

Old Town wraps up an unbeaten baseball season

Recreation center ballers still hooping outside

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Baseball is probably the toughest sport to finish with a perfect, unbeaten record at the end. Don't tell that to the base runners at Old Town.

The sluggers at Old Town Recreation Center wrapped up its second-straight undefeated season last week. The players did the bulk of their damage during the final two weeks of the season.

With victories over Martin Luther King and another win over Sprague Street centers the last two weeks, Old Town closed out a flawless season. But, everyone in the Old Town



Old Town sluggers completed a perfect season. Courtesy of Art Blevins

camp isn't as excited as one might think. The centers' director, Art Blevins feels like there should've been more teams/centers participating in the league.

"Last year was the more fun and competitive because six centers had 13-16 baseball teams," Blevins said. "This summer, only three centers fielded baseball teams. And, that's very disappointing to me and the kids here. I hope more centers will have baseball teams next year."

The Old Town baseball team was coached by Blevins, Jason Beeson and Rory Davis.

Footnote:

The awesome basketball action just doesn't seem to stop on the blacktops of Old Town. One can guarantee a great performance or two every time the ballers at center hit the court. The Little Lakers and Little 76ers both pulled out wins in the 7-12



Tyrone "Cowboy" McLaurin challenges Ervin Moser, one on one during a blacktop battle at Old Town last week.

Late night

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Faye, but the officials really saved them in the end. With 24 seconds left in the game, City Views Antonio Byrd hit what he and the rest of the crowd thought was the winning shot, but the Hot Boyz got the ball back and hit a 3-pointer to leave the gym with the win.

"This win feels good,"

Gathings said with a grin on his face. "You take what they give you. We earned this win tonight. It wasn't pretty, but we earned it. And, now we're on our way to winning the championship."

Over at Martin Luther King Recreation Center, the ballers were doing what they do: ball hard. OOO-WEE did their thing and jumped back into first place. Show Tyme still continue to do some

things as well. "This should be an interesting race at the end," said MLK representative Ike Howard. "OOO-WEE is back in first place. They won one more game than Jump-Off. It's a close race over here."

The champions of both leagues will square off next Wednesday, Aug. 6. The location for the championship game has not been determined yet.

Carver

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Corey Simmons is a player the team and Wilkes is expecting big things from this season. Some think he might be able to pick up where Isaiah "Puff" Thomas left off. They say he's just as good.

"I'm better," Simmons said. "I am going to go out there and do what I have to do for this team to win. I'm a little worried about next season, but I know I can't show it. If I look worried then the team will be like, 'Simmons don't even think we're going to win.' I know we're going to win, but I know it's going to be so much harder the second time around."



Simmons



Carver head coach Keith Wilkes explains play to Yellow-Jacket tailback Shawn Moore during preseason drills.

The talented package of running backs is one of the reasons why Carver feels ready to do it again. The talented junior from Glenn High School, Shawn Moore, joined the team during the off season to add another explosive piece to the championship puzzle. The team already had the super senior, Erick Eaton, Demario Smith and Devin Anthony in the backfield. Moore gives the squad some of the same elements that Monte Anthony gave them last year.

"I think so too," Miller said. "We're solid at running back. I really feel good about our backs and our offensive line. There's no doubt this offense can do some great things this season. We just need to take everything day by day."

Some of the other standouts are Antwon Mitchell, Dele Mohammed, Jeremy "Twee" Pressley and Shawn Pressley. Pressley will probably miss the first three games due to a leg injury he suffered while running track.

Eaton added: "Our biggest enemy would have to be ourselves. If we come out here and don't work hard toward a title then we won't win. But if we play like we're capable of, then

we should take it again. I don't think any team in this area can beat us."

And, those are the guys who are licking their chops everyday. Teams can't wait to play Carver. There's almost nothing better than beating the defending champions.

"The coaches that we coach against circle our game," Wilkes concluded. "We're a lot of teams' championship game. We're the team they really want to beat. We're the team other teams set standards to beat. We've gotta stay on top...and keep this machine rolling. I think we can do it. And, I believe we will."

Carver Yellow Jacket 2003 Varsity Football Schedule

(All games begin at 7:30 p.m.)

Aug. 15	Reynolds
Aug. 22 at	North Forsyth
Aug. 29	Mt. Tabor
Sept. 5 at	Dudley
Sept. 12	S.W. Guilford
Sept. 19	Smith
Sept. 26 at	Parkland
Oct. 3 at	N.E. Guilford
Oct. 10	Morehead
Oct. 17 at	Rockingham
Oct. 24	Bye
Oct. 31	Glenn



Eaton



Miller

expect that," Miller said. "The quarterback position is the most important one on the field. And, the expectations are high. Expectations are the toughest things to deal with right now. Everyone expects so much. And, we expect a lot from ourselves. I honestly feel like we will be just as good this year as we were last year."

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