I swear if I leave I will go out of control.

6 weeks later
I’m tired, tired of waiting. Then finally I got the call. The call I’ve finally been waiting for. Waiting these whole six weeks, just sitting here. Then the next day I found myself sitting in a courthouse, ornery, upset. Now knowing that I had lost everything, my family and friends, mom and dad. Should I have done this, should I have left everything behind or maybe just left it and got a regular job? What am I doing! I don’t even know what I’m doing yet I’m doing it. This is all crazy and scary. I’m scared, cold, and lonely.

I’M GOING BACK!

Why are you here we don’t want you any more. We don’t need you any more. I have a job now. I have a fiancé. It has been 5 full months. We just don’t need you anymore. I have started a new life and it’s without you, I’m sorry.

I left without saying anything. I was confused and I wished on a shooting star I could do it all over again. But that didn’t work, it only made it worse, I lost everything. Even those six house plans worth nothing to me now. All I want is my family back.

Chapter 5

I woke wondering if what happened 4 days ago was really true. Then I asked myself why was I really here sitting next to a garbage can, with a bunch of old looking people. Then I realized
that it all was true it wasn’t a dream, and if it was then why would I be here. I don’t like living like this. I’m going to make those six house plans over again and not the exact same way they were before! After 4 long months of working eating sleeping and all that good stuff I got those six house plans and sold them to long and foster. Then I had to wait another week just to get my check. As I said I’m not that patient. I still manage to make it somehow though.

Chapter 6

After a week, 4 hours, and 26 minutes, I got my pay check and it said 4,343,749.00 dollars on it I couldn’t wait to get my new house, car, and everything else. I was so exited. I could start a family again. Soon my wife, Sally Curts, used to be Sally Jay, with blond hair, real good looking eyes, and a beautiful inside. I think she was better then my last wife. Soon Jimmy Curts came and then Ali Curts. We had a really nice 3 story house, and a brand new 1983 Chevy conversion van. My life was set and to think this all started with a call from my ex wife. Well that is all in the past now and it is all behind me.

“Hunny, we’re moving.”
I’m in So Much Pain.

By Raeqwon Mitchell

There once was a boy named Kenny King. Kenny was always a bully. He is 17 years old in the 8th grade. He wasn’t so smart either. He was a good athlete though. He played almost all sports except tennis. He beat some kid up so bad he turned the boy crazy. He is now in a crazy institute. Every time Kenny comes near him he goes crazy. The boy’s name was Darin Smith. He was 13 years old.

“Hey Buttface, give me your lunch money.”

The kid ran, but Kenny caught him.

“Why were you trying to run punk?”

“I don’t know I’m so sorry. Please don’t beat me up,” said the random kid. Kenny punches him right in the face.

“Don’t ever run from me again.” Kenny walked away with 20 bucks. He walked into his classroom and everyone stood up. Everyone in the school is scared of this guy. He tall, strong, and can bench press 230 pounds. There was a new kid at school named Tim King. Kenny didn’t like him because he had the same last name as him. So he tried to beat him up, but he learned Tim knew karate and has a black belt.

Chapter 2
Kenny walked up to him and said, “I hear you have the same last name as me.”

“Yeah, that’s true.”

“I don’t like that. Not one bit,” said Kenny.

“Well, deal with it.” Kenny started to punch him. Ring, that was the sound of the bell. “I’ll see you after school kid. Don’t forget 3 o’clock I’m going to kick your butt.” Kenny walks to his class and kicks his desk over. He was so mad he didn’t hit that kid. He picked out a random kid and punches him in the face. It was horrible the kid cried so loud that people could hear on the other side of the building. “You want some of this too?” talking to the teacher.

“Sir I need you to sit down.” He got even madder and hit the teacher. All of the kids ran out of the room. The teacher called for help and the deputy came. He went straight to the principal’s office. His name was Principal Washington. He was mean as ever and had the longest beard ever.

“Kenny it’s over.”

“What do you mean?”

“You know what I mean.”

“No, I don’t know.”

“Alternative school.” Kenny was shocked.
Chapter 3

“What? “You can’t be serious.”

“I’m serious as a final exam in high school.” “You cause to much trouble and you are just a disgrace. You are lucky the teacher didn’t press charges on you.”

