

SPORT TALK • SPORT TALK

The Albina Ministerial Alliance 1985

Self-Enhancement Camp

Last week, Jefferson's gym hosted the 1985 version of the AMA Self-Enhancement Junior Basketball Camp. The week of June 24, 1985 will be long remembered by every kid that attended the session. In fact, it's a week that I will remember fondly. I had a feeling of pride in my chest that cannot be translated through the written word. I observed a bond being established between young and old through the game of basketball.

Tony Hopson and Ray Leary aren't into titles, they simply care and want to help. These two brothers are the architects of this camp and are the guiding forces behind a staff of dedicated and talented athletes who are trying to give it back. Don't confuse giving it back with passing on basketball tips to impressionable youngsters. Imparting basketball skills seems to be a bridge that allows the staff access to these young minds that lay behind expressionless faces. The kids recognized the faces of Lionel Hollins and mark Radford but they didn't know how these men felt about them as human beings until the Albina Ministerial Alliance provided the forum.

Tony and Ray didn't go out recruiting a staff that consisted of big names with six figure contracts, they attracted a staff that cares. Howard Avery is all over this community reaching out to the young and leading by example. When Tony Hampton layed that infectious smile on them, every kid within reach knew that they had a new friend. Jimmy Kilpatrick will not be forgotten by any junior that attended this camp. Keith Jackson is the epitome of the scholar athlete and he was there passing it on. I have a positive statement to make about every staff member that participated but I just don't have the space to properly acknowledge them.

Out of all the kids that attended the camp, maybe there will be one or two that will someday become a professional athlete and realize his dream. I saw a few kids with the potential to at least come close to that dream. More importantly, every kid in attendance has a better chance of mastering their educational goals because of their participation in the Self-Enhancement Camp.

On the last day of the camp, Jimmy Kilpatrick asked the kids to write a letter to themselves addressing their week at the camp. There were no wrong answers. Here's what Carlos Richard wrote:

Dear Carlos Richard:
This summer at the Enhancement Camp I learned a lot, for example, I learned the definition of words, words I hear everyday. I learned what kind of person I was and what other people are. I learned through the coaches how to listen more carefully on what he is saying, focus in more and listen to what he has to say. I learned through the coaches a lot on enhancing my basketball game. Downstairs in the class, Jimmy helped me to express myself better and when I go somewhere to look positive, be friendly in my body language and not to look at people with my arms folded or behind my back. When I talk to someone I should look into their eyes when we have a conversation. Jimmy taught me eye to eye contact when talking to a crowd of people. I'm going to take all this with me because I know it's going to be useful.

Sincerely, Carlos

For any skeptic that has read this far, I assure you, this story is not intended to drum up business for the camp. In fact, I couldn't if I wanted to. The participants of the Self-Enhancement Camp are all referred by local coaches and counselors. To further put any skepticism aside, it's FREE. The Senior Camp will be held at Adams High School, July 22-26. The doors are wide open so drop by and see what Tony Hopson has put together for your children.

WHY ATTEND THIS CAMP?

1. Academics — 2 hours of reading and writing per day, study skills and time management, classes taught by certified teachers.
2. Counseling — 2 hours of counseling per day, group and individual counseling, career guidance, college preparation, politics of athletics.
3. Competition — 2 competitive games per day, best high school competition in the city.
4. Role Models — NBA players, local college players, high school coaches, educational and business leaders.
5. Career Guidance — student will complete camp with a full career guidance folder.

CAMPERS DAY

- 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Monday thru Friday
- 8:30 - 9:00 — Daily Outline — questions and comments, warm-ups
- 9:00 - 9:45 — Fundamentals — skill development supervised by high school coaches and college players

- 9:50 - 10:35 — Game No. 1 — competitive game No. 1.
- 10:40 - 11:25 — Academic Session — taught by local certified teacher, college preparedness, reading, study skills, career development
- 11:30 - 12:15 — Lunch — on your own
- 12:15 - 1:00 — Guest Speaker — local leaders from the business, educational, and athletic world share with students
- 1:00 - 1:45 — Game No. 2 — competitive game No. 2
- 1:50 - 2:25 — Academic Session — taught by local certified teacher — being a winner in life, motivation, discipline, sacrifice, taking risks
- 2:30 - 3:15 — Communication — team concept, family, drugs, social life, peer pressure
- 3:15 - 3:30 — Summary — day activities re-examined
- 3:30 - 4:00 — Individualized Instruction — one on one instruction for students who want it

SUPPORTED BY:

Matthew Prophet, Superintendent Portland Public Schools; Harry Glickman, Vice-President Portland Trail Blazers; Herb Cawthorne, Director Portland Urban League; Margaret Carter, State Representative District 18; Don Monson, Head Basketball Coach University of Oregon; Rick Metsger, KOIN-TV Channel 6 Sports Director.

All Comers Track Meets

Portland Parks & Recreation is sponsoring All Comers Track Meets this summer at Madison High School. All ages are welcome to drop by. Meet time is 6 pm every Wednesday beginning June 26 through July 31. Entry fee is only 50¢. For more information please contact the Sports Office at 796-5150.

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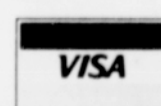
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