

On Wednesday night of this week the Fifth Annual Winston-Salem Invitational Baseball Tournament began at Carver High School.

Fourteen semi-pro teams from North Carolina and Virginia began play in the event. Some say semi-pro baseball is a dying sport in the nation but none would ever know it by looking on the softball field where the two teams square off as if it were the final game of the World Series and to the players and loyal semi-pro fans it is.

The players are named Rice, Petree, Speas, and Greene instead of Bench, Morgan, Jackson and Munson but the game is the same. The good fastball is still the best weapon a pitcher can possess and speed still is the most valuable asset.

The players come from different backgrounds and neighborhoods but one thing ties them together as a team, the will to win, to be the best, if not the best in the country then just the best in this tournament.

To the young players it's a chance to learn from the old vets. To the college players it's a chance to stay sharp and possibly improve their chances at the big leagues. And finally to players like Marvin Shaw, Ken Valentine, Eddie Adams, and Leroy Galloway who have already had their chances at a major league career it's a chance to again excell at a sport that demands a number of athletic qualities. As Curt Gibson so apply put it in a recent interview. "It's not the major leagues but its competitive." Yes the competition is fierce. None of the players stand to make money from their endeavors but they stand to gain something much more valuable to them than money.

Nelson Petree, manager of the Pond Giants and known as the Godfather of baseball in Winston-Salem described it this way. I love baseball, and I guess I always will. There's something about going up to the plate with a bat and hitting a baseball that is travelling at over 90 miles per hour and moving in a different direction each time it is thrown that can't be explained. There's a sense of satisfaction there that just can't be derived from hitting a much bigger ball that it tossed high in the air to you. Anyone can play softball from age 10 to 70 but it takes skill, speed, quickness and a number of other qualities to play baseball and play it well."

But semi-pro baseball is more than just player against player its a combination of things. Take Roy Carter, manager of the Mt. Airy Yankees and Albert Dalton, skipper of the Walnut Cove Tigers. The two have been friends for years and played baseball together and against each other in their semi-pro playing days. The two are never friends now when they talk about their baseball teams. "I'd rather beat Albert than to eat when I'm hungry," said Carter before the WSBL tournament earlier this month. "You had better eat hardy before you come out to play us Sunday then," replied Dalton. "I'd hate to see you hungry and whipped too I like you too good for that.'

It's also a game of more than exercise for the younger players. After the Indians captured the WSBL title Lynn Bitting had this to say. "You know I have been wanting to beat the Pond Giants ever since I can remember. When I first started playing they used to beat us by scores of 15-1, 20-3, and things like that. When they had Birmingham Sam (who now plays for the Indianapolis Clowns and starred in the movie Bingo Long) he would scream out to right field for me to build a campfire on those long nights when they would score 7 or 8 runs in one inning. But now those days are gone, the Indians are on top now and I'm glad I can remember those days it makes me appreciate today much more.'

If this article sounds corny to you well maybe it is but the guys who play semi-pro baseball aren't corny, they're just competitors who love baseball.



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## **Patterson Y Football League Prepares For Second Season**

Milbrook.

**By Robert Eller** Sports Editor

The Patterson Avenue include some 200 boys Army Reserve gave phys-YMCA football league was kicked off Saturday icals on the same day. opened practice last week August 20 with a football in preparation for their clinic. The clinic held at second season of operation.

The league will again operate with eight teams. Four 9 and 10 year old the institution. teams and four 11 and 12 year-old squads will tor of the program, was bowl to be played at played at played. The players "The staff at WSSU did will come from Happy Hill, Blum Park, Kimberly Park-North Hills, and

The staff at WSSU did The bowl will feature an outstanding job with players from each team in

the clinic. I learned quite a the league against a group bit myself and I know the from Richmond, Va.

**<u>Carolina Street Scene</u>** 

### **Downtown Set For Annual Festival**

jazz, blues and country other area artists and arts music were announced as agencies.

featured performers for

The musical highlights streets of downtown and the Mose Allison Trio. Winston-Salem Saturday Each of the groups will and Sunday, September give two performances 10 and 11. "Carolina both days of the festival. Carolinas, cultural herit- dinner for community nation's finest."

Nationally acclaimed age, in cooperation with officials and media repre-stars from the worlds of The Arts Council and sentatives.

bemefited from it."

