

Despite heat, tourney goes on

BY LAURIE HUFFORD
Staff Writer

It was the 18th time that Mark Noneman, Kermit Nixon, and Jimmy Byrum participated in the annual Colonial Invitational Tennis Tournament, held recently in Edenton. According to Noneman, they are the original "diehards", who have played in every one of these Tournaments. Eighty of the 87 people who signed up for this year's event, also showed up to play. Considering the heat, and other factors (e.g., school's early start this year), the turnout, and the results, were good. "Considering the hot weather," says Mark Noneman, Tournament Director, "it went well. ... We still got almost all the matches in during the three-day weekend, right up to the rain on Sunday." (A make-up match was played Wednesday night.)

"We had folks from all over the area ... (and) a lot of folks from Edenton," says Noneman. Usually, 112-125 people play in the Tournament, but Noneman credits the heat with the smaller draw.

"The quality of the tennis was still good," he says. "The quantity might not have been like in the past years. I'm hoping for the quantity to pick back up. But the quality was still there."

The Tournament, held at about the same time each year, was started by Noneman and Dr. Alan Hornthal (a former Edenton Dentist), as a doubles tournament, with about 20 people participating in it. After a few years, the event expanded to include singles matches, and then it grew to its

present size.

"It's gone from basically three doubles to about 16 different categories," explained Noneman, "so it's really grown and expanded."

The youngest players this year were 9-year-old boys in the 12 & Under Boys' Singles category. Three 11-year-old girls played each other in the girls' 12 & Under Singles, and in the 35 & Over Doubles category, there was a 73-year-old male, with a partner in his late 60s.

"We had ages 9 to 70's out there playing in the heat!" says Noneman.

It was care and good planning that averted major heat-related problems, although there were some games forfeited because of the heat. Plenty of fluids were on hand, as well as cold cloths, and there was ready access to the Recreation Department, where there were fans and air conditioners. Normally, there are only

short breaks in tennis, but these were extended during the heat of the Tournament. On part of Saturday, there was even a "mist tent" rented from two Raleigh businessmen. In addition, consideration to age and heat was given in scheduling the matches. Older participants were scheduled in the early morning or after 5 p.m. Some contestants were sent out to the Country Club, where courts are on the Sound or in some shade.

"Usually, it's not this hot!" says Noneman. "The players that did tough it out had a good time though, and look forward to next year. It's usually one of the bigger and better tournaments in the area."

Results: 12 & Under Boys Singles: Michael Potocki (Edenton) defeated James Harrell (Edenton); 12 & Under Girls Singles: Brittany Hignite (Ahoskie) defeated Morgan

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FIRST TO TAKE NEW TROLLEY TOUR

Betsy Hunt and Ginny Culpepper of Edenton (at left and center) join Bill and Ann Kitchens of Richmond, VA for the very first run of the new "combination" trolley tour being offered by the Historic Edenton Visitor Center during August. The new tour combines the walking tour's access to the inside of some of the historic buildings with the trolley's air-conditioned coolness and ease of transport. The trolley runs Tuesday through Saturday; only walking tours are available on Sundays and Mondays. Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen were in town as the "designated babysitters" for their grandchildren while son Bill and his wife Nancy sailed in the Thistle Regatta. Shown accompanying the group are driver Joseph Phelps and Deborah Sliva of the Visitor Center who acted as guide for the two-hour tour. (Staff photo by Laurie Hufford)

COA will offer puppy obedience class

College of the Albemarle's Continuing Education Division will offer "Puppy Obedience Training for Beginners" will be held in September at the Elizabeth City campus.

The class will meet on Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m., Sept. 8 through Oct. 20.

The class will meet the first night in room C-150. Do not bring your dog the first night

of class.

Students must be 18 years of age. Owner of dog must show shot record, and must have a collar and leash for each animal.

Students may register the first night of class. A social security number is required to register. The cost of this class is \$35.

For more information, con-

tact the Continuing Education Division at 335-0821, ext. 2250.

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