“This is not fair.”

“It is fair and final. We gave you to many chances.” Kenny storms out the room mad.

“I hate this dumb school, I wish I could blow it up one day.”

“What was that sir?”, said the security guard. He had to go and clear out his locker. This is the worst day ever for Kenny. but awesome for the other kids.

Chapter 4

This was the first day in alternative school. Kids were cursing, throwing paper at the teacher and much more than that. Two kids were even making out in the class room. Kenny hated it. A guy walks up to him and says, “Are you new here?”

“Yup.”

“Hey everybody, we have a freshman.” They all gather around him and beat him up. Now he knows how it feels when he beats up on the other littler kids than him. They were finished beating him up.

“What the heck was that for?”

“We do that for all the freshman. It just what we do.”
“OMG, this is a crazy school.”

“Yup, so I heard you were a big time bully at your school.”

“Yeah, I was okay.”

“Well, I am David Smith. You know a boy named Daron Smith?”

“Oh yeah, I beat the crap out of that kid, they said I made him crazy or something.”

“Oh. Okay, well guess what?”

“What’s up, dude?” Pow, David hit him right in the face. “That’s my little brother and I am going to beat you up like everyday like you beat up my little brother. You’re going to be the next one in the crazy home.”

The end


WANTED!!

Colby Williams

Chapter 1

On a normal night in Salisbury, Maryland a 12 year old boy named Colby Williams, got a strange phone call from his mother. She had told me to come and meet her in the park on Lake Street by the Eastside Salvation Army. She also told me to bring her disc that was on the top shelf inside her closet. Then, right before she hung up, she told me to come in the Camaro, and do not put one scratch on it. Some of you might think that that car was just a normal old Camaro, if you did thought wrong because that car didn’t even come out in stores yet and don’t even ask me how did she get it because I don’t even know.

That really surprised me because she never ever let nobody and I mean nobody, except her to drive a beautiful and really fast car like that. I was really happy, at
first, because that was one of my favorite cars in the world. I was only 4 years of age when I started liking that beautiful car, but then I remembered that I didn’t even have my driver’s license yet.

Chapter 2

Then again my mom always said that I was an excellent driver just because she had taught me herself. So since she was my mom and she always said you need to always respect your elders, and that meant that I had to go, but before I could go anywhere in that cool car I had to at least clean myself up a little. So I went in the back to go take a bath. After I had taken my bath, I felt fabulous. The clothes that I put on were my brand new ones. It had a red cross on it and the perimeter of the cross was gold. The pants that I wore were all black with gold stitching on every part of the pants that you would normally see on regular pants. Then to top of the whole outfit, I put on my brand new gold chain and my red and gold Air Force Jordan’s. So after I got all of my clothes on I headed out and on my way to the East side Salvation Army. I heard on the radio that a woman was just murdered while going to meet someone. When I heard, I thought that it had to be someone else, not my mom, but I was wrong...
The World Cup

The World Cup is an event that takes place every four years. 32 teams compete in the tournament. Teams that win move on. Teams that don’t, go home. The first World Cup was held in 1930 in Uruguay. Uruguay won the trophy by defeating Argentina 4-2. In 1934 Italy won by defeating Czech Republic 2-1. Then in 1938 Italy won again by defeating Hungary 4-2. The World Cup was not held in 1942 and 1946 because of the World War. So they played it in 1950. Uruguay defeated Brazil 2-1. In 1954 Germany defeated Hungary 3-2. In 1958 Brazil defeated Sweden 5-2. In 1962 Brazil defeated Czech Republic 3-1. In 1966 England beat Germany 4-2. In 1970 Brazil beat Italy 4-1. In 1974 Germany defeated the Netherlands 2-1. In 1978 Argentina defeated the Netherlands 3-1. In 1982 Italy defeated Germany 3-1. In 1986 Argentina defeated Germany 3-2. In 1990 Germany defeated Argentina 1-0. In 1994 Brazil defeated Italy 3-2 on penalties. In 1998 France defeated Brazil 3-0. In 2002 Brazil defeated Germany 2-0. In 2006 Italy defeated France 5-3 on penalties. In 2010 Spain defeated the Netherlands 1-0.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Titles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>4 (1934, 1938, 1982, 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3 (1954, 1974, 1990)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>2 (1978, 1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>2 (1930, 1950)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1 (1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>1 (1966)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1 (2010)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other Awards

The only award is not just the World Cup but there are others like the Golden Boot, Golden Glove, and the Golden Ball.

