

March 19, 2007

Hi friends!

We have been here in Akatsi, Ghana, for a little over two months now and are writing to keep you updated on the adventure. The number of children that come to our Human Factor Leadership Academy Library has steadily increased since the last time we wrote. Sadly, we have still not yet been able to clear the shipment of books and



Soccer and basketball at the library

computers from the dock. We have however successfully received the letter needed from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and have submitted it to the Value Added Tax Authority and The Customs Duty Officials. We are hoping that our clearing agent at the harbor will clear our books by Tuesday... so keep your fingers crossed! Our letter to the National Accreditation Board, which requests official permission to use the name "Human Factor Leadership Academy" at the new University,

has been "misplaced" so we are in the process of submitting another. Another issue that has been brought to our attention is the large amount of school children who do not know how to read. Students are being passed from Primary through Junior Secondary (elementary through junior high) without ever being taught efficient reading skills. Surprised with this finding, we have now established a new mission at our library; we want to teach the children how to read. Thanks to some helpful family members and friends we will soon be receiving flashcards, computer programs, and other resources that will aid in this undertaking.



Children at the library learning computer skills

On a different note, Ghana had a birthday and is now 50 years old! They celebrated with all day festivals at the local Akatsi training college. We got to watch many of our students from the library participate in a parade. Also, as an addition to the celebration, the president of Ghana announced that there will be no more “lights out.” Originally



Schoolchildren marching on the 6th of March for Ghana's 50th anniversary



lights would go out for 12 hours during the night (6 p.m. - 6 a.m.) every fifth day to conserve energy. But now we are fortunate enough to sleep comfortably 7 days a week with our fans blowing all night! As for our studies, we are still being

extremely challenged by professor who is determined to get us thinking as international development planners, which we are persistently pursuing. Other than that, as you all know, spring break is near and to make sure we get our promised vacation we have planned a week long trip up North. We will depart tomorrow, March 18th, from Accra and head to Mole National Park, where we will hopefully see some elephants and lions. From Mole we will continue north to Bulgatanga, where we will visit Paga village and its famous crocodile pond. We will be sure to update you on the details of our trip in our next letter. Until then, know that we are safe and strong and that we miss you all very much. God bless!

Sincerely,



Brother Kojo

Sister Afi