

# Stepping into spring

## FASHION SHOW AT COVENTRY HIGHLIGHTS MANY DIFFERENT AND CREATIVE LOOKS



Lauren knight/Daily Times

Coventry High School turned its auditorium into a fashion show last week, with students doing the modeling, including outfits made from duct tape (left), and showing off formal wear (top, left) and business attire (top, right). The show was organized by the school's DECA chapter.

**LAUREN KNIGHT**  
lknight@ricentral.com

COVENTRY — Last week, the Coventry High School auditorium was transformed into a runway, complete with lights, staging and models, for a student-led fashion show.

The show was a collaborative project through the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), an extra-curricular club held through Johnson and Wales University that prepares students for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. Tayla Manson, 15, the student president of DECA, came up with the idea when they were given the assignment to develop a public relations project that would incorporate a wide range of people.

"I chose a fashion show and incorporated special education students, teachers... and then [I would] have the community come," she explained.

The seven DECA members at the school

assisted with preparations, including setting up the stage, working the lights and selling tickets at the door. They extended the invitation for models up to the entire school.

The show consisted of nine different looks, starting off with duct tape.

"All of the girls made their own outfits," said Manson. "I was surprised, I didn't think that the girls were going to do so much — they made their own shoes and purses to go along with it."

The remainder of the show's fashion was a collection of the students' clothing, offerings from the school's boutique, Cinderella's Closet, and tuxedos lent to the school from Gara's Tuxedo in West Warwick.

The School Spirit look followed. Students were clad in Coventry High's school colors: red, white and black, and used pompoms and footballs as accessories. Other looks included Heels, Summer/Beachwear, Jeans, and Winter.

See *SHOW*, Page A-2



With prom season right around the corner, several students in Coventry's DECA fashion show modeled formal wear last week.

Lauren Knight • Daily Times

## Show could be headed to Utah

*Continued from Page A-1*

Winter, Manson explained, was fun because she prepped the runway entrance with a box of cotton balls. As the models walked out, they grabbed the cotton balls and tossed them into the audience at the end, to give the illusion of snow.

They also showcased some fashionable business wear, incorporating suits, blazers and briefcases.

"I wanted to do that because it's kind of what DECA is — it's about business," said Manson.

During the formal look portion, pairs strutted the runway showing off many students' junior and senior prom dresses. Manson stated that two special education students at the school participated in this por-

tion of the show.

"I am in a program called Reach Out where I work with them during a period I have off," she explained. "My dream is to be a special education teacher. I feel like they're not put into things like they should be, so I wanted to do this."

The show concluded with a musical performance by students Colin Campbell and Alec Perry. The finale followed with all of the models tossing confetti and shredded foils of silver and red into the audience.

The fashion show will be judged at Johnson and Wales University on March 2, based on a presentation. If the presentation goes well, the Coventry group will proceed to the national competition in Salt Lake City, UT.