Golden Ball: Diego Forlan (Uruguay)

Five goals and 1 assist may not best describe the kind of effect Diego Forlan had on the success of his team in the World Cup 2010. He was instrumental behind Uruguay’s fourth place finish, a feat they achieved for the first time since 1970.

Golden Glove (best goalkeeper): Iker Casillas (Spain)

The Spanish goalkeeper has not only become Spain’s first ever World Cup-winning captain, the Real Madrid star has also clinched the Golden Glove award as the best goalkeeper of the tournament. He bounced back strongly after the opening game against Switzerland and saved Spain many times in the rest of the tournament including the penalty save against Paraguay.
Casillas conceded only 2 goals in total and both were in the Group Stage—meaning he did not concede any goal in the four knock out stage matches.

**Golden Boot: Thomas Muller (Germany)**

German youngster Thomas Muller has won the Golden Boot of FIFA World Cup 2010. The 20-year-old Bayern Munich prodigy has clinched the award with 5 goals and 3 assists to his name. There were three other contenders in Wesley Sneijder, David Villa and Diego Forlan as they also scored 5 goals each, but the award goes to Muller as he has more assists than the three other players.
### The Best Players 1-5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Club Team</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lionel Messi</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
<td>Forward</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cristiano Ronaldo</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Real Madrid</td>
<td>Midfielder</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### STATISTICS

**NATIONAL TEAM**

41 appearances, 13 goals

**WORLD CUP**

2006: 3 app, 1 goal
**Rank** 3  **Wayne Rooney**

**Country:** England  
**Club Team:** Manchester United  
**Position:** Forward  
**Age:** 24

**STATISTICS**

**NATIONAL TEAM**  
57 appearances, 25 goals

**WORLD CUP**  
2006: 4 app, 0 goals

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**Rank** 4  **Kaka**

**Country:** Brazil  
**Club Team:** Real Madrid  
**Position:** Midfielder  
**Age:** 27

**STATISTICS**

**NATIONAL TEAM**  
73 appearances, 26 goals

**WORLD CUP**  
2002, '06: 6 app, 1 goal
friends from last year in the class. She gave us some papers for our parents to sign saying that it was okay for us to do experiments. Then she gave us a science crossword to do. After that I went to English class. There I had Ms. Bennett. We didn’t do anything in there either but get acquainted and she gave us a list of things we would be doing throughout the year, journals and book reports. After that class, I went to math. I had Mr. Donaway. He was nice. We did a couple of math problems to see how far we were. Then I had Latin class. There I had Mrs. Kanteiz. She was okay. One of my friends, Chris, was in there so that made it a little better. Mrs. Kanteiz gave us our Latin books then we got to pick out our own Latin names Chris chose the name Cornelius. My name was Ventus, which means wind in Latin. After Latin class, I had art with Mr. Morris. That as my favorite class. The teacher was nice, most of my friends were in there and I love to draw. When I grow up I want to be a artist. On the first day he gave us a paper so that it would

Drew Davidson
Drew Davidson

The first day of high school wasn’t very different from middle school. I go to Bennett High School now. I am in the 10th grade but 9th and 8th are just were just about the same. My name is Drew Davidson. There were some of the same people from last year but there were some new people from different schools and there were upper classmen. Most of the classes were same but with different teachers. Some were nice and some weren’t. The only class that was different was Latin class. But on the first day of high school, I was kind of nervous but then things got better. First, I had Earth and Space science with Mrs. Jones. I had some help us draw. I learned to draw in three dimensions. After that I went to history but I don’t remember the teacher’s name but she was nice though we just got to know each other after that music with Mr. Riddleberger. Then I got on my bus. The bus number was 31. Then we dropped off a couple of people. Then it was my stop.
Autobiography of Rodney Mullen

by Ricky Fisher

Rodney Mullen was born August 17 1966, in Gainesville, Florida. He is a professional skateboarder who is considered one of the most influential skateboarders in the history of the sport. He has invented a good number of skateboarding tricks throughout his career.

