

BASEBALL

Carver team jells in time to challenge for third-place conference finish. **below**

**HALL OF FAME**

Several former local athletes will be inducted into the city/county hall of fame May 20. **page 18**

**BASKETBALL**

The Senior Boys team took the NCAAU title at Carver High School in an epic battle against North Carolina Select. **below**



SPORTSWEEK

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1994 Page 15

Winston Lake AAU Team Has That Winning Touch

▲ *19-under AAU squad out shoots N.C. Select at Carver High gym to win state title*

During the past weekend Winston Lake YMCA AAU accomplished something not done in its previous 12 years of existence.

The Senior Boys team took the NCAAU title at Carver High School in an epic battle against North Carolina Select. The winning of the tournament marked the second title for the Winston Lake AAU organization this year.

The Boys' 15 & under team won its title in last April.

The drama of the game centered on the composition of both teams. The teams featured local area high school stars, in a game that made the state title secondary to the bragging rights of the Triad.

Winston Lake was led by Dameon Foster, Josh Pittman, Darrell Johnson and Anthony Caldwell.

North Carolina Select was led by Josh Hennighan, Jerome Mitchell and Larry Williams.

All of these players have connected with the YMCA in one way **Please WINSTON page 17**

Winston Lake Lady Lakers Are Coming on Strong

The Winston Lake AAU Lady Lakers made a much stronger showing in this year's Girl's AAU competition.

This is the second year for the lady lakers, yet great strides appear to be on the way for this arm of the successful Winston Lake organization.

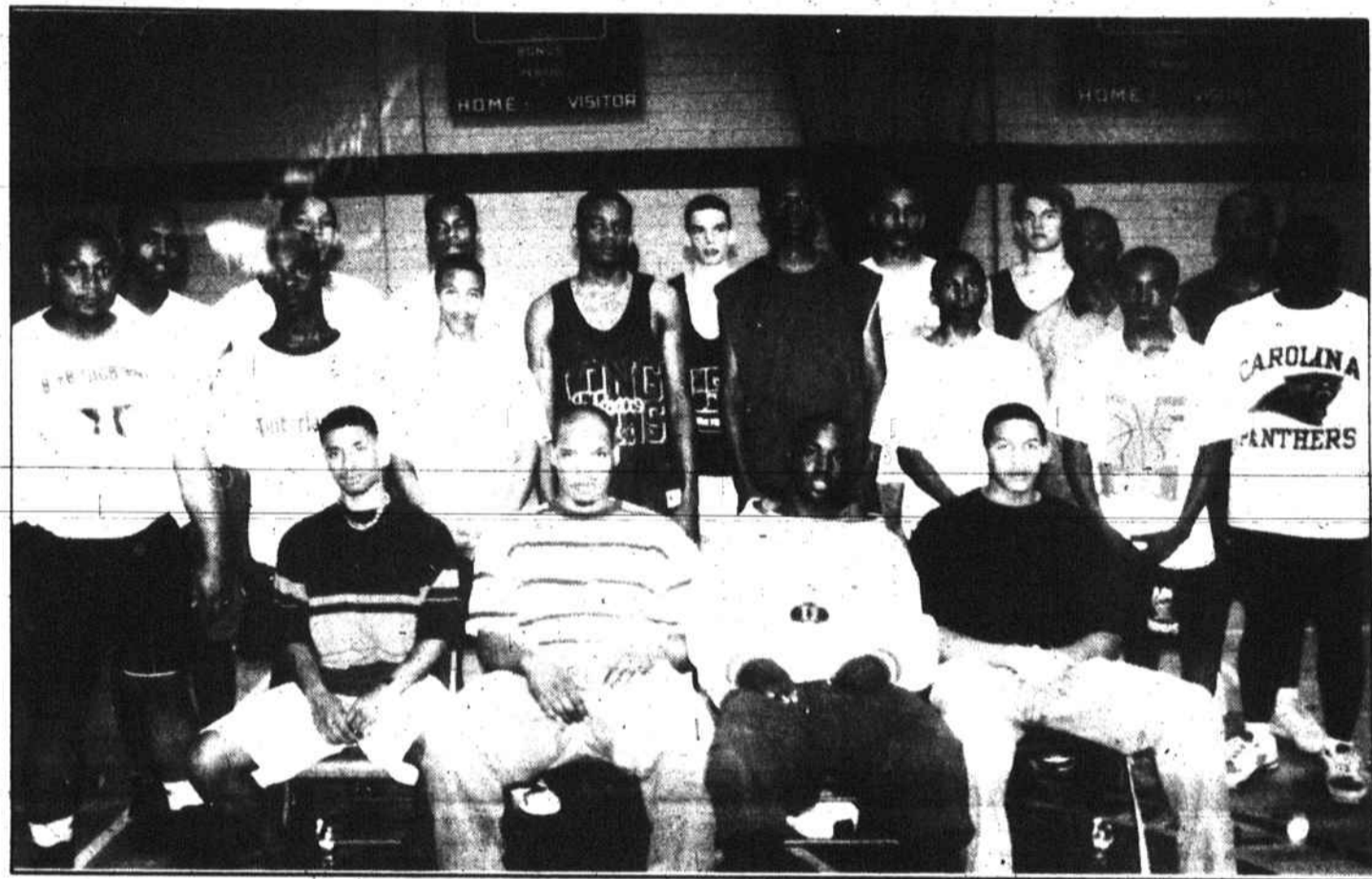
Although, the 15 and under and the 18 and under girls were no as strong this year, many of the players for those teams did distinguish themselves individually during tournament play.

