



Daquan Miller a rising senior at Carver high (green shirt) drives the basketball against Dwight Earl (white shirt) of Glen High School during a scrimmage at the center.

Basketball

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The camp is designed for kids ages 6 through 19 and open to boys and girls. According to Leak, the goal of the camp is to get the kids off of the streets and to possibly assist kids in making it to the next level. During his time at the center, Leak has coached some of the best the game has to offer, from Chris Paul of the L.A. Clippers to highly touted Duke Freshman Harry Giles. Leak's son, Antonio Robinson, also played for him and is currently playing overseas. His agent came to speak with the kids last week.

"I came out to speak to the kids last year and I was free today, so when Brian

asked me to come, I did because I like to give back to the community when I can," said James Blackburn, director of basketball at Power to Win Sports. "I just wanted to let them know it doesn't matter where you come from because if you work on your game and you're good enough, you can play professional ball."

Leak only charges \$10 for the kids to participate in the camp. The funds go to an awards banquet at the end of program, where all of the kids receive a trophy. Leak also has sponsors to help fund his program, such as Corey Simmons, Ronnie Peoples and Freddie Marshall to name a few. They all donate their time and money to help in any way they can.

The kids say they really enjoy the camp and said they would rather be at the center working on their games than out running the streets or possibly getting into trouble. Many of the youth come back year after year.

"I've been here for three years and I love being here because I get to work on my ball handling and making my shot better," said Dwight Earl, a senior at Glenn High School.

For Leak, keeping the kids out of trouble and giving them something productive to participate in is paramount to him. He said because of his upbringing, he needed help to overcome his circumstances, and he wants to do the same for the young people



The kids in the Drills and Skills camp at the Carl Russell Community Center, listen to advise from sports agent James Blackburn (white shirt, far right), Director of Basketball at Power to Win Sports.



Photos by Timothy Ramsey

Skills and Drills camp director, Brian Leak and Carl H. Russell Community Center recreation leader, Lakesha Byrd help the kids in the camp as much as possible.

in his camp.

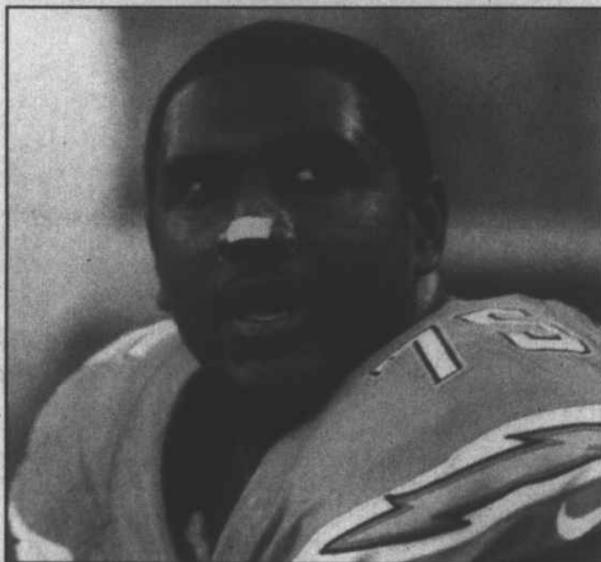
"What I love most is seeing the kids go to the next level," said Leak. Many kids do not get the

opportunity to attend college or have anyone to talk to and direct them in the right path to get into college. I lived in the projects

and my success came from people helping me get to the next level and I owe that to them."



Former Carver standout Chris Hairston (61) will hold his first annual football camp at Carver on July 15 and 16.



Submitted photos

Hairston stated he wanted to give something back to the community that raised him, which is why he decided to hold the camp at Carver High School.

Clinic

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helped organize the clinic, they decided to put it on not only for the city but to give back to the high school they attended and the area that raised them.

The organizers wanted Carver alums who have played on the collegiate level to help run the camp because they have the knowledge about the game to share and give back. They felt as though a football clinic at Carver was well overdue and thought that Chris would be the perfect

person for the task.

"I just wanted to do something back at home where we could get the Carver community and the rest of Winston-Salem out to have a good time and to learn from each other," said Hairston.

During the camp the kids will concentrate on the fundamentals of the game, such as proper techniques of stance, footwork and proper mechanics. They also want to stress the importance of proper guidance, because it develops confidence. Academics are very important to Chris, and he does not want the kids to lose sight

of excelling in the classroom as well.

The plan is to make the camp an annual event and to have the camp grow each year. The organizers want to focus on making the camp as solid as possible the first time out, then add new, creative ideas as the camp progresses.

"The major point we want the kids to take from this camp will be its not just running drills and competing; we really want to emphasize the importance of education," Church said. "Chris is an example of taking care of his books first, then taking care of business on the field. Our goal

is to make a positive difference in the lives of our youth."

Hairston said: "Don't take too much time to look at what you've done and always look to how you can build your future. The game of football is a game that can give you a lot but in order to earn it you must set your mind to it and take care of your business in the classroom."

For more information on the camp, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/first-annual-chris-hairston-football-clinic-tickets.

Basics

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pete, because today's generation has some trouble competing on a daily basis," said Brown. "Just because you miss a shot doesn't mean you become discouraged and stop playing hard. I am constantly drilling in the kids to compete, fight and to play with energy."

Brown said he feels as though the young players of today only see the finished product of the NBA players and do not realize the hard work they have had to put in to get to that level. He wants the campers to understand that once you have a solid foundation with the basics, then you can use those skills to incorporate other aspects into your game.

Shooting is the biggest deficiency that Brown notices in many of the young players today. He said with the way the NBA has transitioned to a jump shooting league, many young players want to instantly become three-point shooters without mastering a basic layup.

"What's happening is they see all of the three pointers, and they see Steph Curry and Klay Thompson and they want to be like them," Brown said. "Those guys are prolific shooters and one of the reasons why is because they put in the time."

"When you have a younger player coming up, they gravitate immediately to the three-point line. What I want to teach the kids are to learn how to make a layup first and the shots off the glass, then we can go to the three-point line."



While playing a pick up game during the camp, one player gets his shot blocked attempting to make a layup.



Photos by Timothy Ramsey

Shooting was one of the major components of the camp that WSSU Asst. Coach Andrew Brown wanted to focus on during the camp.

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