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“Venetian Escape” will be the theme of Mt. Vernon Township High School’s 2009 Homecoming Week — Monday to Oct. 3. The MVTHS Homecoming king and queen will be crowned at 10 p.m. Oct. 3, during the Homecoming Dance in E Gym. Homecoming royalty includes, from left, FRONT ROW, queen candidates, Paige Walker, Chanda Rogers, Brianna Meritt, Juanita Jones, Amy Dickerson, Savannah Connaway and Samantha Allen. BACK ROW, king candidates, Brian Sipe, Ashtun Rush, David Price, Jim Mulvaney, Lucas Hurst, Markeize Haynes and Victor Durham. All homecoming queen and king candidates are MVTHS seniors. They were nominated by the student body.

MVTHS Homecoming theme is ‘Venetian Escape’

BY DAVID BELCHER

MT. VERNON LIFESTYLES EDITOR

“Venetian Escape” will be the theme of Mt. Vernon Township High School’s 2009 Homecoming Week — Monday to Oct. 3.

Homecoming queen candidates are:

- **Samantha Allen**, daughter of Owen and Pam Allen. Her escort will be Logan Murphy, son of Pat and Diane Murphy. She is in Students. Against Drunk Driving, National Honor Society, Youth and Government, Symphonic Orchestra, Student Council and Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering. She plans to attend the University of Illinois and major in chemistry. She hopes to become an environmental chemist.

- **Savannah Connaway** is the daughter of Paul and Charlie Rightnowar. Her escort is Peter Walker, son of Michael and Sheryl Walker. She is the student body, Student Council and Sub Debs president. She is in Youth and Government, Future Business Leaders of America and is the Mt. Vernon Tree Board student liaison. She plans to attend the University of Illinois.

- **Amy Dickerson** is the daughter of Dean and Judy Dickerson. Her escort is Tyler McLane, daughter of Dennis and Linda McLane. She is on the volleyball team and is a member of Youth and Government, SADD, NHS, Thespian Society, A Capella Choir and Jazz Choir. She plans to attend pharmacy school, hopefully at St. Louis College of Pharmacy, then travel around the world.

- **Juanita Jones** is the daughter of Cindy and Earl Jones. Her escort is Danice Westbrook, son of Debra and Quinton Westbrook. She plans

to go to college, travel around the world, get married and have kids.

- **Brianna Meritt** is the daughter of Jamie and Brooke Meritt and Julie Couture. Her escort is Dylan Starr, son of Angela Litton. She is in football and basketball cheerleading. She plans to attend Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and obtain a degree in athletic training.

- **Chanda Rogers** is the daughter of Bobby and Sharon Brown. Her escort is Mike Swinnen, son of Terry and Marijo Swinnen. She works and is a member of SADD. She plans to go to Rend Lake College for two years before transferring to SIU-C to be a social worker.

- **Paige Walker** is the daughter of Steve and Kristi Wallace. Her escort is Tyler Weston, son of James and Mary Jane Richard. She is in football and basketball cheerleading, Student Council and NHS. She plans to study fashion merchandising.

Homecoming king candidates are:

- **Victor Durham** is the son of Holly Durham and Fred Brown. His escort is Toni Huff, daughter of Mike and Sherry Huff. He is on the cross country and track teams. He is a member of the school band drumline and East Salem Baptist Church Youth Group. He plans to attend college and earn a degree in elementary education.

- **Markeize Haynes** is the son of James and Sherry Haynes. His escort is Mishavet Sullivan, daughter of Timera Dabney. He is on the football team. He plans to attend college and have fun.

- **Lucas Hurst** is the son of Tim and Karen Hurst. His escort is Chelsea Cross, daughter of Danny and Denise Cross. He is on the football and track teams and is a mem-

ber of NHS, Future Farmers of American and Youth and Government. He plans to attend college, play football and study pre-medicine.

- **Jim Mulvaney** is the son of Jim and Laurie Mulvaney. His escort is Lora Woodrome, daughter of Ralyn Woodrome. He is on the baseball and football teams and Youth and Government. He plans to go to college and play baseball.

- **David Price** is the son of Gary and Brenda Price. His escort is Cassandra Austin, daughter of Tim and Theresa Austin. He is on the football and track teams and is a member of WYSE, NHS, Youth and Government, A Capella Choir, Jazz Choir, Operetta, Drama Club and Vernois News staff. He plans to attend a four-year university and study a pre-medicine curriculum to become a doctor.

- **Ashtun Rush** is the son of Anthony and Diana Patton. His escort is Chynna Evans, daughter of Tray Evans. He is on the basketball and football teams. He plans to attend a four-year university and major in accounting.

- **Brian Sipe** is the son of Reid and Keri Sipe. His escort is Lexi Cremeens, daughter of Gary and Pam Cremeens. He is one the football and baseball teams and is a member of Youth and Government and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He plans to attend Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville to play baseball and major in business.

All homecoming queen and king candidates are MVTHS seniors. They were nominated by the student body.

Homecoming Week activities includes:

- Monday — 6 to 9 p.m., Movie

Night, Granada Theatre, “Phantom of the Opera” will be shown to students.

- Thursday — 2:10 p.m., Homecoming Parade, “Masquerade Parade,” theme, from MVTHS to Jefferson County Courthouse square and back to school; 7 to 9 p.m., Homecoming Coffeehouse, Room 121H.

- Oct. 2 — 9:30 a.m., Homecoming Assembly, E Gym; 7 p.m., Homecoming Football Game, members of the Homecoming Court will be introduced at halftime, about 8 p.m.

- and Oct. 3 — 8 to 11 p.m., Homecoming Dance, E Gym. Coronation of king and queen will be at 10 p.m. Spectator admission is \$2 with half of the proceeds going to charity.

This year’s dance theme is “Unmask the Night.” In keeping with the “Venetian Escape” theme, the school’s Homecoming dance will be a masquerade ball. Students will be wearing masks to the dance. However, the students will be wearing masks decorated and provided by student council.

As a homecoming tradition, students dress in a different mode each day to help generate school spirit.

Homecoming Week Spirit Day schedule includes:

- Monday — Sports Team T-Shirt Day;

- Tuesday — Baseball T-Shirt;
- Wednesday — Hat Day, students may wear hats in class for five pride points;

- Thursday — Class Color Day — freshmen, green; sophomore, red; junior, yellow; and senior, blue;
- and Oct. 2 — Ram Pride and Homecoming T-Shirt Day.

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