

## Tour leaders emerge after two MJGO stops

The race is on through two of the scheduled stops on this late summer into early fall's 2001 Junior Golf Tour. Following the playing of the second monthly affair held at The Warrior Golf Club last weekend, leaders sit atop the respective age and gender divisions protecting anywhere from single-point to 11-point advantages.

The first of the Tour tournaments was held late last month on the organization-hosting's Mooresville Junior Golf Organization's home Mooresville Municipal Golf Course.

Competition is taking place in a total of six divisions, four for boys and two for girls. It's in the youngest of the two girls groups where the largest points lead exists.

In the girls 9-11 class, Jessica Mitchell has constructed an 11-point gap, reaching 23 points to runner-up Hayley Hammond's 12 points.

Meanwhile, two of the closest calls are present in the oldest and second-youngest boys divisions. There, but a single point separates the top two players each.

In the boys 15-17 age bracket, Chris

Song has collected 13 points to post a one-point edge over second-place Kyle Brewer's 12 points. Yet a single point behind that, in third, sits Eric Barnhardt, with 11 points.

In the boys 9-11 division, one point also separates leader Dustin Johnson, with 15 points, from runner-up Oliver Shoe, with his 14 points. Daniel Warlick rests in third, with 12, leading fourth-place Taylor Henley by yet another point.

In the boys 12-14 division, the largest points lead of any of the boys leaders exists as Burt Hudson has picked up 19 points through two events to build a six-point margin over second-place Matt Darnell's 13 points. A tight race for the next two spots finds Ben Roberts third, with 12 points, followed by Michael Brown in fourth, with his 10 points.

In the boys 6-8 age bracket, Ober Bailey's 11 points have the advantage of Michael Peterson's nine. William Davidson sits another two points back, in third, with seven.

In the girls 12-14 bracket, Jennifer Link, with her 23 points, holds a five-

point cushion over the second-place entry, Courtney Boyd, with 18. Aimee Turner follows in third with 14 points. Under the Junior Tour's points procedure, each player receives points for participating in a tournament stop as well as for placing within his or her age bracket. Bonus points are also awarded for birdies, eagles and other under-par scores tallied during a competitive round.

In the boys 15-17 division, Chris Berg shares fourth with Brandy Wyatt, both with eight points. In the boys 12-14 class, Callaway Turner and Kevin Cella each have seven points to share fifth, followed by Jason Moore's six points, and five each from Braxton Brannon and Alan Barnhardt.

In the boys 9-11 division, Jake Morris and Brad Hudson have each picked up eight points to share fifth, with Danny Brown and Hunter Henley owning seven points apiece to share sixth.

In the boys 6-8 group, Timothy Hummel has four points, as does Nicholas Bernardo.

## Soccer

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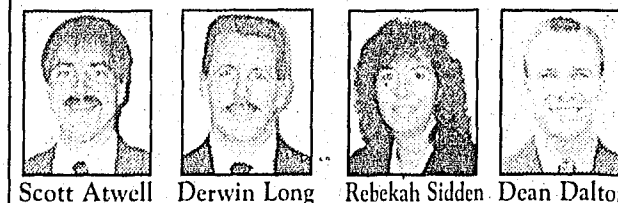
match stand when hosting South Rowan Monday night in the Mooresville Stadium.

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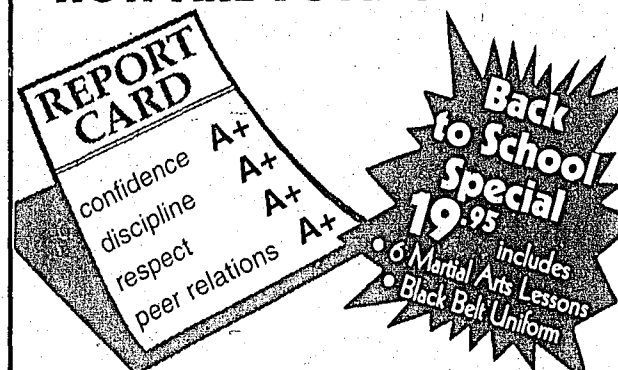
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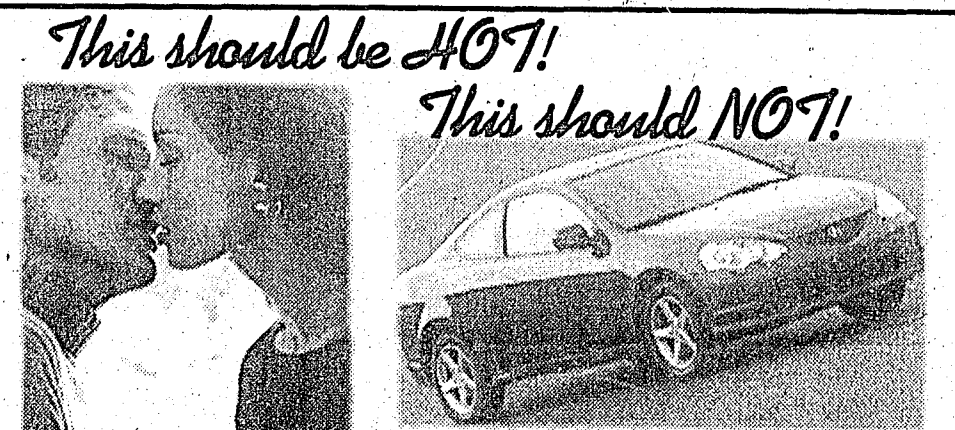
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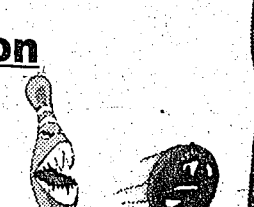
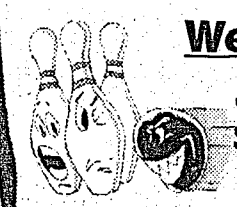
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## Hit leaders head cast coaches appreciate

