

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Winston-Salem Greensboro High Point
1974- Celebrating 25 Years - 1999

JULY 15, 1999

SECTION C



Family Day Registration
Advance registration begins this week for The Chronicle's Sixth Annual "Family Day"/ 25th Anniversary Celebration. Food, games and fun will be the main course for this momentous event that will take place Saturday, August 28. Registration forms are available at The Chronicle, 617 North Liberty Street in Winston-Salem. For more information call 722-8624.

N.C. A&T Welcomes New Chancellor
Community members are invited to join A&T students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends for a "Changing of the Guard" ceremony Thursday, July 15, is at noon on the steps of the Dudley Building on the campus. Retiring A&T Chancellor Edward Fort will symbolically pass on the torch to Chancellor-Elect James Renick, who comes from the University of Michigan at Dearborn.

Celebration Of Children
The Black Child Development Institute of Greensboro will sponsor its 11th annual community-wide event celebrating the achievements of children and youths on Monday, July 19. The name of the program is Celebration of Children: A Day in the Park and will take place from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Barber Park. The celebration will feature activities such as storytelling, entertainment, games, food and prizes for youths and information booths for local agencies serving children and youths. For more information call Veronica Evans at 230-2138.

Church Conference
The 1999 Church of God Apostolic Church Growth Conference will take place starting Monday, July 19, and ending July 23 in Winston-Salem at the Benton Convention Center. Workshop classes, a youth explosion and kids crusade are the featured events. Special musical guests include Evangelist Beverly Crawford and Men of Standard and others. Bishop C.O. Reid is the general overseer and Winston-Salem's own Bishop J.C. Hash, pastor of St. Peters World Outreach Center will be one of the guest speakers. For more information call 650-1904 or 650-0200.

See Page C10 for more of this week's Community Calendar

Tennis, anyone?



Dee Dee Turner, 6; Jasmine Huff, 5; and Alexis, 5, listen attentively to coach Katie Carter's instructions.

Club teaches children fundamentals of game

By FELECIA P. MCMILLAN
COMMUNITY CORESPONDENT

"Keep the face open so you can hit it!" "Let the racket work." "Bring it around easy, smooth."

These are some of the pointers that members of the Kimberly Park Tennis Club offered to children who came out to participate in the group's six-week tennis clinic.

During the clinic, which will end Aug. 28, youths ages 5-18 will have the opportunity to learn to play tennis. The club is focusing on the junior development program, which allows minority children to develop into state-, Southern- and even national-level tennis players. Participants often have the opportunity to receive an educational scholarship to college or even develop a professional tennis career.

Kayla Carter is only 7 years old, but according to tennis coach Charles Kennedy, she has already hit 1 million tennis balls with the Kimberly Park Tennis Club. She has been hitting tennis balls since she was 5 years old, and she doesn't plan to stop now. She began playing with the Kimberly Park Tennis Club, a group that seeks to destroy the myth that tennis is not for African Americans.



Coach Charles Kennedy demonstrates the appropriate way to swing the tennis racket for a perfect stroke.



Center, coach Katie Carter shares a cup of water with Jasmine Huff. KPTC President Arnice Wall, right, encouraged the students to bring a personal water thermos to the clinic.

For Kayla, a third-grader at the Quality Education Institute, playing tennis has inspired her to set lofty goals.

"My goal is to play in Wimbledon," Kayla said.

Kayla is a third-generation tennis player. Her mother, Stacie Carter, was a member of the Junior Tennis League of the Kimberly Park Tennis Club who went to college on a tennis scholarship. Although Kayla's mother is now a prosecutor in Dunn County, she still swings a racket regularly.

Kayla's grandmother Katie Carter is also a tennis player and serves as the coordinator of the KPTC/JTR David L. Lash Memorial Spring Classic Junior Open.

"Kayla is a well-developed junior," said Arnice Wall, president of KPTC. "In fact, she won the Kiwanis tournament last year. As you can see, we are a true family organization. We involve the mothers, fathers and the children on the courts. Tennis is very family-oriented, and we want more African American children to be exposed to the sport regardless

of their background."

The tournament is sponsored twice a year, in March and October, by the Kimberly Park Tennis Club. The club is looking for sponsors to assist with these tournaments by purchasing T-shirts and refreshments, providing volunteers, transportation and equipment.

During the winter months, the clinics are sponsored at the Indoor Tennis Center on the campus of Wake Forest University, where Harold Moore serves as the director. He assists the club with getting the courts at a subsidized price and supports the program financially as well. Moore attended NCCU on a tennis scholarship and now owns Harold Moore Professional Tennis Services.

"Tennis has opened many doors for me, and it was a means for my personal development," he said. "I try every avenue possible to expose kids to the sport."

The mission of the KPTC is

to introduce more African American children to tennis as a competitive sport. However, Wall has found that playing the sport often involves a change of lifestyle.

"Our children need to get used to being outside. They need to build up their stamina. Many of them stay inside and watch television or play video games, and it is hard for them to get conditioned to the heat," Wall said. "Parents can help by having their kids go walking with them for a couple of hours or playing catch with them outside. In order to play tennis, they must come outside."

The club attempts to provide continuous time on the court so that students can become competitive players. They have played in tournaments in various cities: Lewisville, Ky.; Augusta, Ga.; Columbus, S.C.; Atlanta; Charlotte; Greensboro and Durham.

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