The 16 and under team faced its most difficult challenge in the first round having to play

the previous state champions - The Greensboro Emeralds. Although smaller and with less experience the Lady Lakers provided excitement and competitiveness this year and expect to be a force in next year's competition.

Yet, it was the team play of the 14 and under team that distinguished itself and provides a very find building block for increasing the growth of the lady laker's organization.

This group made it to the final eight in their region and provide a glimpse of things to come from the Winston Lake organization.



Winston Lake 19-under AAU team

After Painfully Slow Start, Carver Ends Season on High Note

▲ *Although injuries led to early losses, team hopes to claim third place in conference*

BY MICHAEL JOHNSON
Chronicle Sports Writer

Greg Starbuck looked into his dugout and shook his head.

His team had only 10 players on the roster and were facing North Piedmont powerhouse Glenn. Surely, his undermanned squad would unite and find a way to defeat the nationally ranked Bobcats.

Glenn won easily, 13-0. "We knew we would have some problems coming out early in the year, and I don't think we would have started out so badly if we played against another team," said Starbuck, whose team lost five of its first six games but are now battling for third place in the conference race despite losing to Parkland 23-2 last Thursday. "But playing teams like Glenn early in the year had a lot to do with our confidence."

Slow starts — and even slower finishes — have become the norm for Starbuck and his Yellow Jackets squad. Since baseball began at Carver as a varsity sport in 1984, the school has only had one winning season — an 11-10 mark two years ago. Since coming over from Glenn in 1991, Starbuck has experienced the growing pains of building a respectable program.

"It's hard to establish a winning program, especially when most of the attitude of the players here were negative, especially the players who were seniors" when he arrived, Starbuck said. "Now, the players

here have confidence in themselves and play hard every game."

Despite the Parkland loss, Carver had won nine of its last 14 games to stand at 9-10 overall. More importantly, Carver is battling Trinity and Glenn for a third-place seeding in the conference tournament May 16-20. For the players, nothing would be more ironic for them to win the championship and advance to the state playoffs.

"When teams in the area think about Carver, they think they have an easy win, but we've been playing well all year," said first baseman/center fielder Steven Hill, one of four seniors who were freshmen when Starbuck arrived. "It was just a matter of everybody coming back."

Of the 14 players on the roster, all but the four seniors play another varsity sport. Because of the overlapping of basketball, track and wrestling, most of Carver's players were not in sync with each other until the latter half of the season. Even when the entire team is available, they must contend with a lack of depth during the conference portion of the year.

"We're not blessed with a lot of talent and depth," Starbuck said.

Every player on the team plays at least two positions, and depending on the pitcher, will be assigned to a new position every game. And with second baseman Brandon Miller missing several games because of a car wreck and Dwayne Bankhead, the

team's only reserve, out with a turned knee. Carver's already-thin roster has been stretched even more.

"Basically, we're like a jigsaw puzzle, putting one player here, another there," senior Lamont Hairston said. "It's hard when you don't have everybody here, but when you get hurt, it puts even more pressure on the team to play well."

Starbuck believes most of Carver's struggles come from the lack of emphasis on the sport. Only one player, senior Reggie Wells, plays American Legion baseball in the summer. And while he lauds local little league programs for their efforts, Starbuck believes baseball takes a backseat in youth participation to basketball and football.

"Most teams, like Glenn and North (Forsyth), have players who only play one sport, so that's the sport they're best in," he said. "But most of our players play other sports. So we've been trying to get our players to realize how important it is to play, and to play together as a team, we have to play more than we do now."

Because of their unfamiliarity, the Yellow Jackets commit mistakes typical of a young team. In a game 9-7 win over Mount Tabor recently, Carver gave up five runs in three innings despite only allowing two hits. The reason: Carver allowed eight walks and made three errors.

"It's just a matter of chemistry," **See SLOW START Page 18**



Steven Hill, Carver

**ENTERTAINMENT**

ArtsReach concluded its series this week on poems written by participants in The Arts Council's Young Black Writers program. **page 23**

**RELIGION**

Deacon Charles Paul Sr. will be the Men's Day speaker at Dreamland Park Baptist Church on Sunday, May 15 at 11 a.m. **page 20**

**BUSINESS**

Mr. C's Ice Cream Shop, owned by Clarence Miller, was formerly an auto-parts store, but Miller acquired Bates and decided to start a new venture. **page 19**