Most were gathered there for the premise of appreciating those who have volunteered their time to serve as youth coaches within the Mooresville Recreation Department.

There was a special cast on hand, however, that those coaches were there to especially appreciate.

Batting champions from six of the MRD's baseball and softball leagues served as invited guests of the annual Coach's Appreciation Banquet, during which each of the hit leaders were acknowledged for their feats by being the recipients of batting trophies.

The awarding of the trophies served to highlight the evening's light agenda that featured a fully catered meal and short comments from Wanda McKenzie, superintendent of recreation, and Brent Cornelison, athletic director.

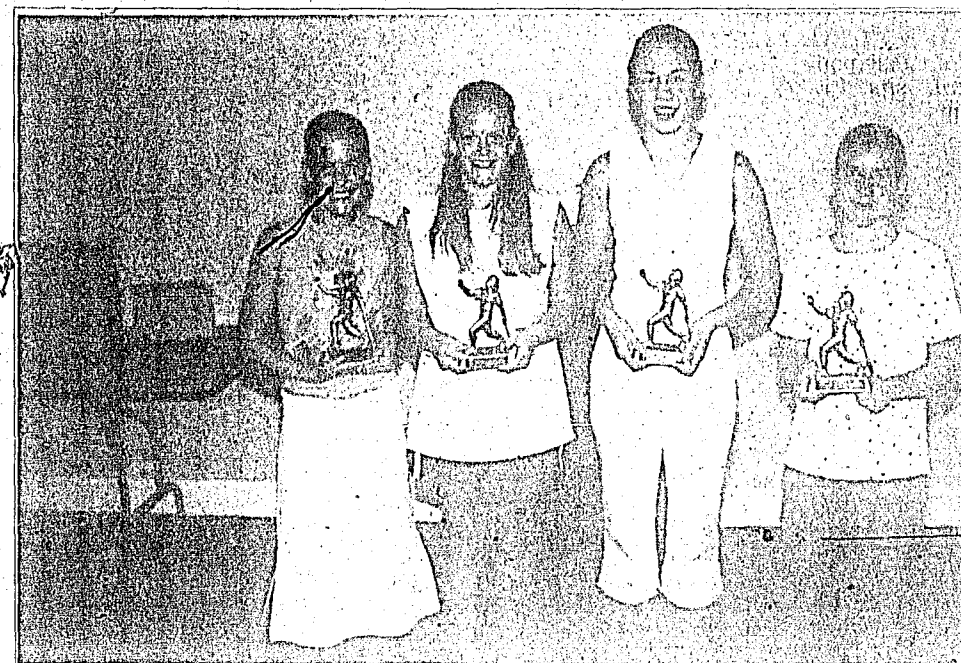
It came at the close of a recent baseball and softball season, that, counting adult leagues, fielded some 115 teams, most of them being conducted at the youth level. In all cases, coaches volunteer their services, some of them handling multiple teams at various age levels.

Despite the growing number of players that produce added teams at just about all age levels in both baseball and softball on a yearly basis, Cornelison revealed that he had to beat the bushes for just one additional coach this past season.

"The success of our program is due to the commitment we receive for our volunteer coaches," stressed Cornelison. "We could not have the kind of participation we have without any of you. We thank you all."

