

SPORTS WEEK

SECTION B

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AUGUST 7, 2008

Thorpe Cup kind to Wake

Nelson wins her second straight women's individual title

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Wake Forest assistant track & field coaches Lela V. Nelson, Chris Helwick and Chris Boyles represented Team USA with strong performances in the 15th annual Thorpe Cup this past weekend (Aug. 2-3), in Manhattan, Kansas.

Nelson took home the women's individual title for second straight year, setting a new Thorpe Cup record with 6,029 in the heptathlon. That mark was also a career-best for the former collegiate All-American.

Despite Nelson's performance, the U.S. women fell short for the second year in a row, this time falling to their German counterparts by just 105 points, 17,267 to 17,162.

On the men's side, Helwick and Boyles finished fourth and sixth individually to lead the U.S. men's squad to their sixth straight victory by a score of 40,093 to 38,496. The win improves the U.S. to 12-3 overall in the competition's history.

On day one, Nelson won both the 100-meter hurdles (13.46) and 200-meter dash (24.16) to take the lead after the first day. She widened her lead right out of the gate on Sunday, winning the long jump with a remarkable leap of 6.65 meters. Solid finishes in the final two events gave Nelson a final margin of 238 points over Ulrike Hartz of Germany.

Helwick, coming off a seventh place finish at the U.S. Olympic trials, finished fourth with a personal-best 8,143 points. He started the second day in eighth, but blew away the competition in the javelin, winning by almost six meters, with a toss of 66.72 meters. He continued his climb on day two as he finished third in the pole vault with a mark of 4.95 meters.

Backed by second place finishes in both the high jump (2.03m) and the discus (47.15m), Boyles turned in a season-best score of 7,723 points to finish sixth.

Norman Muller of Germany won the men's individual title with 8,199 points but the U.S. men captured the next five spots to secure the victory.



Carver's Dequan Holder burst through the line during a recent Yellowjacket practice. Holder is one of many players that will be key to Carver's success this season.

LET'S GET IT!

Carver already thinking state championship

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

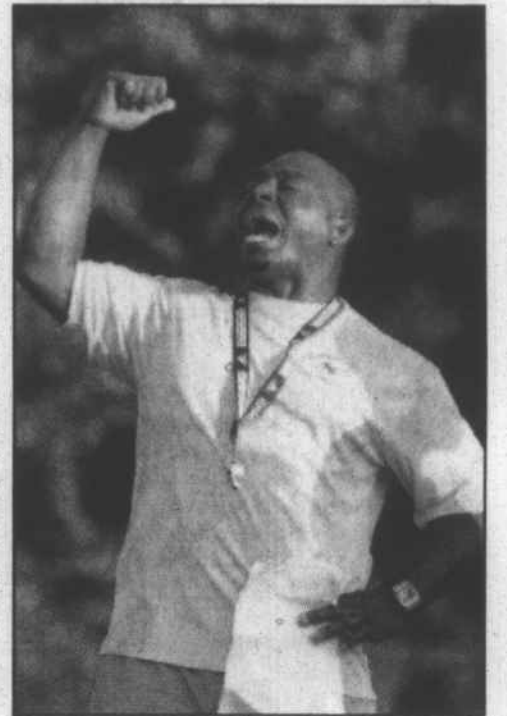
The following story is the second of a series on some of the high school football teams in Forsyth County. Fans will get an early look at what's going on with their favorite team this summer.

Most teams feel like they have a shot at winning a state championship before each season. But very few teams feel the intense pressure of winning a title before each year as much as the Carver Yellowjackets.

There may be more pressure on the Yellowjackets heading into the 2008 season. Most of the extra pressure seems to lie on the shoulders of first-year head coach Brent David, who was an assistant coach last year.

David and his troops seemed to be ready for the challenge, though. There's no doubt that David still feels the pressure of trying to fill the shoes left by former coach Keith Wilkes, who left to coach a school in Georgia.

"They're some really big shoes," David said. "I'm trying to keep them tied as tight as I can just to keep them on. My coaching staff is really helping me a lot. Guys like Melvin Palmer, Greg Scales, James McMillan, coach Holmes, Robert Wynn, David Pearson, Sam Davis, Richard Daniels and the rest of the



Here, Carver head coach Brent David gets pumped after a play.

See Carver on B4

Roberts, Clodfelter lead Tri-City at Junior Olympics

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

The Tri-City Relays Track and Field team turned quite a few heads in Ypsilanti, Michigan as its athletes won two gold medals and a silver medal during the Junior Olympics this past weekend.

Overall, the team finished the meet with eight individual medals and four relay medals. Makaila Roberts started the meet by winning the Sub-Midget girls (11 year old) pentathlon. Roberts outscored the competition by competing in the 80m hurdles, high jump, long jump, shot put, and the 800m run.

"I really didn't think I was going to

do as well as I did," said Roberts. "When I ran the hurdles, I knew that I had a chance to win."

Roberts was well ahead on points before the final event, which was the 800m run.

