

Smile for the camera

Delores Haynes



Mt. Vernon Township High School freshman Ray Dorfling gets a quick photography lesson from Don Witter of Witter Photography Studio while trying to set up a portrait of his friend, Daniel Gaines. The two high school students were among about 500 who attended Career Fair Day on the MVTHS campus on Friday. TESA CULLI/ REGISTER-NEWS

Area students attend Career Fair Day

By **TESA CULLI**

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MT. VERNON — More than 500 students learned about the career opportunities available during the Career Fair, sponsored by the Regional Superintendent of Schools.

"The students are primarily freshmen," organizer Steve Morris said. "In elementary education, we try to get kids looking at careers in seventh and eighth grades. Not to select a career, but to show the variety of things there are out there."

At the freshman level, Morris said events like the career fair are encouraged to help

focus the students. Students from Mt. Vernon Township High School, Webber Township High School, Woodlawn High School, Waltonville High School and Wayne City High School attended the event — the same high schools which are served by the Area Vocational Center — and are part of the Rend Lake Regional Delivery System.

"We can bring them in, and they can see what it is like in a field and talk to people who work in different industries," Morris said. "They can put a face to the profession."

And, some high school students who are already receiving training in a future profes-

sion were a big part of the event, providing lunch for presenters and staff.

The AVC culinary arts students cooked and catered the meal, which is additional "real world" experience for students, according to culinary arts teacher Julie Holmes.

"We're hoping to get the culinary arts students some commercial equipment and cater more events," Holmes said, adding this year was a first for her students to compete in SkillsUSA competition, with one moving ahead in the competition. The culinary arts program has been part of the AVC for two years.

Register-News 3/29/09