

Community Little League ends first sanctioned season

By Sharon Y. Savage
Sentinel-Voice

More than 290 young sluggers this year pitched, swung, ran and caught during Community Little League's first nationally sanctioned season.

The recently completed season - the league's fourth baseball season in West Las Vegas - marked its inaugural campaign under sanctioning from the National Little League Association. All the games were played at the Doolittle Field.

League president Ricky Towers is already looking to bigger things. "I look forward to competing on a statewide level next year," he said.

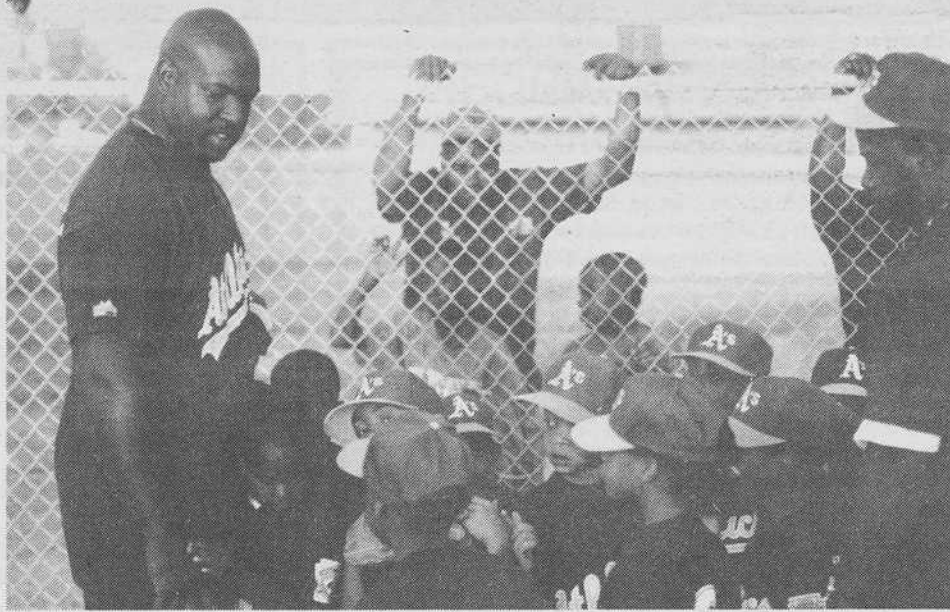
Until then, the children can enjoy the awards they received at a recent awards ceremony held at H.P. Fitzgerald Elementary School.

"We gave awards to everybody as a way of encouraging the kids to shoot for some type of goal, and next year the kids will play even harder," Towers said.

Tournament and division winners, in three of the four categories, won trophies and special awards.

The t-ball division was classified as non-competitive and standings were not posted because of the children's age. The children in the division learned the fundamentals of baseball while competing in a fun, non-competitive way.

Tournament division winners were the "A's" in the



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Coach Eric Jordan counsels his team the "A's" during a recent outing.

rookies, the "A's" in the minors, and the Mariners in the majors.

Towers said operating under the national Little League's umbrella sets the stage for the ultimate goal: taking a team to the Little League World Series.

"It is going to take some time, maybe even years to build that type of program, but it is not all impossible," Towers said.

The local league stepped up its operations, submitting reports to the national office on items of budgeting, finance, registration and sponsorship and adopting mandated rules and regulations. And two boards - one of directors and one of commissioners - formed. Directors included Towers,

vice president Fred Herron and secretary Norma Graves. Eric Jordan, t-ball; Vince Jordan, rookies; Ike Williams, minors; and Arthur Banks, majors comprised the commissioners. Derek Knox served as the equipment manager and Tracey Ealy worked as the safety officer.

Preparations for the 1998 season is already set. Marco Hall will head a winter program for children ages nine through age 13. The program will begin the first week of September and end with tournament play in December.

Towers praised the efforts of coaches, sponsors, supporters, parents and all involved in making the league a huge success.

"I look forward to the

challenges ahead," he said.

Parents interested in registering their child to participate, contact Hall at 438-7107 or Towers at 390-8867.

The final season standings in three divisions:

ROOKIES

- A's (9-2)
- Yankees (8-3)
- Pirates (6-4)
- White Sox (5-5)
- Braves (0-10)

MINORS

- Twins (7-4)
- Royals (6-5)
- A's (5-5)
- Braves (4-6)
- Orioles (4-6)

MAJORS

- Dodgers (8-2)
- Mariners (7-3)
- Pirates (5-5)
- White Sox (1-9)

Sergeants

(Continued from Page 2)
Southern Nevada. She is pursuing double degrees in criminal justice and business.