More than just words of thanks were delivered to the respective batting league champions. Those with the highest batting standards in six leagues, three each in girls softball and boys baseball, were showered with trophies. A total of seven honorees were recognized, it the result of a tie for top hit leader status in one of the circuits.

That tie took place in the youngest of the three softball leagues, the Minor League, where the Orioles' Abbi Bagwell and the Tigers' Autumn Bryant each con-



Batting queens, from left, Bagwell, Bryant, Abraham and Popowycz, with crowns

nected at the same .833 rate. No other player in the league batted higher than .800.

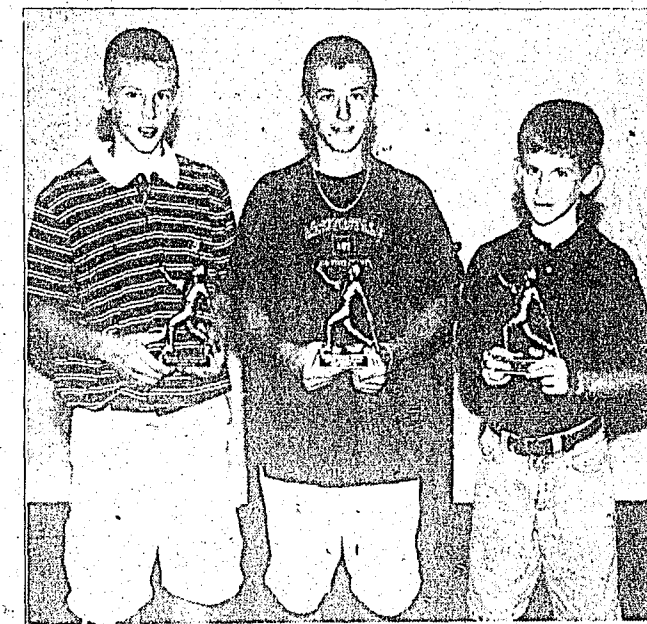
In the girls Midget Softball League, two hits out of every three times at bat for a .667 batting eye, was good enough to place the Tigers' Katie Popowycz atop the charts. She captured the title by a more than 100 percentage point margin over the next best hitter.

And in the oldest Junior Softball League, the White Sox's Courtney Abraham boasted of the widest margin of any batting champion, swinging a hefty .750 stick that earned her the crown by nearly a full 200 percentage point spread.

Among the boys, the batter with the highest of any average champion came in the Mustang League, where the White Sox' Brantley Horton connected with an .812 tune, clipping the next closest hitter by a mere three percentage-point difference. It was the closest of any of the batting classes.

In the Bronze League, Sam Allen was the lone member of his Brewers' team to finish among the top five, but he did so with a bang. Allen wound up with a .615 stick to lay claim to the batting title, as no other league members hit higher than .550.

And in the Pony Baseball League, another tight race involved four members of the same team before the



Hit kings, standing from left, Allen, Seaford, and Horton

## PWF set to put weapons to test

You bring 'em, and the Professional Wrestling Federation members will use 'em when the group makes an appearance in the Mooresville area this weekend.

In a special weapons match, during which in-ring competitors will make use of items such as chairs, tables and other accessories -- with the exception of guns and knives -- brought to the arena by those attending, will serve to highlight a full card of events during the Battle of the Belts.

Bell time is set for 8 p.m. in the Mooresville National Guard Armory building.

Headlining the cast of wrestlers scheduled to appear in the PWF's own Italian Stallion. Other PWF regulars, as well as those with ties to the World Championship

Wrestling and World Wrestling Federation organizations will also be on hand.

Matches held during the event will also be televised by Adelphia Channel 4 from Mooresville, for a later taped-delayed broadcast.

The night will feature seven scheduled matches along with live interviews of the competitors for the TV broadcast.

Tickets to the evening's festivities are available now for \$8 each, with children ages five and under admitted free. Tickets at the door the night of the competition will sell for \$10 each.

Proceeds realized from the appearance will go to help fund an anti-drug program designed for children.

For more details, contact 704-573-2224.

## MMS soccer starts, ends on home field

Starting and ending at home serve to highlight the Mooresville Middle School boys soccer season this fall.

In between that home and season-opener set for later this week and the finale set for early October, the Red Imps of coach Susie Hudson will be making just three other at-home appearances, each of them coming during a consecutive stretch that also serves as the longest homestand of the season.

The Imps will engage in a total of 11 matches, five of them at home. Among them in that opener, set for tomorrow (Thursday) in the first of back-to-back meetings against Newton-Conover Middle School.

The two opponents will then wrap up that season series when they get back together early next week on Newton-Conover's home field.

