



Inner City Youth Golfers' Incorporated

Press Release

“ICYG Makes Golf Donation to Overtown Youth Center”

**By: Malachi Knowles, Golf Editor, Westside Gazette
Newspaper**

Riviera Beach, FL (USA), October 23, 2009: Inner City Youth Golfers', Inc. (ICYG), based in Palm Beach County has shared one of the goals of the PGA of America, PGA Tour & LPGA since its establishment in 2000 - “Growing the game of golf.” When called upon by community organizations that share our vision – “Say No To Drugs – Say Yes To Education, Culture & Golf” - we make every effort to be supportive. ICYG donated golf equipment in 2008 to start the first driving range in the “Green Zone” in Iraq in partnership with the Boca Raton Country Club and to the Bahamas Golf Federation to start its only “youth golf academy.”



Dr. Larry A. Rice, Academic Affairs Dean, Johnson & Wales University (JWU), North Miami Campus made contact with ICYG and we donated more than 400 golf clubs, hundreds of golf balls and other golf supplies such as bags, teaching materials and hole flags to assist JWU with the establish of a new youth golf program at Miami's Overtown Youth Center (OYC).

The OYC, opened in early 2003, with the support of Alonzo Mourning provides a safe haven for the children in Overtown. It is a state-of-the-art facility located in the heart of Miami's inner city. The Center co-locates academic and recreational activities in a safe environment, working with children, families, and schools from grade 2 to graduation. We offer in-school, after-school, weekend, and summer programs that include academic enhancement, physical fitness, health care and nutrition, creative arts, prevention, character-building, and family-oriented activities, including parent orientation.

Dr. Rice shared that “each year, the JWU performs nearly 9,000 hours of community service work. Community Service is an ideal way to give back to the North Miami area, as well as to add experience and skills to ones career learning.” Since 2000, their golf team - the “NCAA Division I Wildcats” - has racked up a remarkable string of victories and is currently ranked #1 in the country in “NAIA Men's Golf.” With the donation of golf equipment from ICYG, golf students from JWU will start its new “youth golf program” at the OYC on a weekly basis. This initiative is a part of an ongoing career education partnership between JWU and OYC. Youth will learn not only about the game itself, take their first swings, getting an introduction to the fundamentals, but also about the business of golf, and the many different careers available within golf management. More importantly, the youth will also learn the “life skills” that one learns from the sport such as honesty, perseverance, punctuality, sportsmanship, integrity, dress and manners.

ICYG Youth Golf Advisor, Stanley Wilson, Jr., a recent FAMU Golf Team member was excited to assist with the golf equipment donation and volunteered his assistance. Wilson, Assistant Golf Professional, Bear Lakes Country Club, West Palm Beach, FL is currently studying to get his PGA Tour card.

Dr. Rice stated in receipt of the donation from ICYG, “I am humbled by all of this equipment which was not expected which will save them from spending funds that it did not yet get their youth golf program started.”

I hope that all of the youth golfers will learn to enjoy the game of golf and make many lasting friendships.

Photo Credit: Tonya Evans, Director of Communications, North Miami Campus, Johnson & Wales University. Left to Right: Stanley A. Wilson, Jr., Assistant Golf Professional, Bear Lakes Country Club, West Palm Beach/ ICYG Youth Golf Advisor; Esmeralda H. Knowles, ICYG Executive Director; Dr. Larry A. Rice, Vice President/Dean of Academic Affairs, North Miami Campus, Johnson & Wales University; Malachi Knowles, ICYG Founder.