

SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

JULY 18, 2002

Golf clinic wraps up successful year



File Photo
Schools Superintendent Dr. Donald Martin speaks with clinic participant Dorsey Lemon as Marilyn Parker looks on.

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

It took a little prodding by a friend, but ever since Victor Johnson made the decision to personally impact junior golf he's been behind it all the way. Johnson, at the urging of Jim Conrad, began a golf clinic for African-American youths in 1996 with 20 students. Since that time Johnson has seen the clinic grow each year and he's also seen the skills of his students improve markedly.

Vic Johnson Jr.'s Golf Clinic recently completed another successful run. Johnson and his staff of five instructors culminated their summer program with a banquet at Reynolds Park Golf Course. Among the speakers on the program were Dr. Donald Martin, superintendent of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System, and Ben Piggott,

supervisor of the William C. Sims Recreation Center in Happy Hill.

"It's my way of giving something back to the community," said Johnson, who is a member of the local School Board. "I remember growing up and having people who cared about kids and drove us all over town to play sports. This is my way of getting a first-hand experience working with the kids and it gives me a chance to get to know kids who need someone to encourage them."

Johnson's program is designed for kids aged 8-14. However, he said he sometimes takes in some that are younger or older, depending upon their circumstances. He takes a personal interest in many of his kids and follows their paths as they attend their respective schools. This summer 65 kids completed the

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Generation's Best!



James Summers shows proper shooting form during drills at Generation's Best Basketball Camp, which was held this week at the Carl H. Russell Recreation Center. See Story on page B3.

Photo by Imas Sivad

HAWS junior golf still rolling along

FROM THE PRESS BOX
SAM DAVIS

Harold Dunovant is no longer around, but the HAWS Junior Golf Program is alive and thriving thanks to the groundwork that he laid. Dunovant, who passed away a few months ago, left behind a program that might be among the best for minority junior golfers in the nation.

Dunovant received many awards for his program. The most notable might have been the honor which came from the Carolinas PGA. That helped the program land a grant from the United States Golf Association (USGA), which has helped expand its outreach.

Mohammed Herb, who worked with Dunovant since the inception of the program, now heads it. Herb, who has more than 25 years of experience as a teacher and professional, said the program has stepped up to another level this year. More than 100 kids participate in the program on a regular basis.

"Actually, we have more kids than we should," Herb said. "The USGA grant says we should have 50 kids for nine instructors. But we have five instructors for over 100 kids."

Yet Herb and his instructors have impacted the participants in a major way. Many are playing for the first time but others have been around for several years and are approaching the advanced level.

"In the past this was more like an exposure thing," Herb said. "But now the kids are really learning how to play. Now we can carry them to golf courses and they are realizing how fun the game can be."

Having a strong staff has been crucial to the process, according to Herb. The five instructors - Jesse Oree, Ken Rasheed, Paula Transou, Roger McIlwain and Gene Williams - all bring experience and gifts in working with kids to the table.

"This is the best crew we've ever had," Herb

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Photo by Imas Sivad
Gene Williams (left) instructs Torrence Martin and Joseph Martin during a session of the HAWS Junior Golf program at Civitan Park in Winston-Salem.

Young golfers say Tiger Woods' influence created golf interest

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The success of Tiger Woods on the professional golf tour is the single thing that influenced Torrence and Joseph Martin to take up the game of golf.

"I want to be like Tiger," Joseph said. "He's one of my idols."

The two brothers, aged 14 and

13, are participants in the HAWS Junior Golf Program. They along with some 100 others have been benefiting from a USGA grant to the Winston-Salem Housing Authority this summer.

Although the brothers have a lot of other interests, golf has gotten the bulk of their attention this summer. Usually they spend some four to five hours per day working

on their games. The program with HAWS lasts about 1 1/2 hours, but they normally devote three or four hours to working on their games when they come home each day.

"I really like it because it is a challenge," said Joseph, who will be an eighth-grader at Mineral Springs Middle School in the fall. "My brother and I usually get out in the front yard each day and

practice on our chipping and putting. Then sometimes we go to the driving range."

Torrence, who will be a freshman at North Forsyth High School, said he likes the excitement.

"It's fun and it's exciting," he said. "It's something we really want to do."

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Family Fun Day for Tiny Indians set for July 20

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

For Leonard Green, football is only a means of helping young people achieve and become productive members of society. As president of the Tiny Indians of the local Northwest Midget Football League, Green tries to keep that in mind so that players, parents, coaches and supporters don't lose sight of the organization's goal.

The Tiny Indians are a community institution, and Green wants to make sure the organization stays connected to the community. In past years it has done much to promote unity in the East Winston community. On Saturday the organization will sponsor another of its many efforts to touch the lives of community residents.

The organization will sponsor a Family Fun Day from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Ray Agnew Field

See Indians on B4

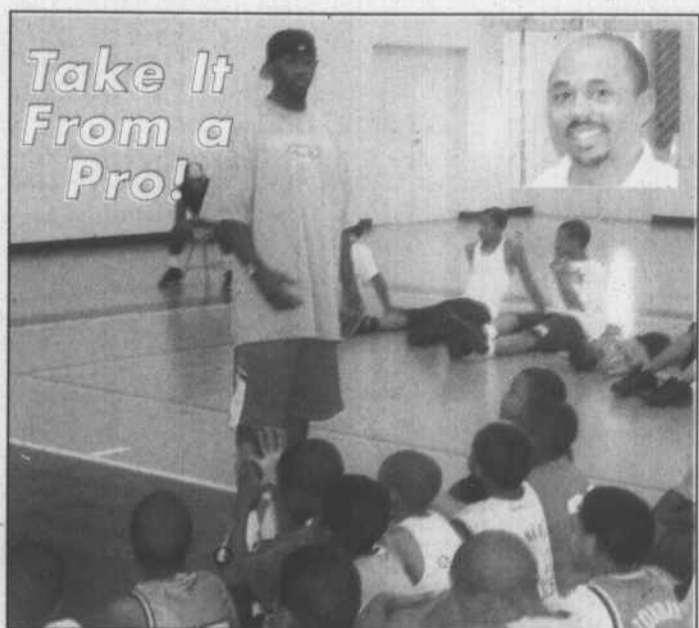


Photo by Imas Sivad
Bobby Jackson, a member of the Sacramento Kings basketball team in the NBA, stopped by the Youth With Destiny Basketball Camp to speak with campers. The camp was organized and run by Xavia McCarter (inset).

Local track team has elite showing

BY SAM DAVIS
THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Elite Track Club might be the new kid on the AAU track circuit, but it is already making a name for itself. In the club's most recent meet, some 35 athletes qualified to participate in the National AAU Junior Olympic Games in Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 4-11.

WSETC brought home 10 gold medals in individual events and four other gold medals in relays at the regional track meet in High Point.

Camilia Goode, J-Mee Samuels and Michael Loyd led the way. Each finished with

three gold medals. Goode took first place in the 100, 200 and ran the anchor leg on the 4x100-meter relay team in the 13-14 girls division. Samuels took first place in the 100 and 200 and anchored the 4x100-meter relay team in the 15-16 boys division. Loyd, who has already signed a scholarship to attend the University of Florida in the fall, took first place in the 100 and 110 hurdles and ran a leg on the winning 4x100-meter relay team in the boys 17-18 division.

Erica Montgomery took first place in the 200-meter dash, finished second in the

See Elite on B4