

Opening day in local baseball a homerun

John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

The Doolittle Community Center, 1940 North "J" St., played host to the ceremonial opening day of baseball season for Community Little League.

"Baseball has been disregarded in West Las Vegas," said Eric Jordan who is one of the Little League's commissioners. "We need a league in this area."

Under the cloak of dark rain clouds and the threat of stormy weather, over 300 parents, coaches, officials, and future All-Stars poured out to participate in America's favorite past-time.

"This is a good league for kids," 13-year-old Jor-El

Strother said. He is in his second year with league. "It gives us a chance to show-off our stuff and show-off what we have."

In its sixth year, the community league has had over 2,000 youths and 150 teams participate in its games.

"I played little league in '66 and '67 on this same field," said Ricky Towers, founder and league president.

"After that baseball was dormant... It's been 20 years now and it's time to give the youth of this community an opportunity to play baseball."

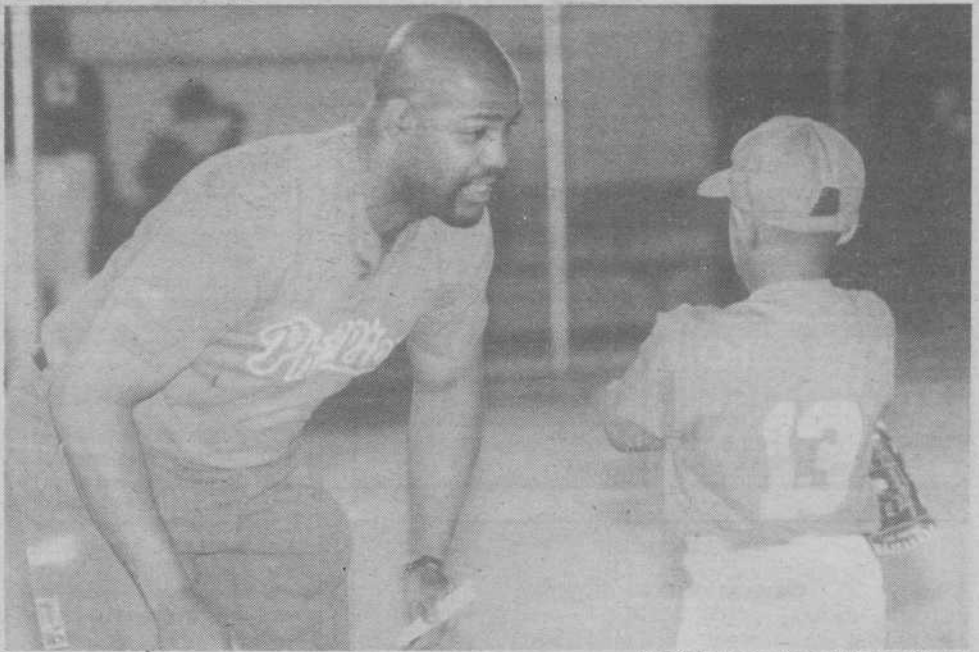
For a cost of \$65, which covers uniforms, insurance, officials, equipment and field events, boys and girls, ages 5 to 15, can play ball.

According to Jordan, most leagues in the valley charge about \$120 for each of its players.

"To interact with other kids and stay physically fit," Jan Coleman said as to why her 5- and 8-year-old sons play for the league. "If they want to be a Daryl Strawberry or Reggie Griffith that's fine with me."

"Baseball is fun," said Chandler Cooks, 5, and a first-time participant in the league. "(I like) running, batting, and sliding in the dirt."

Community Little League was formed with assistance from the city of Las Vegas, the Housing Authority, and many volunteers. At the end of the season the league will



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

William McIver coaches a player during one of the opening games of the Community Little League. Games are played at the field behind Doolittle Community Center.

form its own all-star team to compete in the city league.

"Compared to other fields...there is no comparison," Fred Haron, vice president of the league,

said about the Royal Grundie Stadium in Summerlin.

"They have a dug out, a refreshment stand, a homerun fence, and a scoreboard."

"I would like to implement

other programs into Community Little League," Haron said. "Programs such as drug intervention as well as baseball to keep kids active and healthy."

Jackson

(Continued from Page 1) Sunday, Jackson said Clinton didn't really need to say much more at that point. "Clearly, he is delighted," Jackson said. "Now he has to determine the worth and weight of a diplomatic gesture."

Escorting three American prisoners of war out of

Yugoslavia was quite a coup for Jackson, who has flitted from cause to cause in recent years and is seen as something of a gadfly at the White House. It had frowned upon his mission to Belgrade from the beginning.

Thinking of his own five children, Jackson said, "I

could not stand to walk away. ... I kept arguing the case about they have no currency in jail, they are just war bait."

Interviewed today on ABC's "Good Morning America," Jackson said Milosevic eventually suggested he might free one soldier—the oldest, who has

a wife and child. Jackson said he pointed out that that soldier — Staff Sgt. Christopher Stone — is white and the other two are Hispanic, and said releasing only Stone would "send a very ugly signal back home."

Jackson said he eventually was able to persuade

Milosevic that since the three had been captured together, they should be released together.

Jackson, who headed an ecumenical religious delegation on his mission, lingered at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany to await the arrival of the

soldiers' families before returning to Washington Monday.

He wouldn't talk about the letter he had for Clinton; "It's his letter," Jackson said. White House spokesman David Leavy also declined to comment on the letter, saying the president had not seen it.

Venetian

(Continued from Page 1) benefits—all because of the union.

Venetian officials say the hotel has the best benefits package on the Strip, including, on-site child care, free prescription medicine, free concierge services and free membership to its health club.

Pedestrians seemed more curious than agitated by the throng of marchers obstructing their path, in many cases stopping to ask what was going on.

"I sympathize with the marchers even though this is kind of inconvenient," said Lorraine Redd, a tourist from Virginia, who struggled through the two block demonstration laden with shopping bags.

The union protesters dispersed by 6:30 p.m.

Culinary Local 226 Secretary-Treasurer Jim Arnold said the union decided to end the picket because a lane of Las Vegas Boulevard couldn't be used for the rally. Arnold said the wording for the permit was wrong because it specified the use of a lane farther down the street and not in front of the Venetian.

He estimated that there were 3,000 marchers at the

evening rally and said the union decided to "leave out of safety consideration for tourists and our members" after the growing crowd of union marchers and tourists began to spread into the street.

"We'll be back, we'll definitely be back," he said.

The Venetian filed suit in District Court against several unions and their leaders. The company claims that people associated with the unions trespassed Monday on the hotel's property and created excessive noise around the property.

NEVADA BUSINESS SERVICES



Helping Southern Nevadans obtain job skills and a job!

If you need training or other assistance to help you find employment, call our offices today.

646-7675
(TDD 638-1159)



A Human Resource and Career Training Service

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program; Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Put a Dodge in your Garage!

Zero Cash Down up to \$2000 cash rebates



Lawrence Ennis

98's MUST GO

\$3,000 Push, Pull or Drag Your Trade*

*On selected full retail price

Fresh Start Program

99% Approvals We'll Find a Way!



CHAPMAN DODGE

3470 Boulder Highway • 457-1061