Green, of Refugio, Texas is a 12-year law enforcement veteran with several firsts under her belt too. She was the first black woman on Metro's bike team and gang units. And she helped implement Community Oriented Policing, a project encouraging citizens to police their neighborhoods. In 1992, she earned Police Officer of the Year honors.

Green has a bachelor's degree in respiratory therapy. She worked at the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital, (now UMC) for a year before signing on with Metro.

She also has an associate's



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Priscilla Green and Juanita Goode conversate inside Metro headquarters recently.

degree in criminal justice from the Community College of Southern Nevada and is presently studying business management at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

WNBA PLAYOFF BERTHS UP FOR GRABS

Once the queens of the WNBA, the New York Liberty have found their play in the last two weeks to be anything but royal. It looked as if they were easily going to clinch the Eastern Conference title and home court advantage throughout the WNBA playoffs. But now the team has lost two straight and is battling with the hottest team in the league, the Houston Comets. Houston, winners of four straight, has closed a three-and-a-half game gap to a half-game deficit. Houston now has the services of Sheryl Swoopes as well as the hottest player in the league, Cynthia Cooper. Cooper scored 30 or more points in seven of her last 10 games, including 39 in the Comets' 72-62 victory over the Charlotte Sting Monday night. She also set a WNBA record with eight steals in that game, showing that she is not just a scorer. In the Western Conference it looks as if the winner of that conference will be the only team from out West in the four-team playoffs. The Phoenix Mercury (10-11) and Los Angeles Sparks (10-13) are vying for that position. If the playoffs were to begin today New York (15-6) would host Houston (15-7) and Phoenix would host the Cleveland Rockers (11-10).

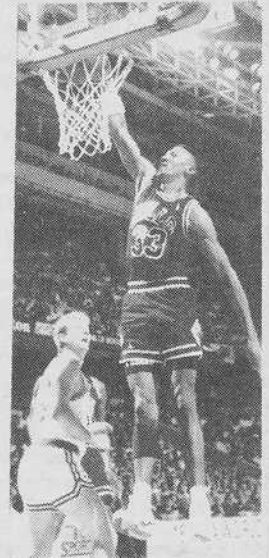


EVERETT'S DAUGHTER, SON STAY IN CUSTODY

Two of New York Mets outfielder Carl Everett's children will remain in a foster home until at least Wednesday, a Family Court judge said Monday. Judge Richard Berman also rejected Everett's request that his 4-year-old son Carl and 5-year-old daughter Shawna be placed with family members. In court, Administration for Children's Services attorney Karen Kolomechuk told the judge that Shawna wanted to remain with the foster family, where she has been staying. The name of the family was not disclosed because of Family Court privacy restrictions. The children were taken into custody Thursday after a child care worker noticed bruises on Shawna. Police said they found no evidence to charge Everett or his wife with any crime, but because the children were remanded into the custody of child welfare authorities, a hearing was required before the children could be returned to their parents.

PIPPEN'S FOOT STILL ON THE MEND

Chicago Bulls forward Scottie Pippen said he is still hobbled by the foot injury he suffered during the NBA playoffs and that he might not be able to play by the fall. "My foot is not healing, and I'm going to work in the next month to see if it's going to show any progress because it hasn't shown any," Pippen said. "I'm still dealing with that and, from that standpoint, I'm not able to get myself ready for next season as of now." Pippen injured his left foot in the Conference finals against the Miami Heat. When the injury occurred it was described by team doctors as a soft tissue injury. "I'm starting to get a little concerned," he said "I guess over the last couple weeks it's really concerned me, because I feel like it should start to feel better, and actually it's killing me right now as we speak."



SCOTTIE PIPPEN

SANDERS WILL PLAY EVERY GAME WITH COWBOYS

With the Dallas Cowboys' temporary cornerbacks getting hit with a rash of injuries, they are glad to know the real thing is coming back. Excluding a total collapse of the Houston Astros, Deion Sanders will be a Cowboys cornerback on Sundays and a Cincinnati Reds center fielder until the end of the season. Sanders has informed Cincinnati general manager Jim Bowden that he will stay with the fourth place Reds through their final game in September, even though he could leave before then. The Reds, in turn, already have given Sanders permission to play in the Cowboys' four season games that conflict with the baseball schedule. "He'll play in all the Cowboys games, and he'll finish the season with us," said Bowden. The Cowboys' season opener is Aug. 31 in Pittsburgh. The Reds will play at Minnesota the same day.

Compiled by Diamond Ross
Sentinel-Voice staff writer

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