

Members of the Winston-Salem Police Department and WSFD faced off in the first Peace Toys for War Toys Charity Basketball Game on Friday, Dec. 11, at Carl Russell Sr. Recreation Center.

Photos by Tevin Stinson



Ben Piggot, right, presents the Winston-Salem Police Department with a trophy following the first annual Peace Toys for War Toys Charity Basketball Game Friday, Dec. 11, at Carl Russell Sr. Recreation Center.

Toy exchange event adds basketball

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The Peace Toys for War Toys exchange has become an anticipated holiday tradition in the city.

Each year Ben Piggot and a number of volunteers work to make sure each year's event is better than the year before.

This year, the 23rd edition of the exchange has an added twist and is expected to be the biggest yet.

To gain more support for the event, on Friday, Dec. 11 the Winston-Salem Police Department (WSPD) and the Winston-Salem Fire Department (WSFD) faced off in the first Peace Toys For War Toys Charity Basketball Game.

The game was played at Carl Russell Sr. Recreation Center and admission was the donation of a new toy. A number of attendees mentioned they look forward to the event every year because with war and fighting becoming more commonplace, spreading peace and love is the right thing to do.

"Anytime you can promote peace and love I'm all for

it," said Janice Willis of Winston-Salem. "With so many toys promoting violence these days, it's good to see events like this that show the children to care for each other."

Although the basketball game was the main attraction, with a live disc jockey, refreshments, a halftime performance and dance contest, Piggot made sure the fundraiser was fun for the entire family.

"Just like the exchange, my hope is the charity game will continue to grow every year," he continued. "Both teams put on a show for the fans and that's what it's all about, coming together in a positive environment and having a good time."

The exchange was designed to give children throughout the city an opportunity to exchange toys and video games that promote violence for board games, puzzles, and other nonviolent toys and games.

Piggot started the event in 1992 at Simms Recreation Center after losing his younger brother to gun violence. Over the years, the event has grown to become much bigger than even Piggot himself could have imagined.

Since 2012, the exchange has been held at the

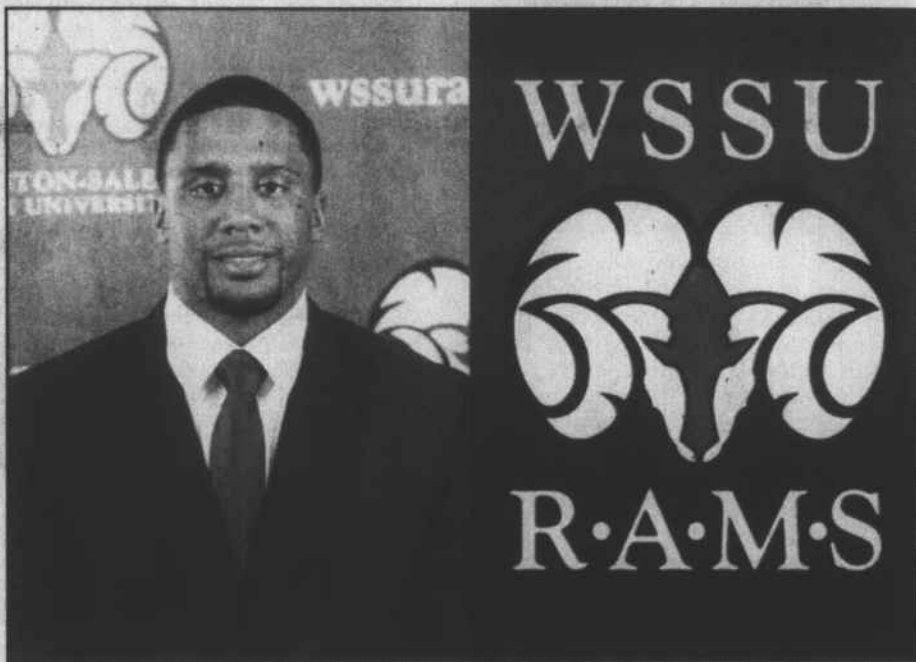
Fairgrounds Annex.

"This event has become a real holiday tradition in this area," he said. "Most importantly it has really grown over the years. In the past, we've had over 500 children participate in the event."

On Dec. 11, after defeating the WSFD by a narrow margin, the WSPD was presented with a trophy that will travel with the winner of the game each year. Although his team didn't win, WSFD coach Jerrod Hardy seemed confident in his team's chances next season.

"We had a few mental mistakes but I'm confident we will be taking the trophy with us next season." He continued, "Although we lost, any time you can give back to the community, everyone wins."

The 23rd Peace Toys for War Toys Exchange will be held Saturday, Dec. 19 from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information on the event contact Ben Piggot at (336) 727-2580 or stop by the Carl Russell Community Center located at 3521 Carver School Road.



Vaughn selected to coach in NFLPA

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The NFL Players Association announces the full coaching rosters for the 2016 NFLPA Collegiate Bowl.

