



FEF, Legends Celebrate Teachers on Hardwood

February 2, 2012

Saturday, January 28, 55 FISD employees hit the court for a day of fun, a little bit of skill, and friendly competition – as fans looked on.

The 2nd annual Teachers on Hardwood basketball tournament pitted friends and co-workers against each other at the Dr Pepper Arena in an event to benefit Frisco Education Foundation (FEF).

The Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides funds for college scholarships, educational opportunities, and grants for educators and staff of Frisco ISD.

Dan Mossakowski, FISD School Board President, and Boals Elementary teacher Mark Hardesty served as referee officials for the tournament. FISD parent and volunteer Allen Biehl was the courtside commentator with Texas Legends staff on the sideline keeping score and the clock.

Following the Teachers on Hardwood afternoon event, the Texas Legends played the Rio Grande Valley Vipers. FISD staff and students participated in many pre-game and in-game opportunities in front of a large crowd. Curtsinger Elementary Tiny Titans performed in the pregame show. Smith Elementary teacher, Annie Isom, performed *God Bless America*, and Centennial High School Show Choir performed *The Star-Spangled Banner*. The Frisco Education Foundation was a Legend of the Game and a portion of the proceeds from ticket sales benefited FEF.

Sponsoring the event were Presenting Sponsor Auto Splash and FEF Platinum Event sponsors Core Construction and Corgan.

"We'd like to thank all the FISD staff, community volunteers, and Texas Legends for their support and for making this event fun and successful," said Foundation Director Allison Miller. "This enables the Foundation to keep helping others achieve their goals. One thing that strikes me about this event is the opportunity it gives students to see their teachers outside of the classroom promoting teamwork, good sportsmanship, and family fun."

A total of eight teams played in the semi-final tournament with four teams advancing to the finals. The teams were divided into male and female categories and consisted of staff from around the district, Miller said.

Hitting the court in support of FEF and playing for their campus or department were:

- The Winded Women coached by Evy Braggs of Ashley Elementary included players Jenny McEligott and Cynthia Davis from Allen Elementary; Hollie Jackson, Boals Elementary; Kim Acosta, Christie Elementary; Mandy Tisdale, Corbell Elementary; and Amanda Jones from Isbell Elementary.
- Brown's Babes coached by Jody Brown of Lone Star High School included players Casey Gaudet, Ogle Elementary; Cari Owens, Purefoy Elementary; Kyla Prusak, Riddle Elementary; Lauren Brown, Sem Elementary; Tanya Diaz McGregor, Spears Elementary; Lisette Matias, Tadlock Elementary; and Kelli McCord, Administration.
- The Splash was also coached by Jody Brown of Lone Star High School and included players Chris Shallcross, Boals Elementary; Jose Gonzales, Christie Elementary; Darrell Neal, Corbell Elementary; Mark Stevens, Isbell Elementary; and Ryan Rimmer, Isbell Elementary.

Photo Gallery



The Tall Glass of Water team took the women's trophy at the Teachers on Hardwood tournament.



West Side Champs took the Teachers on Hardwood men's division trophy.

- Ladies Luck coached by Jamie Siess of Pioneer Heritage Middle School and Grace McDowell of Fowler Middle School included players Derek Rodriguez, Purefoy Elementary; Brett Shelby, Riddle Elementary; Aaron Else, Sem Elementary; John Weaver and Zach Summers, both of Smith Elementary; and Brandon Whiten of Tadlock Elem.
- Tall Glass of Water was also coached by Jamie Siess of Pioneer Heritage and included players Lindsey Bussey, Maus Middle School; Nitzzy Mosquera and Brittany Balogh Pioneer Heritage; Sherry Washington, Scoggins Middle School; and Danielle Smith McKinnis and Genny Black both of Stafford Middle School.
- Team Short and Sassy coached by Grace McDowell of Fowler Middle School included players Jamie Tewson, Frisco High School; Catherine Terence, Jordan Short, and Leslie Ray, Liberty High School; Shannon Beuter, Career and Technical Education Center; and Tara Balogh, Fowler Middle School.
- Be Cool-Stay in School coached by Alan Copeland of Roach Middle School included players Russell Scott Patterson and Sean Childress, Hunt Middle School; Jibrán Kelley and Alan Copeland, both of Roach Middle School; Jason Carpenter, Scoggins Middle School; Raul Perez, Staley Middle School.
- West Side Champs coached by Jody Brown of Lone Star High School included players Keith Connor, Paul Washington, and Stephen Vrska, all of Stafford Middle School; Jeff Harbert, Frisco High School; Chris Pawlak, Lone Star High School; and Ken Strong, Career & Technical Education Center.

First round of the Semi-Finals was Winded Women vs. Brown's Babes. Winded Women went on to beat Brown's Babes 21 to 15. The men's first match of the day was The Splash vs. Ladies Luck. It was a close game all the way with The Splash pulling away for the lead in the final minutes to win 29 to 23 over Ladies Luck.

Game three of the day took the tournament to another height for the women's semi finals as Tall Glass of Water, which consisted of players 6'1", 6'0", 5'10", 5'9", and one 5'5" met their competition, Short and Sassy, which ranged in height from 5'5" to 5'8". The short and sassy ladies never gave up, showing their ability to compete, play hard, and finish what they started, but they still lost to Tall Glass with the final score 20-10.

The final game of tournament play ended with Be Cool, Stay in School playing against the West Side Champs. This too was a back and forth game with each team making a run for the win. West Side Champs beat out Be Cool, Stay in School by a mere three baskets, taking the game 28 to 22.

The Women's finals found Winded Women playing Tall Glass of Water for the championship trophy. Tall Glass of Water took the trophy for 2012.

West Side Champs and The Splash played the last game of the day to see who would take home the win in the Men's finals. Despite an amazing effort to the finish by The Splash, at the end of the day, West Side Champs took home the Men's Division trophy.

All in all it was a great event for participants and spectators alike, Miller said. Stafford Middle School took home the Secondary Participation Award Trophy with Hollie Jackson of Boals winning the Spirit Award. She was full of spirit on and off the court during the event.