

# Old Town Rec honors legend, finishes summer games

BY ANTHONY HILL  
THE CHRONICLE

A Winston-Salem living legend of sorts was honored recently. Don Cardwell - former Philadelphia Phillie, Chicago Cub, Pittsburgh Pirate, New York Met and Atlanta Brave - was honored by Old Town Recreation Center with the Real Hero/Living Legend Award last week.



Jelani Biggs

What does an athlete have to do to be honored with the Real Hero/Living Legend Award? First, the athlete had better be a part of the card collection of Art Blevins, director of Old Town Recreation Center, and maybe have won a championship or two.



Corey Moore

"I was recently going through my baseball cards and I found two of his (Cardwell's) cards," Blevins said. "I said to myself, 'I'll be darned.' I knew he was still in Winston, so I decided to call and tell him what I was doing.



Old Town center supervisor Art Blevins and summer camp director Jennifer Norby present former N.Y. Met star Don Cardwell with a "Living Legend" award.

I've been meaning to get him out here to talk to the campers during our summer camps.

"He spoke to the kids for about an hour. Then he watched some of the teams play tee ball. This was great for the kids. We also had a lot of older people in attendance. One gentleman came from Boone and brought his grandson to meet Don. Many people around here still remember him and the things he did on the baseball field."

After spending three mediocre seasons with the Phillies, Cardwell was traded to the Cubs in mid-1960 and pitched a no-hitter against St. Louis in his first start for his new team. He's still the only pitcher to ever do that. The durable pitcher led the National League with 38 starts for the 1961 Cubs and won a career-high 15 games. He sandwiched two fine seasons in Pittsburgh around severe arm trouble in

1964. His 13-10 mark in 1965 was dragged down by six one-run losses.

Cardwell was also a valuable member of the Mets (1967-70) and helped them to their 1969 World Series championship with his experience. After going 3-9 by late July, he won five straight games, including a 1-0 game against the Pirates in which he drove in the only run.

"He was a great hitter," Blevins said. "He was the only pitcher to hit a home run off Sandy Koufax. He said that Hank Aaron was the best hitter he ever faced. That was just some of the information he gave the kids. He also brought his championship ring and signed anything the kids wanted him to. Everyone had a great time, and it was good for the kids to have him here."



Dimitria Shore and Ray Penn were two of the most improved players in the Old Town Blacktop Summer League.

**Footnote:**

The summer basketball games on the blacktop at Old Town Recreation Center are over, but the memories and highlights of the kids who played will last forever.

Blevins along with summer workers Jason Beeson and Jelani Biggs and volunteer workers Carl Dunlap, Brenda Robertson and Corey Moore had two competitive leagues and eight teams playing in the hot summer sun on the

blacktop.

The leaders of the 7-12 age group were: Michael Butler, Britanny Tate, Sam Daley, Kyle Jones, George Moore, Carl "CJ" Tyson, Jared Smith, Kyle Onuma, Jovani Blair, Brandon Forney, Daven Gray, Quashan Young, Eric Sinclair, Cozy Jackson, Dante Campbell, Emon Abbott, Michael Harris and Shantel Psalm.

The leading scorers in the 13-16 age group were: Dearon "Deacon" Smith, the sharp-shooting Jake Claffe, Ray Penn, Stephon Royster, Dimitri Shore, Brandon

Patten, Kenny Young, Chris Butler, Tony Lawson, Alvin Gentry, Ervin "Fatty" Moser, Tyrone "Cowboy" McLaurin, Rich Duhon and Jess Claffe.

"The basketball season was great," Blevins concluded. "I was impressed by the way the kids performed in that hot sun. We had some real good ballplayers in our older league. Some of the guys are either playing school ball or trying out for a team. The younger league is mainly a learning experience. The season went well."

## WSSU makes tailgating plans

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The feeling of football is spreading around Winston-Salem, especially on the campus of Winston-Salem State University. The WSSU athletics department is making sure the Ram fans have a place to party before football games.

The WSSU Department of Athletics announced that it will rent a limited number of VIP tailgating spaces for cars/trucks and recreational vehicles (RVs). The spaces will cost \$90 per car/game and \$110 per RV/game and will be available on a first come, first served basis. The spaces may be purchased for a single game, or in a season-long package (all five home games) for a \$50 discount.

The VIP spaces will be located in the south paved parking lot and will make up only a small portion of the overall spaces available, as only 20 spaces will be designated for reservation.

This plan will not interfere

with tailgaters in any other lots, or on the hills along the perimeter of Bowman Gray Stadium. This plan allows people to pay in advance for a reserved tailgating spot and does not prevent other WSSU fans from tailgating utilizing the free tailgating spaces around the perimeter of Bowman Gray Stadium that they have used in the past.

"All the individuals that have been tailgating outside of the fence, as they have been for years, will not be affected by this new reserved tailgating section, as it will remain a free tailgating area," said Dr. Chico Caldwell, WSSU director of athletics. "This is merely a plan that will allow those fans who want a paved lot, and a reserved tailgating spot, to rent a space for their pre-game festivities."

For additional information, or to reserve one of the limited-availability VIP tailgating spots, call the WSSU Department of Athletics at 750-2143.

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