

William C. Sims Center honors girls basketball league participants

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

games.

The William C. Sims Recreation Center will honor the girls basketball teams on Aug. 2 at 3 p.m. Teams from Belview Recreation Center, 14th Street Recreation Center, Sprague Street Recreation Center and the William C. Sims Center played for 10 consecutive Fridays at the Sims Center in league

The league's emphasis was upon sisterhood, love and understanding for young ladies 18 and under. Basketball coaches in the league were Robert Little, Kelley Middleton, Cassandra Penn, Toya Davis and Larentha Horne, who all enjoyed the networking the league provided and the outstanding team play in

the league.

Ben Piggott and Anita Worthy organized the league. In addition to honoring the teams, the event will spotlight some CIAA women basketball players who will play against some of the players from the league. Several of Winston-Salem State's cheerleaders also will attend the event and perform.



Photo courtesy of the Sims Center

Belview Lady All-Star 18 and under basketball team.

Stealers

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29-27 halftime deficit to take a 62-50 win over the Maryland Flames in their second game. They continued their winning ways by jumping out to a 20-point halftime lead and taking a 64-50 victory over the New Jersey-Penn Panthers.

That set up their toughest outing of the tournament, against Baton Rouge. The Stealers fell behind early and fought an uphill battle the rest of the way. Katrice Teal, a rising freshman at Carver, scored 20 points to help the Stealers cut into a 20-point first-half deficit. Katheryn Lyons broke through with the tournament's highest scoring game to help take the game into overtime. Lyons, who will be an eighth-grader at Paisley Middle School,

connected on seven 3-pointers and finished the game with 40 points.

The loss didn't shake the Stealers' confidence. Facing elimination from the tournament with another loss, the Stealers bounced back with a 72-38 victory over the New Jersey Shining Stars.

In the next game, Shakeyta Samuels poured in 18 points to lead the Stealers to a 62-51 victory over the Fayetteville Phantoms. The win gave the Stealers a berth in the top six and earned the team the right to take on the Wichita Spooks, a perennial national power.

Amanda Hedrick provided the offensive spark with 16 points and the Stealers took a 68-39 victory.

In the team's finale against the Missouri Lady Sting, the Stealers jumped out to a 20-point

lead and never looked back. However, the Sting cut the lead to three on two occasions in the second half. But with Sarah Kate Caudle scoring 19 points, the Stealers held on for a 54-45 victory.

Members of the Stealers roster are: Sarah Kate Caudle, Lauren Kelley, Yolanda Samuels, Shakeyta Samuels, Amanda Hedrick, Katheryn Lyons, Danielle Hardy, Katrice Teal, Porsche Jowers and Shelese Johnson. Brian Robinson is the team's head coach, and Kenny Teal and Tim Hedrick are his assistants.

The Stealers are a program of the YWCA of Winston-Salem and will begin their fall season registration for girls 7 and older in August. For more information, call Brian Robinson at 722-5138, ext. 233.



File Photo

The Stealers

Old Town

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programs in the summer, and I've heard all kinds of pitiful excuses for not fielding a team," he said.

Blevins said he hopes to see more centers fielding teams next summer.

"We need to introduce and encourage kids to play baseball," Blevins said. "We need to get back to the American pastime of good old sandlot baseball. We need to give that back to our kids."

Blevins said he plans on pushing the sport to recreation center directors and adminis-

tration.

"Summertime is supposed to be hot," he said. "We practice in the sun and we play in the sun. We take plenty of ice and water out with us. Our kids love it. Teaching the kids fundamentals and teaching the game is the fun part of coaching. We practice, we work on fundamentals, we take batting practice, and every kid plays in every game."

Blevins said he receives much joy from seeing kids develop from the start of the season until the season's end.

"The best of it is seeing the kid who is just learning the game improve as the season

goes," he said. "It's exciting when he gets his first big hit. The gleam in his eyes is something you cherish. That's what makes us proud."

Floyd and Ruth Mock sponsor the baseball program at Old Town.

"I would like to publicly thank the Mocks along with our volunteers, L.B. Tuttle, Chris Johnson and Brenda Robertson," Blevins said. "They help to make our programs what they are. We continue trying to teach the kids something important in life and, that is: like anything in life, you get out of something what you have put into it."



Coach Art Blevins poses with coach L.B. Sutton (left) and team MVPs Asa Beal and Darryl Tuttle.

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