

Tennis club gives free lessons to local adults

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

A series of free adult beginner tennis lessons, "Beginners' Bash," is being offered by Winston-Salem Tennis Inc. (WSTI) as part of its efforts to widen the base of people enjoying the game in the city and surrounding area.

The free program allows any individual over the age of 18 to participate in the free tennis instruction. Participants completing at least one session also are qualified to have their first round of local recreational league play covered by WSTI. "Winston-Salem Tennis is so very excited to offer this program in partnership with NC Tennis. It means a lot to us to be able to introduce people in our community to tennis and to provide professional instruction at no cost," says

Robin Ervin, president of WSTI. "We are thankful to everyone at NC Tennis for giving us this opportunity for our community." The next session of the Beginners' Bash begins Saturday, Sept. 10. Sessions are held every Saturday for six weeks from 9:30-11 a.m. Register at tennisliss@triad.rr.com.

Ervin says there are no specific requirements or qualifications to participate in the program which is being held at Hanes Park tennis center and taught by local teaching pro John Worsley. Worsley took up the sport of tennis at a young age, but began to take it seriously during his second year at Winston-Salem State University. He says he became engrossed in the sport after meeting long-time Wake Forest tennis coach Jim Leighten. He

credits the legendary David Lash for his love of community tennis. "I didn't play my first year because I wanted to be a regular student. But like all young people that play sports, I wanted to be a pro athlete," he says, letting out a quick chuckle. "I had Joe Willie Namath on my wall and I thought I could be Arthur Ashe but was really no where close. But I just loved tennis."

"The only requirement is that you want to give tennis a try. If you need a racket, we have one for you. If you are a little nervous about coming alone, bring a friend," said Ervin. "We just want to remove all the barriers anyone interested may have to participating in a sport that you can play at any level for a lifetime." Brenda Livingston, a member of



Local teaching pro John Worsley, right, trains a Tennis for Life participant.

the first group of participants, confesses to being a bit skeptical at first, but says any reservations she had quickly evaporated as soon as the program started. "I was a little nervous at first because I had no real previous experience and I didn't know if I would be the only one like that," she says. "But as soon as I got there I found that everyone was just like me and want-

ing to learn tennis and the people involved in the program were so willing to teach me and help me. It has been an awesome experience. I have gained skills and it has helped me keep physically active and I have improved my tennis. I am seriously looking forward to the next sessions." "We are so excited about the opportunities to partner in community tennis. John

just gets it. He understands what it means to be able to introduce people to tennis," says Ervin.

"He has been so active with Winston-Salem Tennis' Young Folks Tennis for decades. We appreciate and congratulate him or what he is doing and we certainly look forward to having him as a partner," Robin Barksdale Ervin contributed to this report.

Forsyth Blind Bowlers win big in national contest

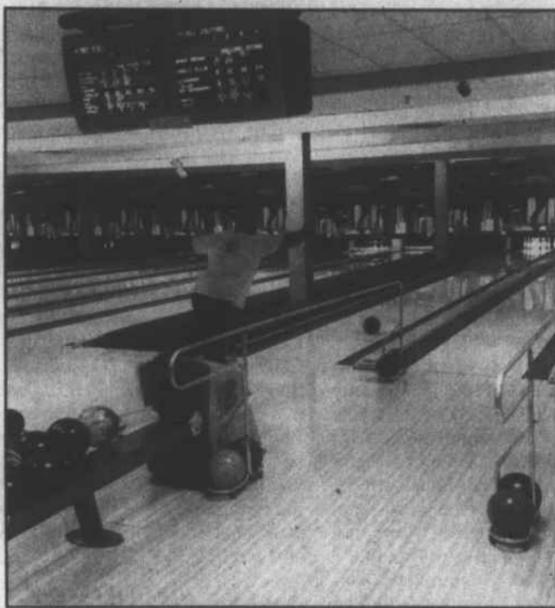


Photo provided

Mike McBee of Forsyth Blind Bowlers at national awards in Tampa, Fla.

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The Forsyth Blind Bowlers (FBB) won several awards in the American Blind Bowling Association National Tournament in Tampa, Fla. FBB bowls on Saturdays at Creekside Lanes in Winston-Salem at 10 a.m. The bowling season starts Sept. 10.

There were over 260 individuals from across the country that competed in this year's national tournament, which was held May 26-29. Bowlers in this tournament are placed in three categories based on their vision: Total, Partial, or Sighted. The group had winners in every event.

