

**2010 BLACKHISTORY4EVER QUIZ BOWL**



Brianna Gilchrist, front, and Josh Gupton, right, participated in the blackhistory4ever.com Quiz Bowl at Marketfair Mall.



Stephon Ferguson, Dr. Mary Elizabeth Johnson and Schmella Geathers were the judges of the blackhistory4ever.com Quiz Bowl on Saturday at Marketfair Mall. Staff photos by Raul R. Rubiera

Fayetteville Observer 3/7/2010 article on the blackhistory4ever.com Quiz Bowl at Marketfair Mall "Fayetteville's largest ever" hosted by GOTDAD

## Students show their knowledge

More than 130 contestants participate

By Jennifer Calhoun  
Staff writer

It took three tries, but Nicole Neu isn't the kind who gives up easily.

Nicole, who is 16, was one of four winners in Saturday's 2010 blackhistory4ever Quiz Bowl, a question-answer contest that tests students on African-American trailblazers and other important moments in black history.

The three-hour event took place at Marketfair Mall. More than 130 students from all over the region participated, and about 400 people watched.

Nicole, a 10th-grader at New Life Christian Academy, credited her win to the never-give-up attitude she believes has been instilled in her at school.

In fact, three of the four winners attended the school. Part of it had to do with the after-school study sessions that began in late



About 400 people came to watch the quiz bowl.

January, Nicole said.

But mostly, she believes it was the school attitude of "Move, Groove and Motivate," that helped her.

"No matter what happens, we keep it up," she said.

Students competed in four age categories: 8- to 9-year-olds; 10 to 12; 13 to 15; and 16 to 18.

Christian Davis, a student at E. Melvin Honeycutt Elementary School, won in the 8- to 9-

year-old category. Trevor Thompson won in the 9- to 10-year-old group. Akilah Banks-Alexander won the 13- to 15-year-old group.

Winners of each category received \$500. The second-place winner in the 16- to 18-year-old age group also received a cell phone and a monthlong calling plan.

All participants received a T-shirt, a free pass to Monkey Joe's and House of

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Bounce, a free buffet meal from Ryan's restaurant, and a certificate of participation.

This year was the largest field in the quiz bowl's seven-year history, said Joe McGee, its director.

McGee has even bigger plans for the event: Next year, students from all over the state will compete, he said.

"Each city would have their own quiz bowl, and the state finals would be held in Fayetteville," he said.

McGee said the Fayetteville Convention & Visitors Bureau thinks it could bring in more than \$115,000 in hotel rooms, restaurant visits and shopping.

But McGee said he needs help from volunteers and sponsors to make it work.

"We gave away \$2,000



Akilah Banks-Alexander competes in the quiz bowl. She won in the 13- to 15-year-old category.

today," he said. "This is what a small organization did. We can do more and bring it all back to Fayetteville."

Staff writer Jennifer Calhoun can be reached at [calhounj@fayobserver.com](mailto:calhounj@fayobserver.com) or 486-3595.



Trevon Thompson, center, won in the 10- to 12-year-old group. At left is Jacobs Simmons III, and at right is Josh Gupton.

### CONTEST WINNERS

Winners of the 2010 blackhistory4ever Quiz Bowl were:

- 8 to 9 age group: Christian Davis, E. Melvin Honeycutt Elementary School
- 10 to 12 age group: Trevor Thompson, New Life Christian Academy
- 13 to 15 age group: Akilah Banks-Alexander, New Life Christian Academy
- 16 to 18 age group: Nicole Neu, New Life Christian Academy