He started on skateboards that he borrowed from people when he was 8 and at the age of 10 he got his first skateboard. His father didn’t approve of his dream to skateboard but then he gave him the approval, on one condition. that he always wore pads and if he ever got hurt he would have to quit. On January 1, 1977, Rodney had his first skateboard a black Bonzai. His first sponsor was the Inland Surf Shop where he used to skate in their car park. After winning first place at the Kona contest in 1979, he was sponsored by Walker Skateboards. In 1980, at the age of 13, he turned professional after winning first place in freestyle competition and began skateboarding for Powell Peralta Bones Brigade team. His career skyrocketed when he became pro a lot of sponsors were after him wanting him to sign. He soon left Powell Peralta for another World Industries company that’s where he found plan-b. He made a lot of videos for plan-b and made it to a lot of competitions around his early career. Every freestyle competition and
vert competition he played in he won. He just seemed to get better and better and was at the peak of his career. He has only lost one freestyle competition in his entire life and that loss was due to a cold and he still got second place. In 2003, he released his own autobiography and it tells basically his whole entire life from childhood life to where he is today. He has inspired many of kids all around the world and he still plans on skateboarding. Rodney Mullen has made up several of his own tricks that are used by many skateboarders all around the world today. He made the 360 flip better known as the Trey Flip, this trick is a combination of two tricks, a Pop Shove it and Kick Flip. He made the flip trick called the Kick Flip where the skateboard rotates in a spinning motion and the Casper. The Casper is a lot of different combinations of flips and stalls. Rodney Mullen is the best who ever got on a skateboard. He has his own skateboards that have his name on them and are available to anyone who would like to purchase one. Other skateboarders such as Tony Hawke, Rob Dyrdek, and Stevie Williams have their own skateboards and are available. Everybody uses his tricks that he made. Rodney Mullen is married to a girl named Tracie. Rodney Mullen is easily the best street skateboarder the world has yet seen. His skateboarding style is comfortable and relaxed, making the incredible tricks he does look light and simple. Rodney Mullen often smiles and laugh, while pulling off trick after trick that no one has ever seen. Rodney Mullen is inventive, creative, confident, and easy going. Rodney Mullen is a skateboarding sensation and has millions of fans who view his every video. He is well known on YouTube, a site that has all the information you need and people can use to broadcast themselves. On YouTube he has a lot of videos of him doing the craziest tricks in the world and making it look easy but it is so hard to do. If you
want to keep up with Rodney Mullen or any other skateboarder, I’m sure he has his own website where you can blog him or on Twitter. Some people think that skateboarding is dumb, a white person’s game, not worth the time, not exciting, but in skateboarder’s eyes, it’s a passion and most of them have done it all of their lives. Many of them do not even worry about the money and fame but some of them are just in it for the money and want to be on TV and in the industry. I personally think that anyone who puts their mind to something can do that something and reach their goal. If someone wants to skateboard, they can skateboard. It’s their decision. When Rodney was just 10, skateboard magazines kept calling and sending him money, so his dad let him continue to skateboard. Rodney Mullen has even been in some skateboarding games and made a lot of money off of that in the climax of his career. He made his own skateboarding company called the A-Team and he really tried to get up there by trying to team up with another skate company called plan-b. The A-Team company didn’t last so he went to another skate company named Almost. Mullen is still with Almost ‘til this day. Almost has recruited a lot more new skaters that are trying to make it big. Skateboarding is not easy and takes a lot of hard work and practice. Skateboarding is not considered a sport it is more like a hobby that a lot of people like to do and also like to watch on their televisions. There are skateboarding competitions that are shown on TV and just like snowboarding, skiing, and all the other hobbies out there. The competitions have all the best skateboarders and people trying to be discovered by scouts and other skateboarders. The Dew Tour, for example, is one of the big competitions held around summer time and a lot of unknown skaters attend and most of the good ones get discovered there and get sponsors. It’s not just for
skateboarders, it’s for dirt bike riders, bike riders, race car riders and I think that’s it. But it’s fun to watch and is interesting and a lot of famous singers and rappers go to see them perform and win the title. Rodney Mullen never really goes anymore because it’s mostly vert skating and Rodney is more of a street skater.

