

Young author writes book to help teens

By **JANE CANNON MORT**

Sentinel lifestyles editor

A dream Emily Shawver had about five years ago is now the first chapter of a book that she expects to be published by June. "The Difficulties of Life," is fiction, the 17-year-old from Lewistown says. "It is based on what some teens go through as they learn to depend on and trust God.

"Many of the fears present in my writing I have experienced personally. Therefore, this book was written to show God's grace and love when things go wrong or astray."

The petite, dark-haired young author who describes herself as shy says she's been writing since she was 7



Sentinel photo by BUFFIE BOYER
Emily Shawver becomes animated as she talks about her book, due to be published in June.

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'The Difficulties of Life'

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from the first chapter of Emily Shawver's book:

The First Day's Revelations

'Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love.' 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NIV)

On the first day of their junior year in high school, three friends found themselves puzzled by the lack of bullying they had received. They were walking down the hall when Allie finally said what was racing through all of their minds.

"Okay, is Sean sick today or what?"

Cecil shook his head and pointed down the hall in response.

"Look. Here he comes now. No doubt to taunt us."

James looked at Cecil and sighed.

"Wonder when he'll run out of things to

tease us about."

Allie rolled her eyes and glared at James.

"Um, try never. It's probably his way of brightening his day." Just then they heard a giggle behind them and turned to take a look at the source. Cecil was the first to catch sight of the one who'd giggled. His brown-eyed, brown-haired cousin was walking behind them and, apparently, had heard every word. He sighed.

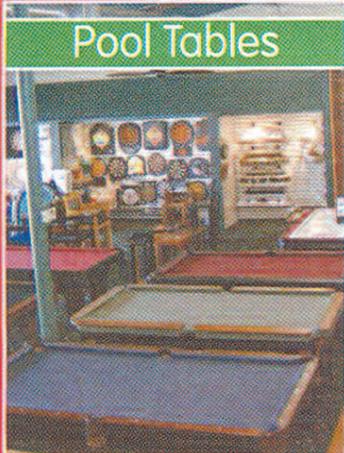
"Oh no, it's you."

Amy grinned up at him.

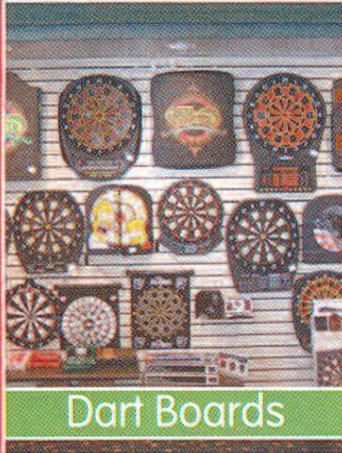
"Hey, Seashell, not been getting beat up lately; I hope."

Cecil decided to ignore her because he knew that when she was in that kind of mood everything he said could be taken in a way he didn't want it to be taken.

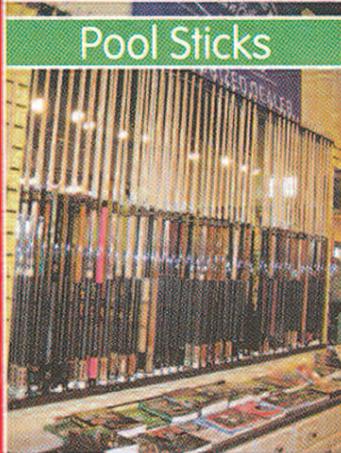
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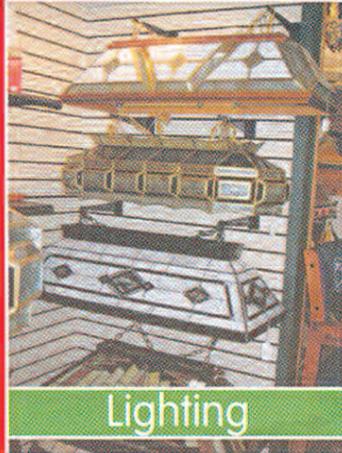
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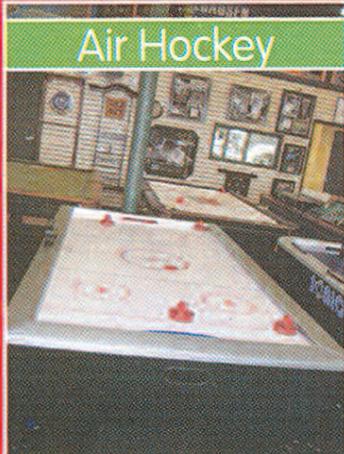
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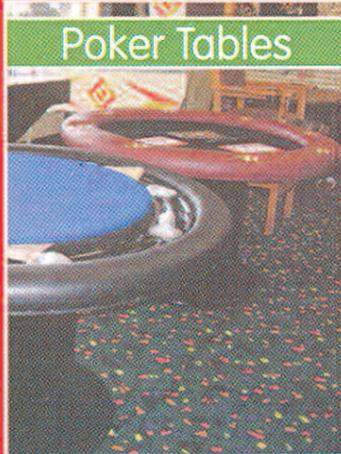
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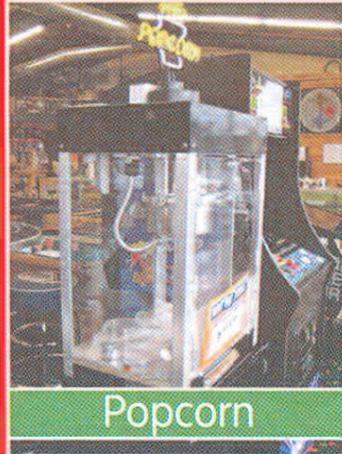
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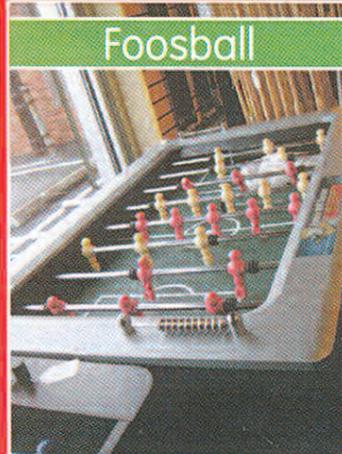
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