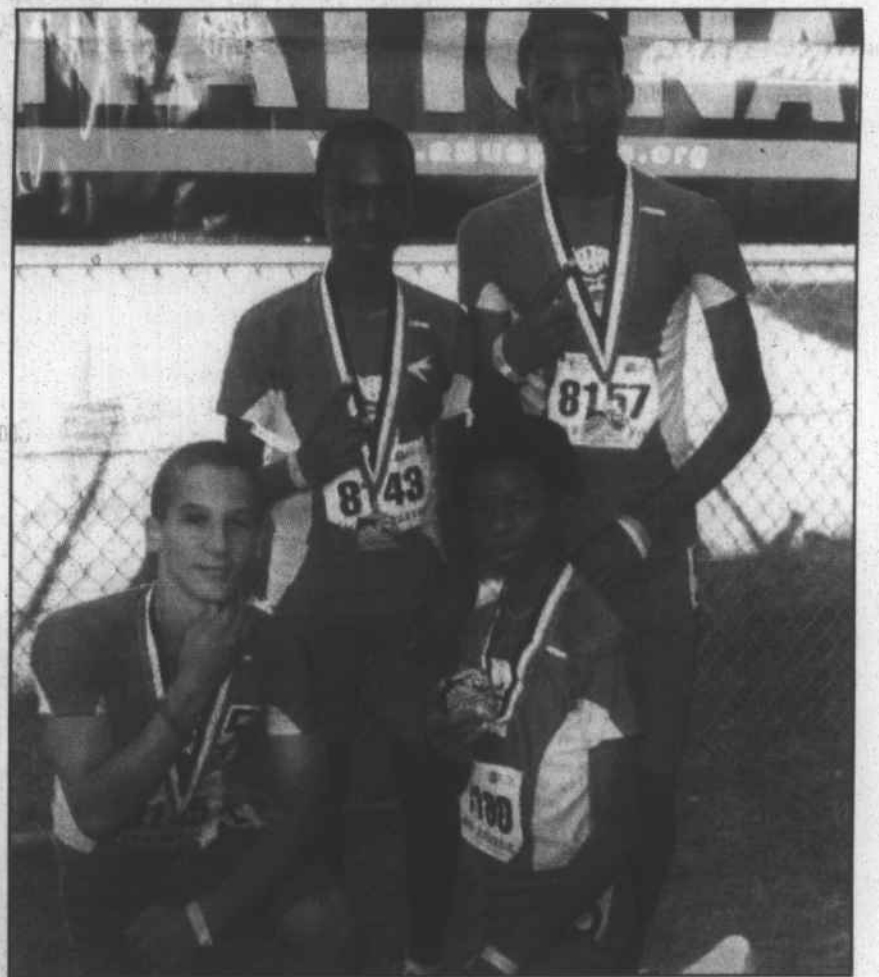
"Makaila embodies what track and field should be about at this age" said Tri-City coach Perry Cabean. "Kids should be willing to try to learn different events and explore. We don't know if they are going to be a sprinter, distance runner or high jumper when they grow up. Coach Jeffery Sides (high jump), coach Michael Smith (hurdles), Tyrone Holman (hurdles) and Jay Carlton and David Hill (shot put) all provided the tutelage, but Makaila provided the heart."



Tri-City Relays Denard "Hurricane" Williams clears the high jump.

Photos by Jeff Sides

See Tri-City on B2



Tri-City Relays 4x800 squad made up of Perry Cabean Jr. (from top left), Emmanuel Patton, Nick Colebaugh and Steve Stowe collected medals.

Photo by Anthony Hill

Local golfer Booster Thomas watches a ball moments after connecting with it during a recent golf outing. Thomas was one of many golfers to participate in the 60th Annual Forsyth Invitational Golf Tournament over the weekend.



LIFE & GOLF

The following column was written by the publisher of The Chronicle Ernie Pitt. He participated in the 60th Annual Forsyth Invitational Golf Tournament over the weekend. I spoke with him on Monday morning, and he had so much to say that I thought it would be a good idea to express it in my column. He talked about life and golf, and how the two intertwine. I thought that was interesting.

The real game of golf can easily be compared to life and seen in every day encounters. I was fortunate enough to play in this year's Forsyth Invitational Golf Tournament, the longest running golf tourney in the county I think. The tourney was very well organized even though participation was down a bit from previous years.

All of the golf courses including Reynolds Park, Winston Lake and Tanglewood were in

very good shape. Fairways and greens were mostly characteristic of each course with a few exceptions. At Reynolds Park, there really isn't much to complain about. The fairways are wide and the course is not very long. At Winston Lake the greens were a little slow unlike what most regulars at the Lake are accustomed to. Tanglewood, of course, is a professional golf course...sand traps everywhere. You certainly can't role your ball onto Tanglewood's greens. And the greens were fast and deceptive. You might see a break one way only to find out that the break is completely in the opposite direction.

Golf, as I view it is a lot like life. It only takes 10 percent physical skill and ability but 90 percent mental ability. You can make up for lack of skill by managing your game and yourself during a round. For instance, if you're a bad chipper don't

FROM THE HUDDLE

Anthony Hill



See Hill on B2