All told, MMS will engage in five home-and-series while appear in a single road match against another foe to complete the schedule.

## Every other home game keeps Lady Imps on go

Stay go, stay.

Such is an agenda that will follow Mooresville Middle School's girls softball team throughout its upcoming season.

Starting tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon, the Lady Imps of head coach Ann Clark will not have to worry about staying in one place too long. Their see-saw schedule finds them playing every other game at home.

As a result, beginning with the debut against visiting J.N. Fries, the Impettes will play a total of five home games while also being involved in just as many road contests.

Along the way, MMS' girls will engage in home-and-home series against fellow members of their South Piedmont Middle School Conference.

In addition to opening-foe Fries, other SPMSC foes making trips to the Impettes' home field behind

Mooresville Intermediate School includes Northwest Cabarrus, Mt. Pleasant, Concord and Kannapolis middle schools.

Barring weather delays and postponements, at no point in the entire 10-game season will the Lady Imps play more than one game in a row either at home or on the road.

Starting times for all games is 4 p.m.

The Mooresville Middle School softball schedule, with home games in all caps, follows:

Aug. 23.....JN FRIES  
Aug. 28.....Northwest Cabarrus  
Aug. 30.....KANNAPOLIS  
Sept. 4.....Mt. Pleasant  
Sept. 6.....CONCORD  
Sept. 11.....JN FRIES  
Sept. 13.....N.WEST CABARRUS  
Sept. 18.....Kannapolis  
Sept. 20.....MT. PLEASANT  
Sept. 25.....Concord

## Sterling Marlin

Continued from page 1B

down the ladder.

In addition to Marlin, other area entries taking at least one-turn as a race leader to collect bonus points included Robert Yates Racing's Ricky Rudd, who did so three times, as well as Penske South Racing's Rusty Wallace, also three times a leader, and Penske Racing's Jeremy Mayfield, doing so once for a single lap.

Of that group, Rudd finished next-to-last in 42nd place, following a third-place start, after a blown engine ended his day on lap 120, but he stayed second in points. Wallace wound up 17th, three spots lower than his 14th-place start, and improved one point standing spot 19th.

The area's only other top 10 finish came courtesy of Dale Earnhardt Jr., who secured 11th after starting 17th in 27th place. His 11th-place status in points remained unchanged.

DEI's Dale Earnhardt Jr. wound up 12th, right where he started, and protected his sixth-place points standing, while right behind Penske Racing's Mayfield finished 13th, jumping up from 19th. Jasper Motorsports' Robert Pressley, back at the wheel, took 14th, making a 16-car jump from his 30th-place starting nod in the process.

Also, Mooresville's Joe Nemecek checked in 22nd, up from a 40th-place provisional start, while Ganassi Racing's Jason Leffler turned in a 24th-place effort, down from an 11th-place start. Mooresville's John Andretti placed 26th, also in a Dodge, after starting fifth. Jerry Nadeau, also of Mooresville, placed 34th, losing three spots from his 17th, while DEI's Michael Waltrip lost ground from his seventh-place start to settle for a 36th-place finish.

Area drivers and teams now point towards this week's race, the Sharpie 500, tabled for Bristol Motor Speedway under the lights Saturday night.

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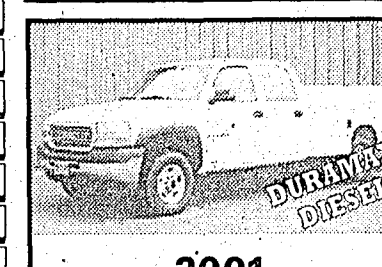
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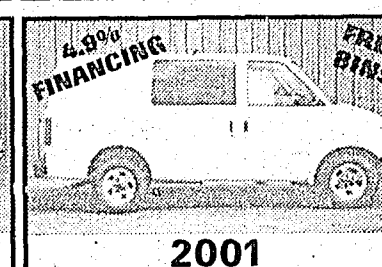
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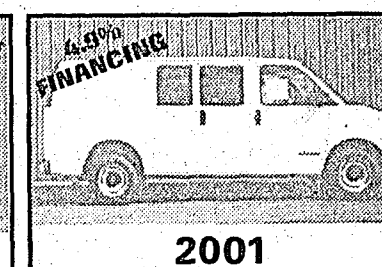
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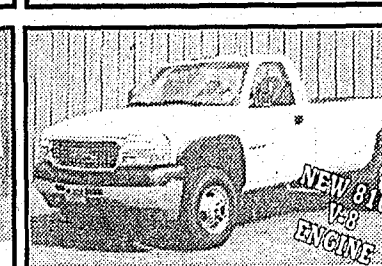
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