

Sports

6 The Houston Sun August 12, 2008

Houston area Youth Olympians compete in AAU in Detroit

Dorris Ellis
THE HOUSTON SUN

DETROIT, MI —Just days before the start of the Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, the annual Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics for youth ages 12-18 were held in Detroit, MI. July 23 through August 2 and the Houston Sun got a chance to talk with Houston area athletes, coaches and parents. Among the Houston area competitors were: Erin Fairs, 13, a seven year participant who competed in four event including the 100 and 200 hurdles, the High Jump and got a medal.; H. Bresco, Jr., Evan Fairs, 10 a five-year competitor earned the best time in the 400 meter and participated in the High Jump; Tamia Holmes, 11 was a two-year competitor. Other local athletes were: Anette Holmes and Michael Campbell. Speaking

about the Junior Olympics, Erin Fairs said, "It was fun, a good experience and I like it and want to do it again," while Evan Fairs said, "I tried my best" Tamia Holmes said, "It was scary and exciting. I need to get some more height when I jump," as she analyzed her skill.

Houston was well represented in the 2008 AAU with the local teams. Among them was the Northside Striders coached by Tony T. Jones. Jones was proud of the success of his winners and was pleased with the medal success of Keishawana Scott who received the Sub Bantam Silver Medal in both the 400 and 800 meter race.

AAU Background

The Amateur Athletic Union, widely known as the AAU, was formed in 1888 to sponsor US teams and players in a wide variety of sports, and has sponsored many tournaments throughout the United States.

Its goal is to help athletes get noticed, to direct them toward a good college or into the right environment in their community. The summit AAU events are the annual AAU Junior Olympic Games. Until the 1970s it was the recognized governing body for many prominent sports in the United States, such as swimming and track and field, but it gave up its jurisdiction with the decline of amateurism.

The AAU Junior Olympic Games originated from 'telegraphic' state track and field competitions. National Champions were determined through telephone and/or mail entries instead of head-to-head competition. In 1949, the AAU conducted its first 'live' national meet in Cleveland, Ohio — giving birth to the AAU Youth Sports Program. Because of the success of the national track and field head-to-head competition, AAU leaders solicited support from the business and corporate sector. The Chevrolet Division of General Motors Corporation and the Quaker Oats Company assisted the AAU in their vision of the number of youngsters that could be helped.

As the popularity of the AAU Youth Sports Program increased, the AAU leaders decided to conduct two national championships simultaneously. The idea came to fruition when Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey proclaimed the first AAU Junior Olympic Games open on August 21, 1967 in downtown Washington, D.C at the Departmental Auditorium on Constitution Avenue. Five hundred twenty-three athletes competed in the inaugural AAU Junior Olympic Games in Washington, D.C. in 1967. National champions were determined in swimming and track and field. Eighteen AAU records in swimming and three in track and field were established.

Since its beginning in Washington, D.C., the AAU Junior Olympic Games have been conducted in 19 states and 30

cities across the United States. The state of Tennessee leads the way with six AAU Junior Olympic Games to its credit. "There's nothing junior about it" has become the theme of the AAU Junior

year 2012. The future hosts include Des Moines, IA; New Orleans, LA; Hampton Roads, VA; Knoxville, TN; and Detroit, MI. The AAU is one of the largest, non-

Memorial Award and the AAU Complete Athlete Program.

The AAU was founded in 1888 to establish standards and uniformity in amateur sports. During its early years, the



Northside Striders Track and Field Team and coaches

Olympic Games while growing to over 16,000 participants in over 20 sports. The Games popularity has exploded to now represent all 50 states and several United States territories.

The AAU Junior Olympic Games are known as the largest national multi-sport event for youth in the United States. It has become the showcase event of the AAU Sports Program. The AAU is proud to announce a partnership with 5 outstanding cities that will host the event through the

profit, volunteer sports organizations in the country. As a multi-sport organization, the AAU is dedicated exclusively to the promotion and development of amateur sports and physical fitness programs. The AAU philosophy of "Sports for All, Forever" is shared by over 500,000 members and 60,000 volunteers nationwide. Over 34 sports are offered in the 57 AAU Districts. Programs offered by the AAU include: AAU Sports Program, AAU Junior Olympic Games, AAU James E. Sullivan