My Fifth and Sixth Grade School Years

Dylan McIntosh

My school year this year was better than last year in fifth grade. One reason it was better was because I didn’t get suspended as much. In fifth grade, I got suspended for being defiant with everybody such as teachers and students. This year I didn’t do that as much. I matured or something. Fifth grade was better in some ways because we got to have recess. Lots of things about sixth grade are better too because we get lockers and more freedom. The teachers trust us more, well some of them do. In fifth grade we had to walk in a line to our classes but in sixth grade we get to go to our lockers instead of having to walk in a line.

Instead of Field Day we had the PBIS Carnival. PBIS rewards students for good behavior. We get to see movies as a reward for good behavior and go on field trips.

Lunches in 6th grade is better because you can go up to the lunch line more than once like last year. The food tastes better too.

The principal and teachers are more strict this year than last. They really pay attention to what you do wrong and you get punished for it.
The History of the Washington Wizards by Temi Okulate

My Essay will talk about the history of the Washington Wizards. The Washington Wizards is a professional basketball team based in Washington D.C. The 2009-2010, the Wizards had the worst season since they became an NBA franchise, but look to have a bright future when they landed the number one pick in the draft on May 18, 2010.

The 1961-1962 the Wizards started out as the Chicago Packers. Then in ’62-’63 they changed their name to the Chicago Zephyrs.

This is a picture of a Chicago Zephyrs jersey.

The next season they relocated to Baltimore, Maryland. They called themselves the Baltimore Bullets.
In the late 1960’s the Bullets would go on and draft two future Hall of Famers in Wes Unseld and Earl “The Pearl” Monroe. As soon as the Bullets drafted the two players they went from a thirty-six win team to a fifty-six win team. In ’68-’69, Wes Unseld won the Rookie of the Year Award, and also the Most Valuable Player Award. In that same year the Baltimore bullets made the playoffs and had very high expectations. Unfortunately they were eliminated by the New York Knicks in the first round.

In the next season the Baltimore bullets met the New York Knick in the playoffs again, but this time it was in the Eastern Conference Finals. The New York Knicks were short handed when there captain, Willis Reed, was injured in the Conference Finals. The series went to seven games.

The last game was played in Madison Square Garden in New York. In that game the bullets Gus Johnson made a critical shot to help them win by two points in Madison Square Garden. The Bullets faced the Milwaukee Bucks in the NBA Finals. At that time the bucks had Kareem Abdul Jabbar, and Oscar Robertson. Those two players led them to a four to zero sweep in the NBA Finals.
The Baltimore bullets eventually parted ways with hall of famer Earl Monroe, and Matt Steadman. The bullets still remained legitimate contenders in the playoffs. The bullets improved a great deal when the drafted Kevin Porter and added Elvin Hayes.

In the 1973 playoffs the bullets would then face the New York Knicks again in a losing effort. In 1973 the team relocated to Landover, Maryland then became the Capital Bullets. They then changed the name to the Washington Bullets the following year. While waiting for construction of their new building to be finished they played their home games at the Cole Field House on College Park. The Capital Centre opened on December 2, 1973. On the opening day they beat the Seattle Supersonics.

In 1975 the Washington Bullets made it to the NBA Finals. It was a difficult road in the playoffs. In the first round they immensely challenged by the Buffalo Braves in a seven game series. In the Eastern Conference Finals the Bullets faced the Boston Celtics. The bullets won in a six game series. The Bullets were the clear favorites to win the NBA Finals, but were shocked by Rick Barry, and the Golden State Warriors in a four game sweep in the NBA Finals.

The loss was a very damaging loss that lingered on into the next season. They would win twelve less games in the next season. They were then eliminated in by the Cleveland Cavaliers in seven games. After the disappointing season the Washington Bullets then fired there head coach, K.C. Jones, although he had a winning percent of sixty-two percent with bullets.

