



Robert Bethea hands out t-shirts and trophies to his students.

Photos by Todd Luck

STILL SWINGIN'

School Board member continues popular free summer golf program for young people

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

School Board Member Vic Johnson wrapped up his Eleventh Annual Golf Clinic last week.

For four weeks, more than 90 golf students between the ages 8-16 practiced their swings and techniques at the Reynolds Park Golf Course during the free clinic.

For some, like 6-year-old Jaylond Smith, it was their first golf clinic. Smith said his favorite part is "hitting the golf ball," which he was always anxious to do.

For others, like 13-year-old Kierra Brown, the clinic has become a regular summertime event. This is her fifth year taking part.

"I like (golf) because it's something I can do to ease my mind," said Kierra. "It's something you can do to just relax. It's not like basketball and other sports (that are) very stressful."

Like many students, the clinic was Kierra's first exposure to golf. She likes it so much now that she even plays sometimes on her own, away from the clinic.

Johnson and many of his friends and golf buddies serve as coaches during the clinic, showing the youngsters the basics of the game. This summer was Hiawatha Bethea's third year as a golf coach in the clinic. He is always thrilled when helping keep a young person on the straight and narrow.

"Anytime I can help the kids ... of the street, I enjoy all that," he said.

Hiawatha Bethea's brother, Robert Bethea, is a golf coach at Winston-Salem State University. Robert Bethea also volunteers his time and expertise at the clinic. He has been involved with the program for the last eight years.

"It makes me younger," Robert Bethea said of his involvement in the clinic. "Having the young folks keep me moving."

As is tradition, each participant - there are no winners and losers - received a trophy for taking part in the clinic. Last week's finale also featured a hot dog lunch and guest speakers Tom Trollinger, an avid golfer himself and the founder and CEO of Contract Office Furnishings; Tim Grant, director of the city's Parks and Recreation Department; and Reynolds Park Golf Pro Andrew Kilpinen. They all encouraged the kids to apply the lessons they learned in



Vic Johnson's Golf Clinic has become a summer tradition.



Hiawatha Bethea

golf (discipline, persistence, practice) to their real lives. They especially emphasized the importance of doing well in school and going to college.

Last year, a student in the golf clinic went to college with a golf scholarship, a fact that makes Johnson very proud. A city native, Johnson said he "grew up in the recreation center." He started the clinic as a way to give something back - the way that adults gave something to him when he was a young man.

Johnson said he also wanted to expose the kids to a positive activity that would encourage "less crime, more scholars."

"Golf is a gentlemen's game. You learn how to control yourself," said Johnson. "To play golf is within you. You can't fault anybody else. And it teaches a lesson: if you continue to work at something you'll be successful."

The clinic is funded by Network 2000, an organization of current and retired Reynolds American employees. The group raises funds for the clinic through its annual golf tournament, held at the Winston Lake Golf Course in September.



Golf students ranged in age from 8 to 16.

News Clips

DMV hires anti-theft team leaders

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles has announced that Brian Bozard has been named director of the DMV License and Theft Bureau and Greg Lockamy has been named deputy director.

Bozard has been the acting deputy director of the bureau since February. He is a 30-year veteran of law enforcement, beginning his career in 1978 with the Halifax County Sheriff's Office. He was a lieutenant detective with the Enfield Police Department in 1989 prior to joining DMV in 1992.

Lockamy, a 28-year law enforcement veteran, has served for the past five years in DMV's Office of Professional Standards. He was named assistant director in May. Prior to joining DMV in 1988, Lockamy was a member of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. He was also a telecommunicator with the N.C. State Highway Patrol.

Bozard and Lockamy will oversee about 440 employees whose primary responsibilities include investigating vehicle theft, title fraud, driver license/ID fraud, vehicle inspection sticker fraud and vehicle odometer fraud. The bureau is also responsible for enforcing the rules and regulations governing vehicle dealers, vehicle safety and emissions inspection stations, vehicle towing and storage facilities, and vehicle repair businesses. The DMV License and Theft Bureau was created in 1921 and is the oldest law enforcement agency in the state.

Goodwill awards Greene Scholarships

Goodwill Industries of Northwest North Carolina has awarded scholarships for academic achievement to the children of nine Goodwill employees through the Dr. Bob H. Greene College Scholarship Program.

The recipients, all attending accredited universities or institutions of higher education in the fall, are Hannah Bean of Lexington; Sarah Briggs of Arden; Cameon Burk of Vilas; Eugene Galloway of Winston-Salem; Lance Haymore of Mount Airy; Ashley Helsley of Arden; Ryan Oliver of Fletcher; Christine Shay of Pilot Mountain; and Olivia Walker of Winston-Salem.

Goodwill's Board of Directors established the scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Greene's years of dedication to Goodwill and in recognition of his longevity of service to North Carolina academia.

A&T students in Ghana

A group of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University students from a world studies class are spending much of this month in Accra, Ghana, as part of a service-learning project to promote literacy to the country's struggling children.

During the spring semester, students became engrossed in contemporary world issues such as modern day slavery, human trafficking and child labor and decided to take action. A&T students took their classroom discussions, a step further and created the Ghanaian Child Literacy Project. They enrolled fellow students, family members, church congregations and the general public to donate books and other educational materials to the project. They also used the freshman e-board to mobilize a campus-wide book collection. Together the students collected over 1,200 children's

books to be distributed to two organizations in Ghana that educate street children (The Street Academy and The Catholic Action for Street Children) and make the distribution next week when they arrive in Ghana.

Students who will be traveling are: Akimi Sinclair, Travis Jackson, Wayne Kimball, Jr., Crista Greenlee, and Sargent Nelson. They will be accompanied by Dr. Deborah H. Barnes, associate dean of University Studies, and Dr. Agya Boakye-Boaten, assistant professor of University Studies and project coordinator. They will return next week.

Cowling is 2008 'Holistic Nurse of the Year'

Dr. Richard Cowling,

director of the PhD nursing program at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, has been named 2008 Holistic Nurse of the Year by the American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA).

Cowling, who also edits the Journal of Holistic Nursing, is the first male ever to win the award.

Cowling holds a BS from the University of Virginia, an MS in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University, a PhD in Nursing from New York University, and is certified as an advanced practice nurse in both mental health and holistic nursing. He has served as an educator, researcher, administrator and practitioner at universities in Virginia, Ohio, South Carolina and North Carolina. His research and scholarship is focused on facilitating the personal power of women who have survived child abuse.



Cowling

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