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Honoring Achievement

"Still I Rise"

Editor's Note: This is the last of a special series on Portland's Debutantes.

It has given us a great honor to present to the public the 1995 Debutantes and Cavaliers. Working with so many talented, articulate, unique, natural, beautiful, ebony, ethereal, and dignified young men and women. These young men and women are ready to take their place in society and prepared to make a great contribution. This year has been one of much joy, pleasure and some pain and heart breaks, but all and

Cerese Spears a senior at St. Marys Academy, is the daughter of Earleine and Adolph Spears.

"As a debutante I bring the joy of



Nasheeka Lowe

being. I love myself more than anything in the world. I think this is very important as a black woman, and in these days you must put yourself first. You will do fine in life if you make yourself happy, and enjoy it at the same time, because you are doing it for you. I think you need to remember yourself. Everyone in your life has a meaning and should be treated with respect. But you should always try and enjoy the joy of being yourself and loving you for you.

young, strong, beautiful black woman. I am open and frank about how I feel. So I think I bring honesty to the group. I think I bring a uniqueness and style all my own. I think I bring a positive attitude, that is willing to accept constructive criticism. And with that I love to make those around me laugh and happy. I try not to be a slacker and I don't like slackers around me. I try hard and I like those around me to do their best also. Overall I think I bring a love for my fellow brother and sister, that will allow me to do whatever it takes to help improve themselves."

Prospective Debutante Joette Renee Kleckley, a senior at Cleveland High School, is the daughter of Marie Kleckley.



Sasha Coxeff

"Being a strong minded, intelligent, but adaptable young black female, I feel that there are a great deal of wonderful characteristic that I bring to Les Femmes. Through the last 17 years of my life I have gathered a great vast knowledge from my experiences. Growing up being an "army brat" with both parents in the Armed Services I have gotten use to moving around a lot, making new friends where ever I go, and learning even though you were born to one family or another, it is sometimes the people that are not related that are closer to you. For true sisterhood we need to get beyond all things that hold us back and keep us down. We need to be strong and have faith in all sections of our life. We need to learn to have the strength to say we are sorry when we are wrong, and the courage to stand up for our convictions when we feel we are right."



Joette Kleckley

all we have had a great year.

"Still I Rise" (passage 5)

"Leaving behind nights of terror and fear. I Rise. Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear. I Rise.

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I Rise. I Rise. I Rise.

The last 4 Debutantes are Sasha Cherell Coxeff, LaShawanta Cerese Spears, Nasheeka Dionne Lowe, Joette Renee Kleckley.

Prospective Debutante Sasha Cherell Coxeff, a senior at St. Marys Academy, is the daughter of Cheryl and Rocky Coxeff

"As a debutante I bring uniqueness, because there is none like me. I bring respect for others and most importantly adults. I bring my strong morals and values that have been instilled in me from the strong and good up bringing from my parents. As a Christian I bring my faith in God, my honor in God and my trust in God. I bring Love in Les Femmes as a debutante."

Prospective Debutante LaShawanta



LaShawanta Spears

Prospective Debutante Nasheeka Dionne Lowe, a senior at Grant High School, is the daughter of Janet Grove and Kenny Lowe.

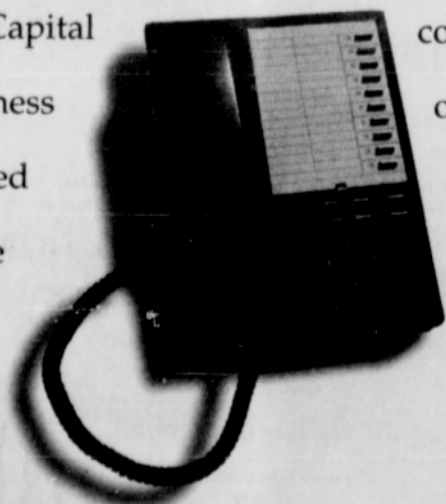
"What I bring to the Les Femmes is a

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