The Bullets then hired the new head coach Dick Motta. The Bullets fell short of the Central Division Title for the second straight year. They started the playoffs by beating the Cavs in three games. In the second round the Rockets won the series in six games.
The Bullets did not have a stellar regular season with only a 44-38 record. The Wizards would eventually make it to the NBA Finals. They defeated the Seattle supersonics in six games. That was the first professional sport that held up a championship in Washington D.C.

Former owner Abe Pollin holding up his first and last NBA Finals championship, (Abe Pollin died November 24, 2009).

Age and nagging injuries would come back to haunt the Bullets in 79-80 season. They would barely clinch a post season birth. The bullets would be eliminated in a two game series by the Philadelphia 76ers. The next year the bullets would not be able to clinch a playoff berth. The next year the future hall of famer Wes Unseld would go on to retire. Also a future hall of famer Elvin Hayes would be traded to the Houston Rockets.

In the 89-90 the Wizards would go on to only win 31 games that, but had stellar seasons from Jeff Malone and Bernard King. In 1990 the Wizards would name Susan O’Malley as their team president of basketball operations. She was the first woman to be president of basketball operations in the NBA.

In 1995, the great Abe Pollin announced that he would change the name of the bullets to the Wizards. Abe Pollin changed the name because it was a bad message especially considering the high violence in the Washington D.C. area.

In that same year moved to the MCI center (which is now the Verizon Center). The Wizards moved into the MCI Center and had a very tough season which involved trading their star young player in Chris Webber.
In the 2004-2005 NBA season, the wizards put up a 45-37 record which was the best regular season record in 26 years. The resurgence was due to the “big three” of Larry Hughes, Gilbert Arenas, and Antawn Jamison. It was the first time the team made the playoffs as the wizards. The Wizards played the Chicago Bulls in the first round and won in six games. They were then swept by the Heat the next round.

The Wizards have had it very tough lately and have struggled on and off the court. Gilbert Arenas was charged with illegal gun possession, and was suspended for the rest of the year. They were given a second chance in landing the number one pick in John Wall. The future looks very bright for the wizards and hopefully we can have a winning season this year.

My Mission, My Dream

Lorenzo Taylor

I have a dream or a mission, you could say, to make a better life for black people in the United States of America. The government doesn’t want us to be happy and are unfair to us. Racism still lives and always will but the way it affects our lives is not right. The world is bad enough with gangs, war, and the economy but to make an innocent race suffer isn’t right either. Especially when we didn’t choose to come here, we were kidnapped to a land that wasn’t our own and forced to work. We were abused and mistreated.

We’ve come pretty far from slavery even though people still judge us and don’t see the real us but we are better now, and we can survive better than we did. We survived abuse in a new land working all day in the blazing heat. It’s still hard now trying to keep a home and everyone alive because no one wants to hire us
because of something as simple as the color of our skin. And after we don’t get hired the police arrest us for trying other ways to make money like doing things that are illegal. Doing things that are illegal is not harmless because people can get shot but it’s a choice to do what they want to get money to help their family.

I’m not saying that doing illegal things are bad or good, I am saying that is a way people get what they need to live if you are in need of money. I am not saying don it if you are in need of money, I’m trying to say that if you need money there are any ways to get it that we shouldn’t have to use if the government would help us find legal good paying jobs so that everyone can find a right way to survive.

Death Penalty

Forest Van Horn

The death penalty has been around for thousands of years, there have been many changes through the years to make it more humane but, in my opinion, the taking of a life is never humane. Even though they say that people who commit that sort of crime should be punished for what they did but, life sentence with no parole is far worse than death. Death penalty happens and it’s over but with life sentence they have to think about what happened forever, I think death penalty is wrong and should be abolished because it is inhumane and cruel. People who receive death penalty, murder someone so how is it teaching them anything to murder them.

One reason I am against death penalty is breaking the right to live. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, "human beings are inviolable. Every human being shall be entitled to respect for his life and the physical and moral integrity of his person." Death Penalty does not show respect for life. I think when someone dies, they die; we do not have the right to
speed up this process. Why would we make this Declaration if we were not going to stick to it? I know this outlaw might not have stuck to it, but we need to be the better person about it.