Team event winners:

2nd place Strike Force: Tanya Wilson, Mike McBee, Scott Searcy, and Patrick Milwaukee

4th place Kings & Queens: Tani Wilson, Roderick Wilson, Valarie Westmoreland and Jerry Mintz

Masters Team Event Sighted Category: 2nd place: Renee Brown, Mary Townsend, Jerry Mintz, Brent Penn

Double event winners:

2nd place: Tanya Wilson and Mike McBee

5th place: Valarie Westmoreland and Scott Searcy

Individual event winners:

Total category: 6th place Shaun Cabell

Partial category: 3rd place Valarie Westmoreland

8th place Tanya Wilson

All events Total category:

7th place Shaun Cabell and Sandy Gaddy

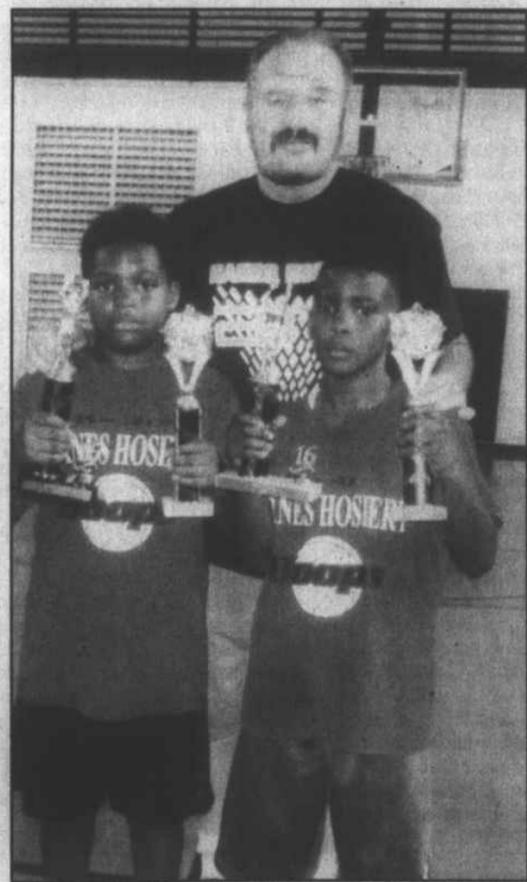
All events Partial category:

3rd place Mike McBee

Gold Medal winner

All Events Scratch: Mike McBee

Many of the bowlers received a grant from Challenged Athletes Foundation to help cover the expense for attending National Competitions. For more information, visit www.challengedathletes.org



The Most Valuable Players of the 6- to 10-year-old Summer League were Isaiah Rogers, left, and Yazir Wilson.



Submitted photos

The 2016 Hanes Hosiery 6- to 10-year-old Summer League Champions Wolfpack pose for photo.

Hanes Hosiery 6-10-year-old Summer League

BY ADONIAH MCPHERSON SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Multi-talented point guard Isaiah Rogers set the tone with his leadership and play. Sharp-Shooting teammates Yazir Wilson and Ian Coleman led the scoring as the top-ranked Wolfpack defeated the Tarheels 21-14 to win the Hanes Hosiery 6- to 10-year-old Summer League

Championship Game. Rogers, who was last year's Most Valuable Player, took home the trophy yet again and shared his MVP honors with Yazir Wilson.

Coleman, Wilson and Rogers were on the Hanes Hosiery All-Tournament team. Joining them were Tarheels' MVPs Cameron Kelly and Immanuel Sugat. Kelly, Sugat and Jaquez Dennis led the Tarheels in scor-

ing.

Hanes Hosiery director, Coach Art Blevins, was again very pleased with this summer's turnout, which featured 10 teams and 121 players. Registration for the Hanes Hosiery Winter League will begin in November and practice starts after Thanksgiving.

For more details call Art Blevins at 336-727-2428.

Local football player named 17th in the nation

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Local athlete K.J. Henry has recently been named 17th in the nation by ESPN top 20 list of high school football overall positions for the class of 2018. Henry, 6'6 225-pound, junior at West Forsyth High School starts his school year

with many highlights. Not only has ESPN listed him, but Rival.com has listed him at #2 in the nation for his position, Defensive End and #1 in this position in the state of NC. With no decision in sight, right now Henry has well over 25 D1 college football scholarship

offers from schools like Ohio State, Clemson, Alabama, UNC, Michigan, Notre Dame and Wisconsin just to name a few. Even though Henry played most of the summer on NBA Chris Paul's basketball team, he did make time to attend invitational football

camps like the NFL Prep Academy in Canton, OH and Rivals.com underclassmen camp in Atlanta, GA. Henry is high in his academics, a Crosby Scholar, volunteers many hours in his community and is a member at Union Baptist Church.



Henry