The list, topped by returning head coaches Mike Holmgren and Mike Martz, is annually the most impressive coaching crew of any college all-star game.

Joining the American Team as an assistant coach is WSSU's Chip Vaughn, who will coach the safeties.

Vaughn coached at Winston-Salem State in the fall of 2015 through the NFLPA Coaching Internship Program.

"It is an honor to be selected out of so many candidates. I will use this opportunity to further my knowledge of the game by learning from two legendary coaches in Mike Holmgren and Mike Martz. Words cannot express how excited I am," said Chip Vaughn.

Martz will attempt to defend his 2015 National Team title against Holmgren's American Team on Jan. 23, 2016 at

StubHub Center on the campus of California State University Dominguez Hills. In the rematch, participating players will benefit from instruction by some of the best to ever play and coach the sport.

The NFLPA Coaching Internship is an opportunity, built in collaboration with the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA), which provides transitioning and former NFL players an in-depth, foundational coaching experience. Selected interns will be able to spend an entire season coaching on the sidelines of an NCAA Division II, Division III, or NAIA institution.

The NFLPA Coaching Internship provides transitioning and former NFL players with an opportunity to gain coaching experience. Chip Vaughn will be coaching the safeties on defense, and assisting with special teams.

Chip Vaughn is a native of Fairfax, Virginia, where he starred at Robinson Secondary School, before taking his talents to the ACC and Wake Forest University.

Vaughn had a stellar career at Wake Forest, where he finished with 257 tackles, three interceptions, 22 passes defended, one forced fumble and four fumble recoveries. In 2007 he was named All-ACC honorable mention, and topped off his senior season in 2008 with a First-team All-ACC selection, where he played in 13 games with 12 starts, registering 87 tackles, two interceptions, six passes defended and two fumble recoveries. Vaughn helped the Demon Deacons rank 12th in the nation in pass defense, allowing 172.5 yards per game.

He was drafted in the fourth round of the 2009 NFL (116th overall) by the New Orleans Saints. After an injury during a training camp practice, he spent the entire season on injured reserve, but did receive a Super Bowl XLIV ring for being on the winning team. Vaughn would go on to play two more seasons in the NFL, with stints at the Philadelphia Eagles, Indianapolis Colts and Carolina Panthers.

WSSU dedicates January for raising funds for athletes

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Each year 109,100 freshmen student-athletes begin their collegiate careers academically and athletically across 300 NCAA Division II college and universities, with only 56 percent of those student-athletes receiving some form of athletics aid. Now combine those numbers and percentages with the yearly rising cost of education and the overall increasing cost of living across the country, student-athletes are faced with the biggest road block to graduation ... FINANCIAL AID.

Despite their intellect, commitment and drive, the student-athletes of Winston-Salem State University are as just as affected by financial restraints, with private scholarships being the primary option for student-athlete prosperity. Hence the inception of the WSSU Department of Athletics' Scholarship Month during the month of January featuring our signature scholarship fundraising events: She's Got it Covered, Classy Hat Affair and Bond. Score. Win! - Raising Dollars for Scholars.

These fun-filled celebrations are designed to raise funds and awareness surrounding the needs for our student-athletes, highlight academic and athletic successes and to join together our fans and supporters of WSSU Athletics for a worthy cause.

The inaugural Bond. Score. Win! - Raising Dollars for Scholars fundraising event is dedicated to the Rams' male athletics programs. The breakfast event calls for men to join WSSU leaders for a morning of empowerment, unity, brotherhood and bonding around guest speaker WSSU Alumnus Stephen A. Smith, commentator of ESPN First Take. The event will be held Jan. 16, 2016, at the Grand Pavilion Ball Room at 9 a.m. the Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Winston-Salem.

The second annual She's Got It Covered, Classy Hat Affair brunch at the Benton Convention Center on Jan. 23, 2016, at 10 a.m. Bringing forth the keynote address will be USA Gold Medalist LaTasha Colander-Clark, who will share her empowering story of triumph over adversity and how sport was the tool which catapulted her success. The event will highlight the importance of female participation in athletics: female student-athletes learn about leadership, teamwork, and loyalty. Young female student-athletes are shown to have higher levels of confidence and self-esteem.

All proceeds from the events will go toward scholarships for the male and female student-athletes who participate in the 11 NCAA Division II sports offered at WSSU including baseball, basketball, cross country and football on the men's side and basketball, cross country, cheerleading, softball, tennis, track and volleyball on the women's side which will provide our student-athletes with scholarship support to achieve their goals both on and off the field.

Tickets for each event are \$100, with both events featuring keynote speakers, lifestyle vendors, fellowship and an opportunity to engage with our students-athletes, coaches and members of the WSSU Department of Athletics support staff. Tickets can be purchased through the WSSU Ticket Office (<https://www.expressoticketing.com/wssu/pickevent.aspx>), by mail with checks made payable to the WSSU Foundation (Memo: SGIC or BSW), Division of University Advancement, 311 Blair Hall, 601 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27199 or by phone 336-750-2141.

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