Another reason that I believe the death penalty does not let this outlaw see what they have done and make them improve him/her self. When you do something bad when you are a kid your parents may punish you by maybe sending you to the corner or sending you to your room. At the most part your parents aren’t sending you there because they are angry they are mostly sending you there hoping you learn your lesson. I think that we should give these outlaws a chance to learn their lesson. How is it going to help anything by just getting rid of them? People make mistakes and when they make them they need to be able to at least try to fix it. It is not fair that they just don’t even get a chance.

A third reason I have is that Death penalty does not only effect the outlaw it affects his friends and family. His friends and family did not do anything wrong so they should not be that deeply affected too. Think if your brother or sister or your best friend got accused of murder and were sentenced to death. You would never be able to see them again and that would make you sad. I know they made a mistake but, if it was your family you would probably still care about them anyway. It is hard to have a big grudge against family even with the big mistakes they may make.

My next reason is that in many cases, the prisoner has been proven innocent not long before his scheduled death. There have been many cases not including death penalty that the prisoners have been released because of innocents many years after he was put in jail. In 2003, there were 10 wrongly accused death penalty cases alone. What if the prisoner who was on death row was innocent? In criminal cases you can never be 100 percent sure if they are actually innocent or guilty. It is based on evidence which sometimes looks one way but is not actually like that. There was a man named Ray Krone who was released from jail after serving ten years in jail on death row. He is lucky he was not executed before that. He was put in jail for a murder he did not commit. Amnesty International USA’s article Death Penalty and Innocents says that the leading causes of false conviction are:

- Inadequate legal representation and Police and prosecutorial misconduct
- Perjured testimony and mistaken eyewitness testimony
- Racial prejudice
- Jailhouse "snitch" testimony
- Suppression and/or misinterpretation of mitigating evidence
- Community/political pressure to solve a case

Many people think that life in prison costs too much but actually with all the reforms on death penalty it costs less to put them in for life then to execute them. The average price on the tax payer is 232.7 million dollars per year for death penalty. The price for life in prison is 11.5 million. The reason this is because that the cost for a death row case is a lot more than the cost for a life in prison case. Also they have to spend lots of money to get the stuff for the lethal injection. I think saving money is always a good thing we would be saving money and we would be saving lives.

Lots of people want to put people to death because they feel bad for the person who has been murdered and feels bad for the family. Putting them to death can often make things worse. When you put them to death it takes years to make it through the process. All the appeals that get made and all the re-trials make it take a long time. Also with these retrials and stuff it takes up lots of space in our court system. If my family was murdered I wouldn’t want to hear about what is going on with the murderer for 5-10 years. I would rather know that he is in jail and can’t get out in a much shorter amount of time.

The method for the killing of prisoners is lethal injection. This method if done wrong can end up really badly with the victim feeling massive amounts of pain. What the injection is supposed to do is the first shot puts him out of pain and the next is supposed to kill them by stopping the heart. The causes of mess ups are: If the executioner use a bad vein, if the injection is mixed wrong, if the injections flow is wrong, if injected into a tissue not a vein, or if the prisoner reacts differently to drugs then any of these can happen according to Amnesty International USA’s article Lethal injection

- if not rendered unconscious, the inmate will feel excruciating pain; if paralyzed by the pancuronium bromide, and the inmate will be unable to show this pain.

- some executions have lasted between 20 minutes to over an hour and prisoners have been seen gasping for air, grimacing and convulsing during executions.

- Autopsies have shown severe, foot long chemical burns to the skin and needles have been found in soft tissue.
We can’t just torture the prisoners and all methods have had problems to make them inhumane or cruel.

Raymond Schroth who is a Jesuit Priest and Community Professor of the Humanities at St. Peter's College says, "Retribution is just another word for revenge, and the desire for revenge is one of the lowest human emotions — perhaps sometimes understandable, but not really a rational response to a critical situation. To kill the person who has killed someone close to you is simply to continue the cycle of violence which ultimately destroys the avenger as well as the offender. That this execution somehow give 'closure' to a tragedy is a myth. Expressing one’s violence simply reinforces the desire to express it. Just as expressing anger simply makes us angrier. It does not drain away. It contaminates the otherwise good will which any human being needs to progress in love and understanding."

