

# HAWKINS

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the issue, yet feels the barrage of media coverage is politically motivated. A self-described "golf gate" media hyperbole, Hawkins says the event was merely a business transaction blown out of proportion by local media.

Of those who defend Hawkins' actions is Ron Tvenstrup and Earl White of Golf Organizers International, a company specializing in the coordination of for-profit golf tournaments.

"After reading all the articles pertaining to Councilman Frank Hawkins Golf Tournament as being unethical," the two stated in a prepared statement, "we strongly disagree." Tvenstrup and White state that in organizing many for-profit golf tournaments throughout the years, few are for other than for-profit purposes.

They say it would be unreasonable for a person to think participation in Hawkins' tournament would give a guarantee of

a favorable vote on an issue.

Additionally, the group says the profit margin is extremely narrow after various promotional costs are paid. These costs include green fees, cart and set up fees. Other administrative costs such as advertising and coordination fees also preclude making a substantial profit. Hawkins said he raised

\$ 100,000 from the event, yet netted a fraction of that amount.

# MADISON TERRACE

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ate scrutiny. Mama Says spokesperson, Beatrice Turner, according to sources close to the incident, hand selected the apartments to be viewed and coordinated the media.

Housing authority director, Carl Rowe, faced media cameras with a surprised expression when he learned of the conditions. Rowe, whose contract is soon due for renewal, is said to be blemished by the incident. Other criticisms stem from the authority's handling of moving

arrangements for residents of the property. Vouchers and check payments were made for residents who were given two weeks to vacate the premises. "They gave them checks and vouchers to move, yet some of the checks have been smoked up," said Boyd referring to some of the residents who spindled their moving funds on drugs. The group does admit that some drug trafficking does take place, but not to the level portrayed in the media. "Housing," says one member, "is in so much trouble

because they've spent so much money in moving expenses which most have wasted."

The authority is forced to bear the burden during an already strapped financial resources period. The original two week deadline to move has subsequently been extended to early to mid March due to the lack of available housing.

The group's main objective, however, is to expose Madison Terrace as a good place for residents which did not have the (See Madison Terrace, Pg 26)



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