AAU served as a leader in international sport representing the United States in the international sports federations. The AAU worked closely with the Olympic movement to prepare athletes for the Olympic games. After the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 and the establishment of the United States Olympic Committee, the AAU has focused its efforts into providing sports programs for participants of all ages beginning at the grass roots level. Source: AAU

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Design Engineer in Houston, TX: Exp. w/AutoCAD, Excel, & design software for the design of single/multi-story steel structures. B.S. in Civil Eng. & 6 months exp. required. Mail resume: NCI Building Systems, Attn: Becky Young, Job #9783, 7301 Fairview St., Houston, TX 77041

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By DJ

Cars & Trucks

Toyota Yaris, a good choice for comfort and economy

Earlier I wrote about test-driving the 2008 Yaris Hatchback. With a most recent test, I drove the 2008 Yaris compact sedan and it was a pleasurable delight. The only thing that it lacks for me was the standard. You see, I especially enjoy shifting small cars. Well, on to the ride, which was a good one. Being tall, I had to adjust my entering and exiting move so that I wouldn't bump my head. Yet, once I became familiar with the vehicle, I could make my rounds without a glitch.

The 2008 Yaris sedan was attractive to the eye with its color-keyed bumpers, door handles and outside mirrors and comfortable to the body. The cloth bucket seats and rear seats with adjustable headrest made for a more pleasant ride. The driver enjoys the side vertical seat height adjustable technology and tilt steering wheel. It even had enough space in the rear seat to be a comfortable ride and being a 4-door sedan made it easy for the adult passengers to enter and exit without hesitation. With an EPA Fuel Economy estimates of 29 miles per gallon in the city and 35 miles per gallon on the highway, there is a buzz about the Toyota Yaris in America. The 1.5 liter DOHC 16-valve EFI VVT-I 4-cylinder 4-speed electronically controlled engine performed well. It was easy to move in an out of traffic



2008 Toyota Yaris Sedan

without hesitation or the thought of being too small to run with the big operators and the engine release enough power so the drive can make swift decisions. Safety was not a concern for it comes standard with driver front and passenger airbags, 3-point driver

and passer seat belts and side impact door beams.

The Yaris has a government safety rating of four stars for the frontal driver test and four stars in the crash passenger test and also a rollover test of four stars.

Of course, air-conditioning and the sound system will meet the demands of the young and not so young for you can select your listening mode.

The Yaris that I tested sell for \$17,019.

Clinical Trial Public Notice

Study Comparing Manual Chest Compressions and Automated Chest Compressions

Our community is participating in the Circulation Improving Resuscitation Care (CIRC)* trial, a study comparing manual chest compressions and automated chest compressions. During the next two to three years, those suffering from sudden cardiac arrest, who receive care from the Houston Fire Department Emergency Medical Services, will be randomly given traditional manual cardio-pulmonary resuscitation done with a rescuer's hands or chest compressions provided by AutoPulse®, an Federal Drug Administration-cleared medical device that replaces human hands. Both of these are accepted treatments being used routinely by Emergency Medical Services organizations worldwide. Every year, 325,000 Americans die because of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) -- their hearts suddenly stop beating normally and they are not able to be revived. Worldwide an estimated 1 to 2 million people are sudden cardiac arrest victims. This study will hopefully shed new light on the best way to improve survival rates.

For more information, visit www.circtrial.com, e-mail info@circtrial.com, or call 978-421-9937.

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Tired of renting your home from the government?

Attend the property tax relief hearing in Houston on Tuesday. The House Select Committee on Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform chaired by, Representative John Otto will meet on Tuesday August 19, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. at the North Harris College Performing Arts Theatre located at 2700 W Thorne (north of the Bush Continental Airport) in Houston. AFP encourages all taxpayers to attend and present thoughts, ideas, and personal tax-appraisal experiences to the committee.

YOU CAN'T KILL THE REVOLUTION.



Saturday 26 July 2008

3:30 pm Meet at BBP Headquarters 2828 Dowling Street Caravan to 8400 Hirsch Rd 4:00 pm Gravesite Remembrance 6:30 pm Return to HQ for a candlelight vigil

Sunday 27 July 2008

5:00 pm Film Gathering *The Murder of Fred Hampton* Station Museum 1502 Alabama Street Long *LIVE the Revolutionary Spirit of Carl Hampton!*

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