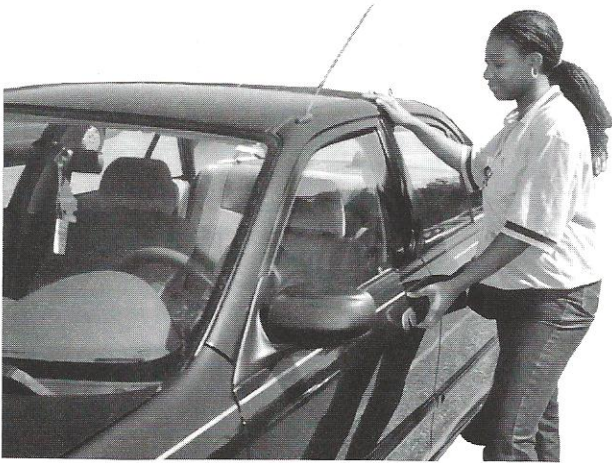


# rolling in the dough

*students prepare  
for the future*



**m**iranda Elliott woke from her deep sleep. She arose to face another full day in her very difficult life. She got ready for school and left her children for yet another day. She worked hard in all of her classes, but unlike most students her day had just begun. As soon as she left school, she headed to work another shift as the manager at the Angler's Hess Station from four in the afternoon until eleven at night. She juggled her time wisely in order to complete schoolwork and still perform her job properly. On the days she did not work at her job, she volunteered at a local after-school program which helped kids to get their homework completed.

Her mother kept her children for almost nine hours everyday, not allowing her to spend much of her time with her children. Between worrying about school and her kids, Miranda also worried about her future. She decided that she wanted to go to college for three or four years and study Early Childhood Development.

She decided to have children at a young age. She said, "I never get to party or go out with friends." She lost her teen years intentionally though, when the doctor told her that she could not have children because her ovaries would quit producing in her late twenties. "I recommend that girls not get pregnant at this age. Kids are a lot of responsibility and you miss your teen years," said Miranda. She does not regret having her two children, "They are bad, but I still love them."

-Kasey Hudson

