In limbo in Batavia, bomber seeks home
Rushed, who put device on plane in '82, now free

By Phil Falmanes
staff reporter

Long before 9-11, and even a year prior to Lockerbie, America got a glimpse into the tragic reality of airplanes as tools of international terrorism.

Mohammed Rush was arrested and charged by a Palestinian terrorist explosives expert during a flight bound for Home-

One school helps city kids soar

By Tiffany Laker
staff reporter

Eagle Academy in the Bronx combines rigorous academics, high expectations and a structured environment to help minority students succeed.

Part of an occasional series

INVICTUS:
Out of the night
that covers me,
Black as the pit
from pole to pole,
I stand unafraid;
My name unkon-

Worries mount over dying bees
Area keepers concerned by winter’s toll on insects

By T.J. Finnegan
staff reporter

At the end of the day at Amber Farm, the busiest workers head for home — by the thousands.

The honeybees wait their turn to en-

the nation’s bees on the southern end of the 76 acres of strawberry, blueberry, radishes, and maples North Collins.

All day long they have flown to bun-

200 yards.

But even Jesus Arnold and other farmers worry about the future of these bees under constant threat from mites, chemicals and loss of habitat.

“The bottom line is if we don’t have the bees on the farm, we have no butter – butter isn’t dairy,” Arnold said.

With 23 percent of the nation’s honey-

the winter, farmers, beekeepers and scientists worry about the long-term sustainability of the insect.

The young men stand between the poles, feeling a pull in opposite directions. Street, or school. The hardships they have already faced in their young lives endured them.

At a young age, they learned to deal with gangs and violence at school and in their neighborhoods. They feel pressured by peers to emulate the image of black men portrayed in rap music and the media, some never knew their fathers. Even as they try to forge a path for their future, a few already have their own children.

All of these distractions make it difficult to do well in school. Some were already behind before they enrolled in a public school system largely ill-equipped to help them reach their full potential. “It’s a whole different battle for us out there,” said 18-year-old Tariq Mateson, who dropped out of Buffalo’s Bennett High School.

One out of every four black male students in the Buffalo Public Schools graduate.

In helping ninth-grader Monroe Tollman deal with a personal issue, Eagle Academy teacher Devone Williams, right, assures him he will do whatever it takes to make sure he makes it on the list of graduates displayed at the school. Elsewhere, students focus on learning.
**RITUALS AND ROUTINE BUILD STRUCTURE INTO THE DAY**

At Eagle Academy, students are encouraged to establish a routine that helps them manage their time effectively. This includes setting aside specific times for study, sleep, and leisure activities. The school's day is structured to accommodate different learning styles and ensure that students have ample time to engage in extracurricular activities.

**SCHOOLS**

**NEWS**

"As the school year winds down, I have noticed my mind drift. Under the guidance of our teachers, my work ethic is strong, but my heart is elsewhere."

**NEWS**

"Eagle Academy Principal Jonathan Fay believes the school's strong academic and extracurricular programs are key factors in its success."
“Our mantra for 100 Black Men is, ‘They will be what they see. If all they see are hustlers on the street, it should be no surprise which road they go down.’”

Eagle Academy Foundation President and CEO Daniel C. Banks

BLACK MALES WHO DON’T GRADUATE FACE TRIPLE THE RISK OF PRISON

SCHOOLS  From All

Washington, who was among the last generation of black leaders into adulthood. Washington discouraged blacks from fighting to end segregation, urging instead the creation of longer-term educational and economic opportunities.

People said that he would please the white people, and it would please them, too,” the student said. “The only thing wrong with his argument was how it is too much new to people that leads to seg-

The conversation shifts to a debate on what it means to “cast down your buckets” and whether that philosophy advanced or hindered civil rights for African-Americans. The phrase, from Washington’s “Atlanta Compromise” speech, reflected his belief that blacks should make the most of what they had and not agitate for civil rights. The next student goes on to criticize Garrett’s assertion that the protest movement was a violent one.

“He was telling people to do stuff that he would not,” the student said, crit-

Eagle Academy opened in the Bronx in 2004 and has since expanded. Now a foundation, it has five schools in New York City and Newark, N.J.

Eagle Academy | At a glance

The Buffalo News is spotlighting Eagle Academy for Young Men in the Bronx after reviewing graduation data for schools in New York’s state as well as several urban districts elsewhere in the country. Eagle Academy consistently posts high graduation ratios among schools that have a substantial minority population and that do not enjoy special urban advantages.

Eagle Academy’s population is entirely male, highlighting approaches that improve black male student achievement, which has been a challenge for the Buffalo Public Schools.

The first Eagle Academy was opened by 100 Black Men of America in the Bronx in 2004, offering programs specifically targeted to at-risk, inner-city youth of color. The organization then created the Eagle Academy Foundation, which has since expanded and now has three schools in New York City and Newark, N.J. The foundation identified the neighborhood schools that are the biggest “bottlenecks” into the state’s prison system and opened schools there as a proactive attempt to put young men on the right path.

The Eagle Academy Foundation is now working on a plan for an Eagle Institute, which will offer training to schools and districts interested in adapting its methods – T.L.

Eagle Academy | By the numbers

90% Percent of Eagle Academy graduates who enter college or universities

3% Suspension rate at Eagle Academy

88% Attendance rate at Eagle Academy

600 Number of students at Eagle Academy Bronx campus

Source: New York State Department of Education

his classroom at the YMCA on William Street. This is where he spent three nights a week working with students who have dropped out of school to help them earn their GED certificates.

Dandie conceptualized the same strategies found at Eagle Academy. When stu-

4 June 2011

Eagle Academy organizers deliberately placed the school in a tough neighborhood, using incarceration data to find the population most in need.

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