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"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?"
 Matthew 6:31

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A harrowing story of survival

Roncalli senior receives scholarship from Kiwanis of Indianapolis

By B. Scott Mohr
 Editor

Devon Belcher was a miracle baby. And rightly so. By the time he was 2 he had died and been resuscitated three times and had undergone two liver transplants.

Now 18, life for the Roncalli senior got off to a perilous start when his umbilical cord was wrapped around his neck at birth. Belcher was fortunate that he didn't sustain any brain damage, but his intestines were devoid of oxygen for so long that they basically died.

After being born at St. Francis Hospital, Devon was transported to Riley Hospital for Children, where he spent nine months on a total parenteral nutrition feeding tube. His health wasn't improving, and the TPN was causing his liver to fail. The hospital did not put him on a list for a transplant because he was not expected to live.

"Riley Hospital sent him home to die," said mom Amanda Belcher. "They said he had less than two days to live and would be more comfortable at home."

Well, Amanda was not ready to bury her son. The next day she took him to Peyton Manning Children's Hospital. "They figured out what was wrong



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMANDA BELCHER
 Devon Belcher one month shy of his fourth birthday.



Devon Belcher

and put him on a referral list for a liver transplant," which took place two months later at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Devon was in and out of the hospital for more than a year with complications, so he underwent a second transplant at the center when he was 2.

This time the outcome was favorable, and the liver did not respond negatively to TPN.

"The doctors told me that some livers are more

See "Survival," Page 7

CAR NUTZ

Cruising in a 1965 GTO



See story and pictures, Page 6

ALL ABOARD!



PHOTO BY LAURA BAKER

Susie Harloff stars as Reno Sweeney and Noah Fields (left) and Kyle Cherry appear as sailors in Footlite Musicals' production of "Anything Goes," opening Friday for a two-week run at Hedback Community Theatre, 1847 N. Alabama St.

With music by Cole Porter, the story takes place aboard the luxury liner *S.S. American*, where nightclub singer/Evangelist Reno Sweeney is en route from New York to England. The production features romance, tap dancing sailors, jazz baby angels, crooning stowaways, wealthy Englishmen and a lovely debutante.

Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets - \$15 for youths 17 and under, \$23 for adults, \$10 for the Thursday and first Sunday performances - may be purchased at www.footlite.org or by calling 800-838-3006.

Coach Hensley: 'A teacher on the court'

By Al Stilley
 Senior staff writer

Greg Stilley, the senior center on Greenwood High School coach Bruce Hensley's first sectional championship team in 1991, vividly remembers his first day of college basketball practice as a freshman at St. Xavier (Ill.) University.

"The coach (Jack Keesler) had me demonstrate man-to-man defensive principles because I knew it better than anyone else that he had on the team," said Stilley who discussed Hensley's attention to detail and fundamentals and the impact he had on his high school days and beyond.

"The discipline and life skills that he taught were far more predominant than basketball," said Stilley, who is an executive at OneAmerica. "The discipline that I apply to my everyday life came from him, far more than any other teacher or college coach ... he was a teacher on the court."

Stilley also revealed that Hensley allowed the senior-laden team to call their plays late in the 1990-91 season because of his trust in them.

Many of Hensley's former players and assistant coaches were on hand Feb. 21 as the veteran Greenwood coach was honored in pre-game ceremonies and at a postgame reception.

T-shirts commemorated Hensley's 28-year coaching career. He was announced as the first athletic coach to be honored on the school's Wall of Fame. Woodmen Adam Rapp, Will Wolf and Sean Moss also were honored on senior night.

Hensley is retiring from coaching at the end of this season. He will continue teaching trigonometry and pre-calculus at Greenwood. He has the notoriety of playing for the Woodmen in their first game in the same gymnasium where he coached his final home game last week.

See "Coach Hensley," Page 7



SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTO BY AL STILLEY

Retiring boys basketball coach Bruce Hensley, holding photo frame, was honored in pregame ceremonies Feb. 21 at Greenwood High School, where he has been head coach for 28 years.

Hensley is with (from left) son Devon, daughter Malorie holding granddaughter Anderson, wife Marcene, son Derek and sister Becky Habig.

Artwork graced top museums

By Eunice Trotter
 American Senior Communities

While a boy, Gregory Scott's mother taught him how to paint. During quiet times at home she'd get out the brushes and paints



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Gregory Scott's artwork has been exhibited at museums throughout the Midwest.

and encourage him and his siblings to create while she also painted.

Scott, called "Gaar" by his family, would get a picture in his mind, he says, and that picture would become an abstract pastel watercolor rendering. He continued painting abstracts throughout his adult life and still dabbles in it today from his home at Fairway Village, an American Senior Communities retirement facility on the Southside.

With numerous pieces in his portfolio, Scott, 69, has been lauded for his work, some of which has been on exhibit at top museums throughout the Midwest, including the Indianapolis Museum of Art and Hilbert Circle Theatre.

He has had shows at the Arthur M. Glick Jewish Center, the Hilbert Circle Theatre and other venues. "I sell as often as I can," said Scott, "but I just didn't get into shows as much as I should have."

Artistry is in his genes. Scott's mother, Helen Edrie Scott, who died in 2015 at age 96, was an acclaimed artist whose work was sought after by clients throughout the country, Scott said. His late father, Max, was also an artist, and his sisters, Gayle Clark and Holly Daily, are artists as well.

Scott is also a poet and has published collections of his work. His books include "Certain People" and "A Blue Beyond Reach."

While living in Fort Wayne, where he grew up and went to high school, Scott studied under poets Robert

Creeley, W.S. Merwin, Carolyn Kizer and Gwendolyn Brooks.

"Art," he said in one of his writings, "should be a by-product of life, not the reason for it. Live first, art will follow."

Scott, whose work is available through www.gaarscott.com, said he started writing poetry when he was in the sixth grade. As a child he struggled with polio and rheumatic fever. Later he developed bipolar disorder.

"I started writing seriously when I was depressed. I was at the bottom and had no way to run except inward. I just kept on, and learned as much as I could about poetry. It saved my life."

Several of Scott's poetry themes deal with traditional male activities like fishing, hunting, sports and personal violence. His poetry often looks at "what makes a man truly a man," according to reviewer Karen L. Jaquish.

His poems have appeared in numerous journals and magazines, including the "South Carolina Review," the "Literary Review," "Aethlon: Journal of Sports Literature" and the "Tipton Poetry Journal."

In one of his writings, Scott notes: "Creative people may or may not be afraid of what's going to come out in a painting or poem, but they do it anyway. They look deeply inside and outside both. And if fear is there waiting for them, they just shove it aside."

"I have learned that once you do that, fear is gone. That's one of the things good art does; it shines light on dark areas of the heart so others who see it won't be as afraid or get comforted by knowing someone's been there before."

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