Dancing's all in grad's family

For Kelly Curtiss, dancing is more than a hobby. It's a family passion the West Bloomfield High School graduating senior enjoys with her sister, mother and grandmother.

Dancing has always been part of her active life, Kelly said last week as a he was preparing to culminate her high school career by graduating cum laude. She started top dancing at age 3 and entered her first dance competition at 6.

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Since then, her life has been whirl of lessons, recitals and competitions that have taken her throughout the state as well as to Myrtle Beach, S.C., Toronto, the Pocono Mountains and Los Angelas.

les.
This cummer she plans to return to New Orleans to help defend her dance troupe's hold as national champions of Dance Masters of America. She's one of

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While dancing has helped her make friends and travel, Kelly said there are other benefits, "its helps davelop discipline. You've got to work at it."

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Karl and her mom haven't been a consistently serious about dancing as Kelly. Karl, now a junior at Central Michigan University, stopped dancing as a treshman at West Bloomfield to concentrate on swimming, volleyball and soft-

t West Bloomlield to concentrate dancer."

Mer husband, Lamb ssid, came from a long line of performers. His And her mother started dancing parents were in Vaudeville, and

he was in the original cast of Oklahoma when it opened on Broadway, she said.

Lamb said dancing is a tad taxing right now. Her legs just don't have the bounce they once had.

"But I really enjoy being around Kelly, She's good."

Good enough to make it a career? "Definitely, if she wants to, yes," said Lamb.

Dancing was the left.

yes," said Lamb.

Dancing may turn into a career,
and Kally, but it's too early to
tell. For now it's a pleasant —
and consuming — pastime. When
he's not dancing herself, she is
teaching dancing at the Parmington Hills Parks and Recreation
Center where she works with preschoolers and elementary students
on tap, jazz and ballet.

That combination, dancing and teaching, could be a hint of things to come for Kelly. She plans to attend Eastern Michigan University this fall where she will mejor in churching.

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Family's passion: Three generations of Kelly Curtiss' dance-loving family line up during a recent workout. Joining Kelly are grandmother <u>Martha</u> Lamb (far left), who met her late husband while working as a nightclub tap dancer. Also pictured is mom Sharon Curtiss (center), who started dancing 15 years ago on a less-serious

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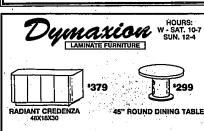
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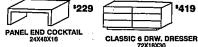
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