

NEVER SAY NEVER TO DETROIT TEEN SINGER

“Justin Bieber: Never Say Never,” the inspiring movie about the pop superstar was released on DVD earlier this month so we thought this would be the perfect time to check back with Detroit’s own superstar-in-the-making, Ryan Destiny Irons. In January, the Yak told readers about Ryan’s big singing contest win. The high school junior, who attends West Bloomfield High School, entered and won a singing contest sponsored by Paramount Pictures, 98.7 AMP Radio and Oakland Mall. Her prize? A trip to the Los Angeles movie premiere of “Justin Bieber: Never Say Never.”

Like Justin, Ryan has her own dreams of stardom – and she’s on her way to making them come true. Ryan, who is 16, has been singing for years and is in a girl group called New Limit with two of her closest friends. The girls have been singing together since elementary school and even auditioned for “America’s Got Talent.” They made it to the third round of the competition before deciding the timing and talent contest rules didn’t fit with the girls’ goals, said Ryan’s mom, Dawn Irons, who manages the group. “It was such a fun experience,” says Ryan. “We got to meet so many different, different people.” Ryan is even staying in touch with many people she met at the talent competition.

Ryan says she had an amazing February trip to Los Angeles with her mom and best friend Jasmine. In addition to attending the movie premiere, they spent a week sightseeing and meeting with people in the entertainment industry. “We stayed a week and the weather was awesome,” says Ryan.

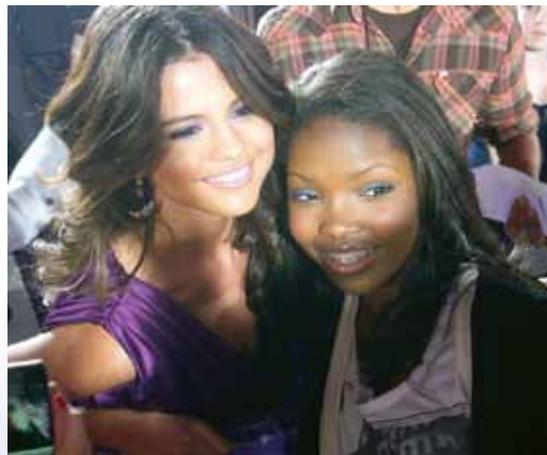
At the premiere, there was a little bit of a wait to see Justin. Ryan didn’t mind because “there were a whole bunch of celebrities that came before him,” says Ryan. “It was just everybody, including Selena Gomez, Miley Cyrus, Toni Braxton, Will Smith, Jaden Smith and Willow Smith, Jada Pinkett-Smith and Chris Brown.” Ryan

not only got to see many famous faces, she also got to snap pictures with many of the stars as they came by and said hello to VIP fans.

The girls dressed up in special outfits and even had their makeup professionally done so they would look great along with the rest of the stars who turned out for the big movie premiere.

Since returning home, Ryan is even more focused on making her dreams come true. She has an agent and has signed with an independent record label and is working with a voice coach and choreographer. She has also done some acting and is pursuing acting jobs. This summer she will be traveling to Los Angeles again with her mom to continue making contacts and auditioning for jobs.

Her biggest career influence is Beyoncé,



Ryan poses for a quick shot with actress and singer Selena Gomez at the movie premiere.



Photos Courtesy of Dawn Irons

Ryan Destiny Irons, left, took her best friend and group member Jasmine Pore to the “Never Say Never” movie premiere in Los Angeles. The girls got to walk on the purple carpet, instead of a typical red carpet, because purple is Justin’s favorite color.

because she does it all, from singing and dancing to acting. “That’s who I look up to personally,” says Ryan. Besides Beyoncé, Ryan says she would love to record pop and R&B music with a Rihanna or Justin Bieber type of feel to it.

The Yak predicts that Ryan, with the middle name of Destiny, is surely destined for a big, bright future.

By Janis Campbell

To hear Ryan’s contest winning song, “Baby,” by Justin Bieber, go to www.youtube.com/user/ryandestiny. Young singers in 20 cities across the country took part in the singing competition.

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