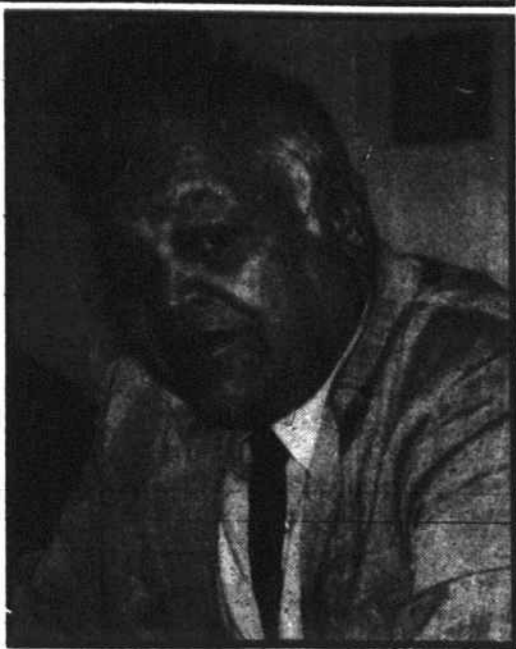


GOLF

Saturday's fifth annual Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines Spring Classic was stacked with goodies. below



TENNIS

Mike Jones and Debra Foster-Smith teamed in the fifth annual Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines mixed-doubles championship. below



BASKETBALL

Magic Johnson wants to buy the Minnesota Timberwolves basketball team with a group that includes singers Prince and Janet Jackson. below



SPORTSWEEK

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WSSU Can Not Afford To Have a Golf Program

Has anyone heard the definition of a critic? A critic is an observer who hides in the mountains during battle then rushes down to bayonet the wounded.

Well, imagine what comes next.

The fifth annual Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines Spring Classic proved to be a monumental success.

The golf tournament registered 73 participants at \$99 a pop. The tennis tournament received 28 entries (14 mixed-doubles team). Tim Grant, ex-assistant Winston-Salem State University basketball coach, encouraged his sport's management class to serve as volunteers. It did serve and, did a wonderful job.

The tournament also elected substantial sponsorship and a plethora of contributions. Premature figures estimate that the one-day tennis and golf extravaganza far exceeded \$18,000, most of which coming from the golfers and sponsors.

"Big Shots," such as Dan Rath, Al Roseboro, Billy Packer and Ben Ruffin graced us with their presence. WQMG 97-FM broadcasted several live spots from Winston Lake Golf Course.

For the span of five-and-a-half hours, the average

GUEST COLUMNIST

BY SAMUEL G. PURYEAR

amount of time it took the golfers to complete their 18-hole rounds, the staunchest of WSSU supporters would believe that this successful excursion would definitely place the athletic department in the black.

Maybe or maybe not, but after examining some of the athletic departments history, I conceded that a conspiracy is in the works.

This conspiracy attacks the core of predominately African-American colleges and universities.

Among the conspirators are the chancellors, state governments, athletic departments and many inside the current African-American system.

Please sit down. What I am about to tell you is shocking. The golf and tennis tournaments put on by the Winston-Salem Foundation serves as the crux of their money-making and fund-raising efforts.

Ironically, WSSU doesn't even have a golf team and only has a tennis team on paper.

Do they equate? No!

In these politically correct times, golf has the incorrect image. It is believed to be played only by affluent, overweight, Caucasian, chain-smoking people who are bored and have a lot of money to spend. This is not true.

In fact, if history is used as a barometer, building a championship golf team at WSSU can easily become a reality.

Golf is as much as part of WSSU tradition as the football and basketball programs. During a four-year span, from 1961-1965, WSSU captured two CIAA major black college titles.

Samuel G. Puryear Sr., for instance, won the CIAA title in 1963-1964 and lost in a play-off for the 1964-1965 title to teammates Oxdel McKnight. The team had style, charisma and more conference championships than the football team. Other team members Herbert Warren (Mohammed Herb), Earl Puryear, Bernard Bell, George McClinton, Richard "Jelly" Hansberry and Nelson Guthrie helped establish "tradition."

But apparently no one seems to care.

I've posed this often perplexing question to the current

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Gaines Classic Offers Sweet Rewards

▲ Winners prize includes a stay at a hotel and round-trip airline tickets

By Samuel G. Puryear
Special to the Chronicle

Tournament golf has taken on a systematic approach. Whether it's a 15-handicapper playing \$10 nassaus or a professional golfer aiming for his second consecutive United States Open, golfers, according to many enthusiasts, are inspired by rewards.

