

# Youth football camp designed to get kids off to good start

The Winston-Salem Youth Football Camp is ready to begin another successful run. The camp got off to a good start last season. In the camp, local high school coaches will have a chance to get hands on experience with Pop Warner and Junior Varsity players. In addition, Pop Warner coaches get an opportunity to work alongside high school coaches to see the technique and fundamentals that they teach their players.

In its first year the camp attracted some 50 youngsters from the Forsyth County area. This year, Bill Oakley, camp organizer, says is expecting the numbers to continue to grow.

"For the first year, I thought we had a great turn out," Oakley said. "Going into something

like that, you never know what to expect. But the kids really came out and did a great job.

"This year, I've already received letters and registration from a lot of the kids who were there last year," he added. "We hope to add to that group to make it bigger and better this year."

The fact that many of last year's campers have already signed up shows that the parents and participants felt that it was a worthwhile endeavor, according to Oakley.

"I think that says something about the instruction of the coaches and the commitment they have to helping these kids," Oakley said. "I think most of the kids went away from it with a positive experience to look back on."

Unlike camps that are run at colleges, the WSFC is inexpensive and runs for two days. The registration fee, \$35.00, is just enough to cover the cost of putting on the camp.

"We want this camp to appeal to all kids in the area," Oakley said. "We don't want the cost to scare anyone away."

Coaches for the camp include Bob Sapp, Mount Tabor's head coach, Doug Illing, assistant head coach at Reynolds, Dave McConnell, former RJR head coach and offensive coordinator at West Forsyth and Dorsey Keith, offensive line coach at Reynolds.

"I think we have an excellent staff of coach-

es," Oakley said. "We all share one thing, that is the love of football. We think we have a great sport and we want to introduce young athletes to it."



One thing Oakley points out is that many local kids don't get a chance to experience to football until they reach high school because they can't make the weight limits of Pop Warner programs. Especially affected are the players who will end up being linemen in high school. The camp gives these players a quick introduction to playing the position.

"We found out over the years that most of the linemen in high school were just too heavy to play in Pop Warner," Oakley said. "The Pop Warner coaches do a great job, but they don't get a chance to work with the bigger kids much."

The camp will be held June 22-23 at Mount Tabor. Anyone interested in receiving information on it can contact Oakley at 748-8092.



# Student-athletes receive awards at William C. Sims Center



Vernon Glenn, Sims Center Student of the Year receives his award from Ben Piggott.

A group of 26 young people received awards for their academic and athletic accomplishments recently at the William C. Sims Recreation Center.

The guest speakers for the awards ceremony were Felicia McMillian and Michael Kimbrough. Both used Michael Jordan as an example of a positive role model. Both speakers asked the students to view his success because it resulted from his success in academics at an early age as well as his athletic prowess.

Of the young people receiving awards, 10 attended Wiley Middle School and participated on the schools' basketball teams.

Vernon Glenn, who attends Jefferson Davis Diggs Elementary, received the Sims Center's Student of the Year Award. He received the award because of the time he put in at the Sims Center during homework sessions and that helped him improve his grades tremendously.

Other students receiving awards were: Latonya Glenn (Wiley), Jamie

Glenn (Diggs), David Fields (Hall-Woodward), Jermaine Thompson (Hall-Woodward), Ronald Pollard (Hall-Woodward), Corey Moore (Wiley), Halima McKaskill (Wiley), Latasha Winstead (Wiley), Shevae Higginbottom (Forest Park),

Shawanna Hicks (Forest Park), Tasha Wilson (Wiley), Madonna Scipio (Diggs), Chanchez Allen (Diggs), Decarsta Allen (Diggs), Jovon Scipio (Wiley), Donald Scipio (Forest Park) and Reynita MicMillian (Easton).



Award winners pose with Ben Piggott, Sims Center Director.

# Carolina Panthers' ticket sales kick off with muted roar

From Chronicle Wire Reports

CHARLOTTE (AP) - A disappointing 1997 season has made an impact on ticket sales for the upcoming Panthers' season.

Panthers, single-game tickets went on sale Sunday, and team officials say there's no question the 7,000 or so seats available for eight regular season and two pre-season games at Ericsson Stadium will sell out.

But last season's 7-9 record made an impact at the box office. A year ago, after the Panthers brought home the NFC West championship, single-game seats sold out within two hours.

On Sunday, the Green Bay, Miami, San Francisco and Washington games were gone within about 30 minutes. But after two hours of sales, more than 1,000 tickets remained for regular-season games against Buffalo, Atlanta, New Orleans and St. Louis and the pre-season games against Jacksonville and Minnesota.

"This isn't a big surprise, because last year was special; we were coming off the championship game and all," said Phil Youtsey, the team's director of ticket sales. "This is still a tremendous show of support."

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