The second season for

Daniel F. McKeithan, the second annual "Caro- announced for the two day Jr., chairman of the board lina Street Scene," a free event include jazz flutist of Schlitz, emphasized the festival of music, dance, Herbie Mann and his need to "bring life back theater, arts and crafts Family of Mann, Eddie into our cities' downwhich will be held on the Harris and his quartet, towns. We see the joy that mandatory that each team an occasion such as member plays in every Carolina Street Scene can game again this year." bring to people, and believe this is proof that Street Scene" is being The headliners were our cities can survive, and presented by the Jos. announced at the Brown succeed. We are extreme-Schlitz Brewing Company Bottle hospitality center of ly plased that last year's as a salute to North the Schlitz plant here, at a festival ranked among the

Dunlap says the league than last. "The players and coaches now have a year of experience and this should make for a stronger league. Still

ber one priority it will be Dunlap stated that

there are plans to expand the league in the future knowledgeable about foobut that an immediate tball to help there are so goal is to get more parents many things involved. For involved. "We are at- example we need ladies to

tempting to orgainize help with the cheerleading Booster clubs and anyone who is interested in the welfare of the children in be played on Saturday's at East Winston is invited to join," Dunlap continued.

Learning how to block: Football season is here again, and these youngsters are

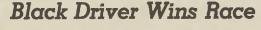
receiving instructions from 'the big guys' on how to tackle the sport.

The league Director participation is the num- also re-enterated the need for volunteers to help with the program. "We need people to help with transportation, concessions, and coaches. One doesn't have to be

squads. The league games will

Winston Salem State University beginning at 9:00

Even well-fed dogs can need vitamins 🗭 Serceant's



#### By Robert Eller **Sports Editor**

plenty.

Open Nationals at rock-ingham, N.C. In the Back in 1970 James process they defeated the Samuels had just returned IHRA world record holder from Jersey City, New Robert Hughes. Jersey when a friend "That commo "That comment really

asked him to accompany got me interested in him to a street race he had cars," says Samuels entered. As they roared looking back over the along the friend began to years." The next week I tell James about the high enrolled in an auto-mechperformance extra's his anics class at Forsyth street racer was equipped Tech. The first car I to run many IHRA events with. Samuels knew very brought for racing was a as possible, and will try little about race cars at 1970 Road-Runner 440 for the IHRA point that time and began to ask six-pack. During that time championship. questions. "You need to it was the age of super lean something about cars. You could buy a cars," the friend said. Chevelle, GTO, Ford

Cobra or Super Bee Seven years and a ton of straight from the factory mechanics grease later that was ready to run. We Samuels and his partner would street race and also Van Lyles have learned run the drag strip."

Sameuels first competi-On Saturday August 20 their Super-Stock Class Camaro which he and a ideas. friend Robert Pettiford E Camaro won that class bought in 1975. "We of the International Hot rod Assoc. Winston U.S. Winston who street raced a reputation.

with it and did pretty good on the strip too", he remembers. The two owners agree

that the win is the biggest thrill that they have ever had in racing.

They will run their 450 horsepower machine at Farmington regularly and in ATCO, New Jersey September 16.

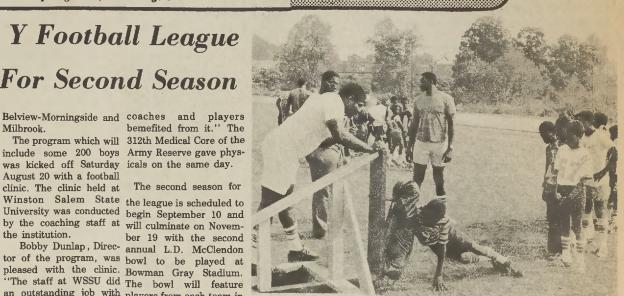
Next season they plan

The powerful quartermile machine of Lyles and Samuels doesn't have a name vet. "We're all set to have the car lettered when we decide on a name, 'New Kid In Town' and 'Pavement Pusher' have been suggested but tion car was a 1967 we're still listening to

The Drag machine may yet lack a name but after outran everybody in Saturday its already built

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Sports

**Gregory** Siler

Larritha McConnell

## NCCU Alumni Awards Scholarship

By Carolyn M. Neal in Biology. Special to the Chronicle

Miss McConnell is the daughter of Mrs. Maggier The Winston-Salem Chapter of the North Graham.A graduate of Carolina Central Univer- North Forsyth Senior High sity Alumni Association School, Miss McConnell recently awarded scholar- was a contestant in the ships to Gregory Donnell Miss Black America of Siler and Larnitha Davette North Carolina Pageant. McConnell. Both Siler At NCCU she plans to and Miss McConnell major in Special Education. received \$500.00 each.

Siler and Miss McConnell will enter NCCU this larships is an annual fall as freshman. Siler is the son of Mr. project of the Winston-sa-

and Mrs. William Jacklem chapter. The scholarson. He is a graduate of ships are renewable each West Forsyth Senior High year. Bernell Jones is School and plans to major alumni president.

The awarding of scho-

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