And Saturday's fifth annual Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines Spring Classic was stacked with goodies.

Guy Morgan and Anthony Shipman carved out an 18-hole total of 17-under-par 54 en-route to capturing the title.

Last year's winners received an opening to participate in the Crosby, but this year the prize was sweetened.

For their efforts, Morgan and Shipman received a one-week stay at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Palm Desert, Calif., a trophy and two round-trip airline tickets.

Morgan and Shipman, both sporting 16-handicaps, went in at 27, nine-under-par. They took advantage of the

cool weather and their generous stroke allowance on the front side. They eagled the par-4 385-yard first hole and double-eagled the par-5 373-yard third. They also recorded birdies at the second, fifth, seventh and eighth holes.

With a victory well within their grasp, they knew they had to avoid a

the last five holes, which included a low-net one on the par-3, 143-yard 16th.

The remarkable round of 17-under-par outlasted closest competitor, David Wagner and Harvey Jones, who finished with a score of 15-under-par (56).

"This is one of the most successful classics, but it's still growing. . . We are really looking forward to next year."

— Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines

major back-nine collapse.

They avoided the danger.

After hitting big drives, they birdied the 392-yard 10th, eagled the 352-yard 11th and finished 5-under on

Due to an incredible blunder, tournament officials allowed Wagner and Jones to play an uncontested round. In other words, they played by themselves, a complete contradiction of the

USGA Rules of Golf.

Nevertheless, they won a weekend golf excursion to either Hilton Head or Sea Island in South Carolina.

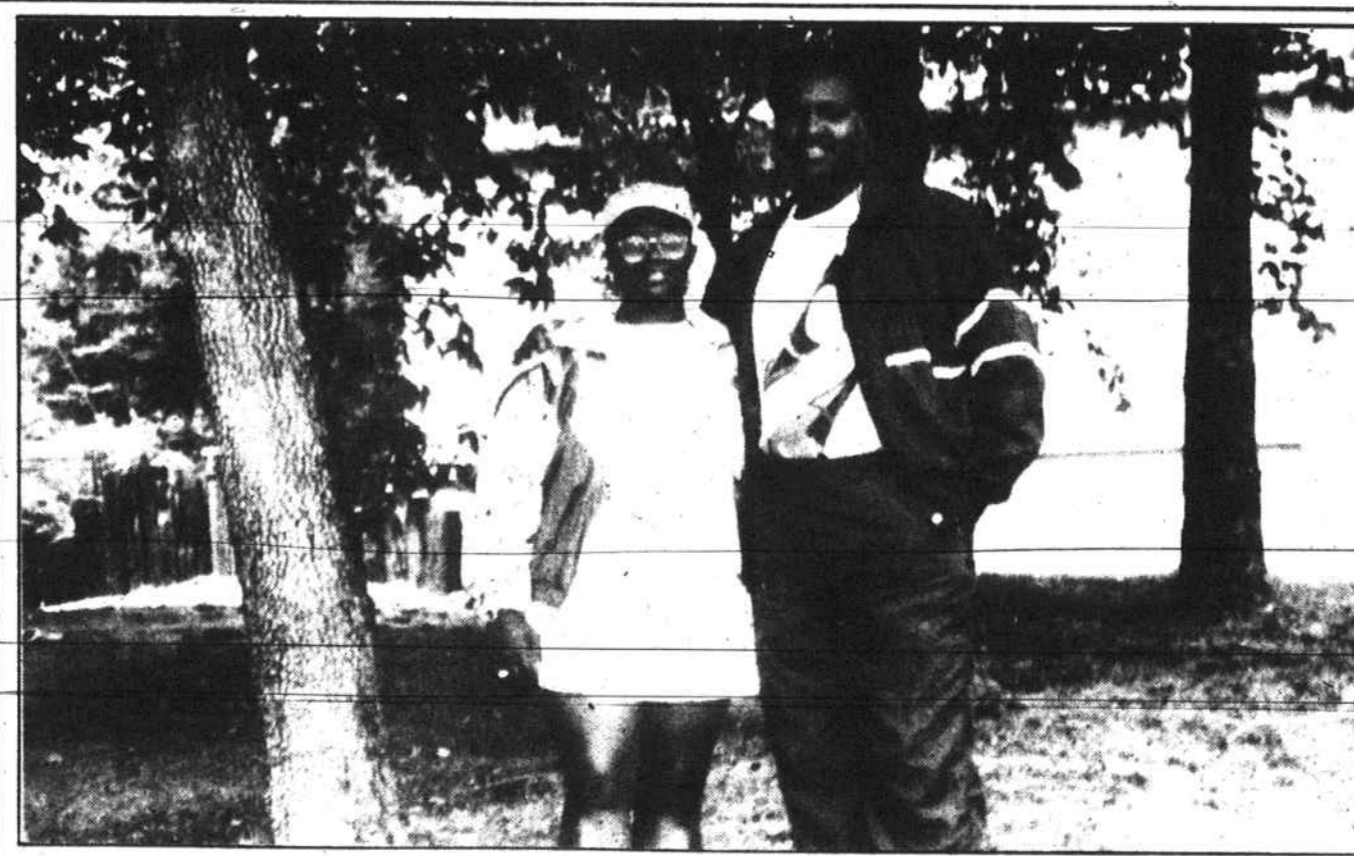
There was also a three-way tie for third, fourth and fifth place as three teams shot 13-under-par 58.

