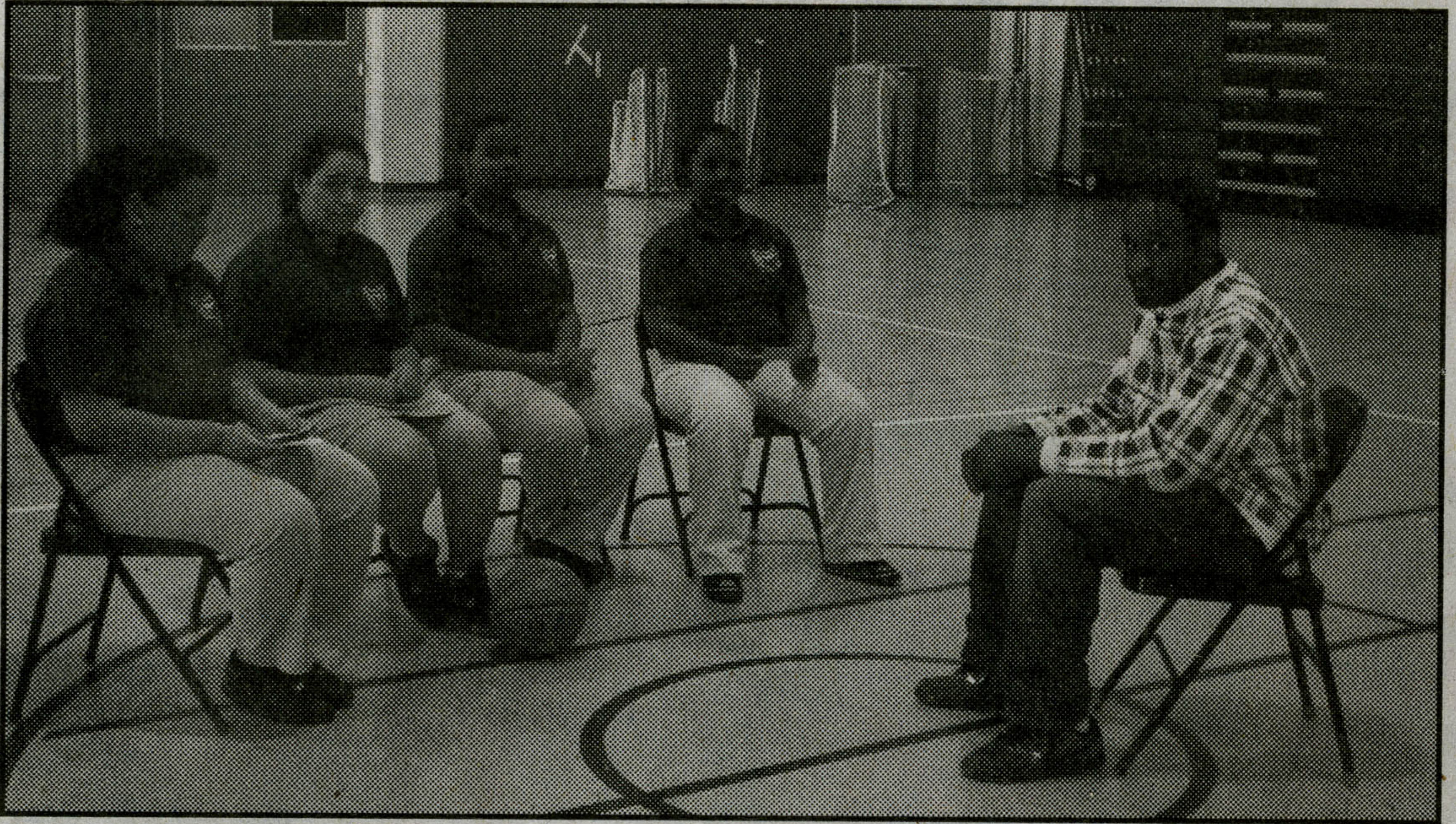


# PALISADE PI

## ROAD TRIP NATION: LIGHTS, CAMERA, EXPERIENCE



Road Trip Nation scholars (l to r): Aleyde Valdez, Kaitlynn Marrero, Jenea Royster and Shantel Moore interview *The Journal News* sports writer, Terrence Watson

### By Kaitlynn Marrero

Through the College Board, Palisade Preparatory students have been introduced to a program called Road Trip Nation. This program has allowed a group of select students, called Road Trip Scholars, to be introduced to and connect with successful people in the careers that the young scholars have an interest in pursuing. The Road Trip Scholars recently completed their first interview, meeting with *The Journal News* sports writer Terrence Watson. Watson was interviewed by students Shantel Moore, Aleyde Valdez, Jenea Royster and Kaitlynn Marrero.

The following is an excerpt from the interview:

Marrero: "How did you get to where you are?"

Watson: "At first I wanted to be a basketball player. When I realized that wasn't going to happen, I decided to write. I started out as a basketball player. I had a decent high school career. A few small schools wanted me, but I ended up going to Iona College because I knew that I would have a better career as a writer than I would have had as a basketball player. I started writing for Iona's school paper, writing mostly about the athletics. Once I was about to grad-

uate, I became aware of a job opening at *The Journal News* and I took it."

Moore: "What interested you?"

Watson: "Sports and how there is more to it. It's not just what you see on a field or court. My whole thing was what was behind the talent."

Valdez: "What inspired you?"

Watson: "When I was a kid, I wanted to be in *Slam* magazine as a basketball player. I was a good basketball player but not a great one. But just looking at that magazine made me want to be in it."

Royster: "What makes you passionate about your job?"

Watson: "I don't look at it like a job. I love going to work. I don't look at it like, 'Ah! I have to go to work today.' Yes, I have to wake up early, but I get to go see some kids play around and write a story about them. I actually love doing it."

Marrero: "What advice can you give me as a writer to help me get to where you are?"

Watson: "Don't give up. Try to get internships, as many as you can. Just keep trying no matter what. Go that extra mile and if you get shut down, which is bound to happen, just keep doing it. If it's what you love to do, go for it."