

Jerrell Fields closes out collegiate golf career, with hopes to go pro or join WSSU staff

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REPORTER

There are those who play a sport, and then there are those who embody the sport that they play. Jerrell Fields, a senior on Winston-Salem State's golf team, embodies the game that he so passionately plays.

Fields, a Philadelphia native, has been playing golf since he was eight years old. His father, Michael Fields, always encouraged his son to participate in all forms of athletic competition. When the Fields family moved from Philadelphia to Charlotte, they were turned on to golf, a game that Michael said was a "rich man's sport" in their hometown.

Charlotte was a different story.

It gave the Fields an opportunity to explore a sport that would give the father-and-son duo a level playing field when competing against each other.

"I wanted to find something for us to do together, something that I wouldn't over-

power him in but still be competitive," Michael said.

The moment Jerrell grasped the golf clubs, it was evident that he had something special. So special in fact, that his talent on the greens landed him a scholarship with the Winston-Salem State golf team. Jerrell recalls how his first encounter with former WSSU golf coach, Lester Carpenter, left a favorable impression with the University.

"Me and my dad played in a summer golf tournament as something to do," Jerrell said.

"I played in a summer tournament... and they ended up pairing me with the golf coach for Winston-Salem State. I beat him by like 12, or maybe 15 strokes. By the end of the tournament he offered me a scholarship."

Despite the team's valleys and peaks, Jerrell has continued

to post solid numbers, including a 2008-2009 record of 1,273

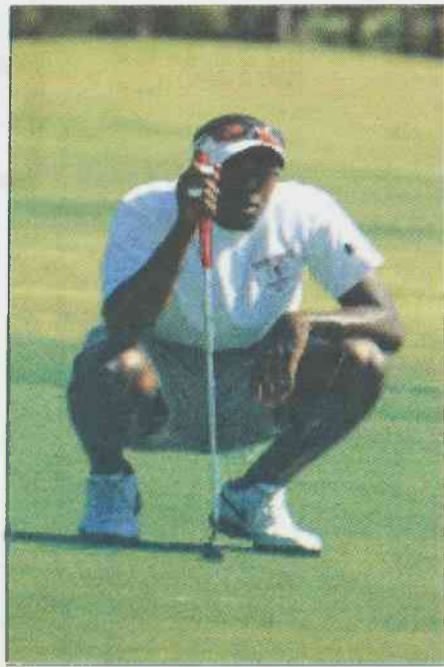


Photo courtesy of Jerrell Fields

Jerrell Fields squats down to read a pressure putt during the Port St. Lucie 2nd round.

total strokes. He appeared in eight events for the Rams and

turned in a low round of 69. His scoring average for his junior year was 79.6, or eight over par.

Not only is Jerrell known for his talents on the green, he is also known for being a leader.

He was selected to be the captain of the team in his sophomore year; however, due to conflicting schedules between tournaments and personal obligations, Jerrell's position was given to a fellow teammate.

But that has not stopped him from doing what he does best.

Many of his teammates still consider him to be the captain of the team.

Michael Asbury, a junior majoring in sports management from Winston-Salem, lauds Fields' assistance on helping him with his game.

"Jerrell Fields is a great teammate and a leader," Asbury said.

"I can come to him for any-

thing."

From swing improvement to adjusting to college life, Jerrell has a natural ability to lead his teammates by setting a superior example both athletically and through his personal conduct.

Jerrell will not participate in the team's final tournament of the season May 6-9 because of graduation obligations.

Once he graduates, Jerrell says he plans to work the amateur circuit for a year, if that works he will consider going pro.

Jerrell also produced a documentary "The Infinite Sacrifice" about his athletic career and the WSSU golf team.

He hopes that the concerns raised in the film will land him a job within the University's coaching staff.

Jerrell is accepting \$2 donations for the DVD.

"I want to use this documentary as like a [resume]," Jerrell said.

WSSU student-athletes honored for athletics, academics

The Winston-Salem State Department of Athletics held its annual Athletics Awards Celebration April 19 at the Whitaker Outdoor Recreation Courts.

The Rams and Lady Rams were recognized for achievements on the field, in the classroom, and in the community.

The highlight of the event saw WSSU senior high jumper Jessica Peaks and junior forward Paul Davis take home the Mary Garber WSSU Student-Athletes of the Year Awards.

Emceed by Brandon "Kahlorado" Wainwright, the event saw the WSSU student-athletes from the 16 athletics teams honored for their efforts in making the 2009-10 athletic

year a successful one.

More than 200 WSSU student-athletes attended the event along with a crowd of family and friends.

Also honored were the more than 30 WSSU Academic All-Stars, the WSSU student-athletes with 3.0 cumulative GPAs. The WSSU Academic Team Award was awarded to the Men's Cross Country team for having the highest team GPA.

The Lady Rams softball team took home the WSSU Team Community Service award for earning more than 300 community service hours during the year.

It was the second straight year for the Lady Rams.

WSSU Student-Athlete Individual Award Winners

Softball

Most Improved Player	Tiffany Burgess
Hustle Award	Bonika Terry
Rookie of the Year	Britney Cato
Most Outstanding Player	Brittany Lane

Golf

Most Valuable Golfer	Devin Cherry
Most Improved Golfer	Kevin Veach
Coach's Choice Award	Deandre Stinson

Women's Tennis

Leadership Award	Sloane Holmes
Player's Award	Kayla Carter
Coach's Award	Kalin Jarvis

Men's Tennis

Leadership Award	Brian Coxton
Player's Award	Ian Hunter
Coach's Award	Antentor Hinton

Volleyball

Most Improved Player	Ashley Harris
Hustle Award	Georgette Allen
Rookie of the Year	TraShanna Sanchez
Most Outstanding Player	Annika Barnwell

Football

Most Valuable Offensive Player	Jarrett Dunston
Most Valuable Defensive Player	Marcus Coates
Hustle Award	Jonathan Setzer
Most Improved Player	Wayne Noble, Jr.
Rookie Award	Jonathan Crawley

Women's Track & Field

Most Valuable Runner	Jessica Peaks
Iron Woman	Ashley Lawson
Braveheart Award	Denesha Jiles
Sportsmanship Award	Manuela Rigaud

Men's Track & Field

Co-Most Valuable Runner	Paul Williams
Co-Most Valuable Runner	Andrew Chebii
Sportsmanship Award	Davril Massey

Women's Cross Country

Most Valuable Runner	Tyrah Winfrey
Iron Woman Award	Manuela Rigaud
Braveheart Award	Ashley Lawson

Men's Cross Country

Most Valuable Runner	Andrew Chebii
Iron Man Award	Aaron Barnes
Braveheart Award	Davril Massey

Men's Basketball

Most Outstanding Offen. Player	Paul Davis
Most Improved Player	Corey Morris
Ram Award	McIntoché Alcious
Highest GPA	Sam Johnson

Spirit Award

Brittany Lowery

Hustle Award

Bailey Miles

Most Valuable Cheerleader

Regan Hales

Chancellor's Cup

Maximillian Glodde Men's Tennis

Mary Garber WSSU Female Student-Athlete of the Year

Jessica Peaks Track & Field

Mary Garber WSSU Male Student-Athlete of the Year

Paul Davis Men's Basketball

WSSU Team Awards

Team Community Service Award
Softball Team

Academic Team Award

Men's Cross Country Team

For the complete list of award winners visit www.wssurams.com

Source: WSSU Athletics News