Using the current USGA handicapping tournament tie-breaking system, which compares scores beginning at the hardest handicapped hole, Donnie Hines and Oliver Hines edged out Geneva Brown and Samuel G. Puryear Jr. (fourth place) and Lonnie Wellman and Bobby Wofford (fifth place).

The Spring Classic, sponsored by the Winston-Salem Foundation, drew a record 73 golfers. It also displayed 11 different sponsors and five contributors and in-kind services.

According to tournament organizers, the tournament raised more than \$17,000.

"This is one of the most successful classics, but it's still growing," said Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines. "We are really looking forward to next year."



Mixed Doubles Tourney Held

Mike Jones and Debra Foster-Smith teamed to defeat J.K. Ervin Jr. and Marsha Johnson in the fifth annual Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines mixed-doubles championship played at Hanes Park on Saturday.

They survived a game en route to winning the championship set 6-4. The tournament, using the pro-set, round-robin format, shuffled 28 players or 14 teams to decide a winner.

Jones and Foster-Smith won a tennis weekend at Crystal Sands Holiday Inn in Hilton Head, S.C., and a trophy. Ervin and Johnson won Adidas warm-up suits along with Prince tennis bags.

Former NBA Star Wants to Buy Basketball Team

TOKYO (AP) — Magic Johnson said today he wants to buy the Minnesota Timberwolves basketball team with a group that includes singers Prince and Janet Jackson.

The former Los Angeles Lakers star, in Japan for a tour with his all-star team, also hinted that he'd like to buy a part of some other team if the Timberwolves deal doesn't work out.

"We are trying to buy the Minnesota Timberwolves," Johnson said at a news conference when asked whether he is teaming up with Jackson,

Prince and Minnesota music producers Jimmy Jam Harris and Terry Lewis to buy the team. "Hopefully that'll work out," Johnson didn't say how much the group was willing to pay or give other details.

NBA Commissioner David Stern said last month that he had discussions with Harris and Lewis about buying the Timberwolves. The team has been put on the block by owners Marvin Wolfenson and Harvey Ratner.

Investors in New Orleans, San Diego and Nashville, Tenn., have

expressed interest in buying the team and moving it. But the Minnesota Legislature approved legislation earlier this month authorizing a public buyout of the Target Center arena in Minneapolis for \$42 million. That will make it easier for local buyers to purchase the team. Johnson also said, "I know by next season I'll be part owner of a team," hinting that he would look elsewhere if the Timberwolves purchase falls through. He didn't name any other teams.

Johnson, who retired from the

Lakers in 1991 after discovering he was infected with the AIDS virus, said he's had enough of coaching after a brief stint leading the Lakers at the end of this season. "After going through it for eight to 10 games, I knew coaching wasn't for me," Johnson said.

"It's a seven-day-a-week job, and I like to work only a couple days a week," Johnson's all-star team, made up mostly of current and former NBA players, is playing four games through this Sunday in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya against the Japan national team.

ENTERTAINMENT

The Arts Council has named Cheryl Harry vice president for community outreach. page 20

RELIGION

Carver Road Church of Christ will hosts its Annual Spring Revival on June 5-10. page 22

BUSINESS

Shirley and Wallace Gaither opened G&G Executives Shop on Lexington Road. page 19

