

Tournament honoree David Lash greets several junior varsity players during the press conference held last Thursday. Lash is a former coach and athletic director at Carver, Atkins and East Forsyth high schools.

JV Tournament

something like this," East Forsyth

said of the tournament, which is

sponsored by Coca-Cola and Lee

Jeans in addition to The Chronicle.

"Last year, this tournament was

small and I'm glad to see it will get

the tournament, funding was an

obstacle that clouded the future of

the event. Now, Howard said there

is a possibility of moving to a neu-

tral site in future years, possibly at

the Lawrence Joel Coliseum annex.

Winston-Salem high schools will be

represented in the tournament —

Carver, East Forsyth, Glenn, Mt.

Tabor and North Forsyth. Rounding

out the eight-team field will be

High Point Andrews and Dudley

and Smith high schools of Greens-

boro. For the second year, Carver

will be the host school.

This year, five of the eight

growing."

It gives the kids some expo-Athletic Director David Bumgamer sure to Christmas tournament play before they move up to the varsity level," North Forsyth coach Tommy Witt said. "It also gives them some-

thing to do during the holidays in

terms of playing."

the support it deserves to keep it Both coaches and athletic directors agree that the tournament will curb the amount of idle time The tournament was developed by Sportsmen Club that adolescents have during the spokesman Ike Howard two years two-week holidays. ago. During the inaugural year of "If a team does not play in a

Christmas tournament, it could be as long as month before they play another game," said Carver Athletic Director Robert Wynn, one of the organizers for the tournament. "We want to eliminate as much of that down time as possible with this tournament. Now the teams can compete with other teams instead of each other."

Another advantage of the tournament is the teams can get a look at some of the opposition before conference play begins in January. A lot of the coaches embraced the possibility of playing a conference

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team during the tournament.

"I couldn't think of a better way for our players to get some valuable experience than this tournament," Glenn coach Ernest Nichols said. "My team is going to be good, but it's very young. Some of these freshmen can get an opportunity to know what it's like playing during the Christmas holidays now instead of waiting a couple of years."

But most importantly, some of the players feel the tournament is a chance to showcase their talents. In previous years, the players have not had a chance to play many non-conference games in December and only a handful of schools will send a junior varsity team to play in a tournament.

"I want to work on my defense and rebounding the ball a little bit more before the tournament," said Greensboro Dudley forward Kenneth Hawkins. "I want to be a good a player as possible in the next couple of games before then."

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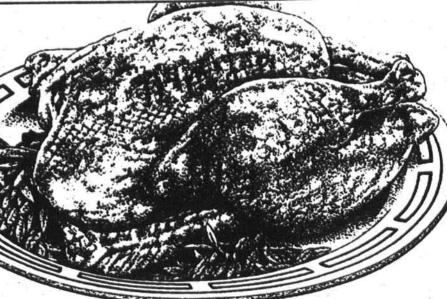
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