Lots of people who are pro death penalty say that death penalty would lower crime rate. I do not think this is true. The states that have the death penalty laws do not have lower crime rates. Also when states have got rid of death penalty it has shown no change in crime either. That means there is no form of data that is even making it look like death penalty decreases crime rate at all. There was a myth saying every execution would lower murders at a certain rate but it has been proven only a myth.

In most cases the people who get death penalty are poor. In the legal world often cases victor depend on who has the best lawyer. You can look at statistics there are a lot more people put to death in the lower class than the upper class. It is not fair that if you have a better lawyer that you can get away with a lower punishment than if you can not afford a good lawyer. If you have a good lawyer they will find loopholes to make it to be you did not do something as bad but, murder is murder so everyone should be treated the same. In my opinion if a case is to similar to another case they should automatically get the same sentence as the previous case.

Like I have previously stated I think the death penalty is wrong and should be abolished. There are many reasons backing up my argument such as breaking the right to live that was declared in the, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and how it does not give the criminal the ability to learn from his mistakes. We should follow the lead of the 137 countries that have
already gotten rid of death penalty like Canada, or the United Kingdom. We as a country, as I can tell, are often morally incorrect or corrupt and that is why of any country are crime rate is the worst. If we abolish death penalty it would make us more correct and make us fairer. I think it would improve us a lot and we might become a more respected country.

Music

It can change us
It can move us in ways
We didn’t know about
It can provide us with money
It can be used to give our God praise
You can make it

Sell it
Buy it
And listen to it
Music is made everyday
Type
Morning Breath

IT STINKS!
IT MAKES PEOPLE WALK AWAY
IT MAKES PEOPLE WANT TO SAY
GET AWAY! STAY AWAY!
Life

Birth
Love
Crawl
First word
You walk
Bug your family
Go to school
Eat glue
Bug your teacher
Bullies
Call Parents
Finish elementary
Middle School
Bug your teacher
Get beat up
Made fun of

44
High school
Get beat up
Bug your family
Graduate
Go to College
Bug a girl
Get Beat up
Parties
Study
Graduate
Get married
First baby
Crying
Diapers
Pee
Poop
No sleep
Crying from you
Complaining
Baby crawls
Baby’s first word
Baby’s first step
Baby’s potty trained
Baby now toddler
Toddler bugs you
Toddler’s first day of school
Toddler bugs teacher
Gets a phone call
Fight
Gets a phone call
You ground child

Sports by Daniel Asare

Sports

People argue

about sports

Which one is better?

Which one is more fun?

Which one makes more money?
They argue and argue and argue
Without ever coming to a conclusion.

Sleep by Daniel Asare

Sleep
Sleeping is fun
It is good for you
If you don’t sleep
You won’t feel very good.

Clutch by Daniel Asare

Clutch
Being clutch is not easy
Only the best players can be clutch
If you’re in a situation and you make a clutch shot
It is nothing but a bit of luck

Marcus DeShields

Kobe Bryant
He dunks he scores
He fades a ways and hits the floor.

Bryant scores

Bryant scores

He puts thirty on the board

As he helps his team mate off the floor

Bryant scores

Bryant scores

The Lakers won the championship

As the crowd roars.
Nothing compare to summer nights

Summer times are bright
Way better than winter nights.
Halloween brings around really bad frights.
Nothing compares to summer nights.

Snow
Snow is white
Snow is cold
Snow is fluffy
Snow is soft
Snow is bright
Snow is fun

People
People with many things
People who like diamond rings

People can change

But the thing is to remember

People are people.
Life and Love by Nick McIntosh

Life is simple
S-i-m-p-l-e
That’s how it’s spelled
People have thoughts about going to hell
But me, No, I have my life planned out
Even though I hurt
I bounce back up with a smirk
I can’t feel how some people hurt but
All I feel is love

The Street

The chill of a piece of steel
Some people don’t know how it feels
To have to live day by day
Anyway, you don’t know who’s around the corner
Trying to kill you over your color
It’s stupid for real
I don’t know why people want to kill
Where I’m From

I know where I’m from

A place you want to be

In the little town of Salis-berrie

Where the fruits are sweet

And the people are sweeter

In the little town of Salis-berrie