

AAU

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team will also participate in the tournament. North Carolina Select is one of the up and coming programs in the state. The Select comes into the tournament after posting championships in local tournaments in consecutive weeks.

There will be a host of Division II and Division III college coaches at the tournament sites. Several recruiting services have projected the 1999 senior class to be the strongest in recent years.

Ike Black, president of Winston Lake's AAU program, said the organization is expecting 54 teams for the tournament.

"This is the largest tournament that we have ever hosted," Black said. "AAU is continuing to grow each year and we are expecting this to be one of the best tournaments ever."

Games were originally scheduled to be held at Carver High School, Reynolds High School and the Winston Lake YMCA. Two other sites have been added to accommodate the large tournament field.

General admission to the games will be \$4. For family fun and entertainment, come out and see the nation's future college stars. Everyone is invited.



Tim Henighan returns to Winston Lake's 16-and-under team that takes a step up in competition this weekend.



Kappa Magic won the State 16-and-under Boys title last year. Most of the team moved up to Jr. Boys competition this year.

RAMS

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people didn't get an updated schedule and they weren't sure about times and dates. We don't want to do that again this year.

There is one game that is holding us back from finishing the schedule and out of respect for that program, I won't release the schedule," Little said. "But I would expect that to in place by the end of the month."

Although Little said WSSU hasn't released a schedule, several months ago the Winston-Salem Journal ran an article which included a schedule. It included a game against Grambling, with WSSU serving as the host team.

"We are working with Grambling," Little said. "We are going to play them, but we just don't know where. We've got three potential sites for the Grambling game. We are looking at which site is going to generate the most revenue. We think we can have a pret-

ty good game with them."

One of the sites is Qual Com Stadium in San Diego, Cal. A group of African-American promoters launched its first annual Gold Coast Classic last season. The game featured MEAC teams Morgan State and Howard. The game, co-sponsored by The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint, an African-American newspaper, and the U.S. Postal Service, attracted less than 10,000 fans.

Little said there are some positives to playing Grambling in that game, but there are also some negatives.

"For us, playing in California would mean a lot for our kids and our program," she said. "But for our fans, playing Grambling in California wouldn't be fair."

The group has a guarantee for both teams in addition to providing travel expenses for the team, cheerleaders, the marching band and other support personnel. But Little said it is an unfair arrangement.

"Grambling's travel party is considerably larger than ours," Little said. "They would stand to benefit a lot more from this arrangement."

As it looks now, Winston-Salem is the most likely site. But Little said several things must fall into place.

"I really think it would be good for our fans to have it here," she said. "I haven't seen what the Charlotte group has on the table. If we do the game in Winston-Salem, we have to give them a guarantee, plus travel expenses. We want the band and the full treatment."

Little said the Grambling game isn't the reason the schedule hasn't been released.

"The Grambling game is not the hold up," she said. "All the way around that game is going to be a win-win situation. It's going to create revenue and give us exposure - hopefully we can get this done soon. I don't want this issue dragging out beyond this month."

HAWS hosts teams from around state for PHASAC games at WSSU

The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem (HAWS) will play host for a series of games for youth basketball and cheerleading from around the state. HAWS will host the district games for teams representing public housing authorities that participate in PHASAC District 2.

The games will be held on April 18 at the Whitaker Gymnasium on the campus of Winston-Salem State. Play will get underway at 10 a.m.

A total of four games are scheduled for the day, with a short program at noon designed to bring a positive message to the participants. Two games will be played in the morning and the final two games will be played after the program's conclusion. Sara Lee Corporation is serving as the sponsor for the day.

The games are under the direction of PHASAC (Public Housing Authorities State Athletic Commission), a statewide organization overseeing competition between participating housing authorities.

Its mission is to provide an opportunity for public housing residents between the ages of 12 and 18 to represent their local authority as basketball players and cheerleaders in a positive, drug-free environment that encourages their growth and development in preparation for adulthood. For these youth to participate in this program, they must be enrolled in school, meet certain academic requirements, attend educational sessions that match the number of hours practice time each week and sign a pledge that they will remain drug-free during the course of the season and the remainder of their lives. In addition, the basketball players cannot have played on their school's varsity team during the current academic year.

PHASAC is divided into four districts through the state. District 2 includes the public housing authorities of Lexington, High Point, Greensboro, Rockingham, Troy, Durham, Raleigh and Winston-Salem. From March through April, the teams meet at a site in one of the cities to play one another. District play culminates with the District tournament scheduled this year for May 15 and 16 in Troy.

The teams will also compete against all the PHASAC teams in the State Championships for the cheerleaders and basketball teams this June in Kinston.

Saturday's schedule will pit Greensboro against High Point in the 10 a.m. opening game. At 11, Lexington will battle against Durham. Following the program at noon, Rockingham will compete against Raleigh. The final game of the day pits Troy against Winston-Salem at 2 p.m.

The noon presentation will feature representatives from Sara Lee Corporation, representatives from PHASAC and a featured speaker. The teams are also invited to participate in the activities of the International Day Fair 'n Fun, being held from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the WSSU campus.

The day will culminate with a post-game meal for the cheerleaders and players, their parents and guardians, adult volunteers involved with the program and invited guests. The games and noon program are free and open

to the public.

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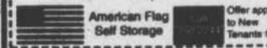
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