

Tuesday

WEATHER

Tonight: Low 50 Tomorrow: High 76 Details, C8

The Flint JOURNAL

Hats

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April 16, 2002

Film shoots for Flint's love of basketball

by Matt Bach
JOURNAL EDUCATION WRITER

FLINT — The history of Flint basketball, the tuff of legends, is being captured on film by a Detroit teacher who once called Flint home.

Marcus Davenport, 24, a middle school teacher in Detroit, is making a documentary, "Flint Star: The Motion Picture," about the city's long love affair with basketball.

Davenport, who lived in Flint for about six years and did his student teaching at Pierson Elementary School, said he got the idea for the movie while working at Pierson.

"I was watching a group of Pierson students play a group from Gundry (Elementary), and I couldn't believe the amount of talent," Davenport said. "It was unreal. There were kids in the fifth grade hitting fade-away jumpers and dribbling between their legs. I said, 'Somebody has got to say something about this.'



Davenport

"Pound for pound, Flint produces more top athletes than any place in the country."

Using an 8mm video camera, Davenport has spent the past year filming interviews with dozens of people, including NBA player Mateen Cleaves, former NBA player Justus Thigpen Sr., and Charlie and Brandon Bell, all of

Flint. Davenport also has shot hours of footage of Flintites of all ages playing basketball.

The idea is to show how large a role the sport plays in the city.

"It seems like a real nice project," said Northern High School basketball coach Garner Pleasant.

Please see **FILM, A2**



THE FLINT JOURNAL / JANE HALE

Marcus Davenport films an interview with barber and sports fan Wallace Elliott at Skinner's Barber Shop in Flint. Davenport is making a film about Flint's basketball legacy.

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FROM COLD TO HOT



By Barry Schwab
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — Powell said today "we are looking for some kind of cease-fire between Israel and the Palest

Powell said it preferable to a formal truce, but a formal truce, be in the offing.

U.S. and Palestinian were holding "good talks," Powell said t