

Billiards players cue it up at tournament

BY MARCUS MURPHREE
mmurphree@neighborsgo.com

Though Mark Williamson did not chalk his pool cue for the Richardson Corporate Challenge billiards tournaments this year, the Plano music store owner did man the floor of the parlor, keeping the tournaments moving and

the 15-ball racks breaking.

Williamson has been part of Corporate Challenge billiards since its inception, and now the tournament in its 12th year has 40 teams competing – a substantial increase from the early tournaments with 15 or 16 teams.

“One of the biggest thrills I get is being a good leader and having

a good tournament,” Williamson, a Richardson native, said.

Though Williamson may be the ringleader on the parlor floor at Main Event in Plano, it is billiards players like Jeff Demmin, a Plano resident and D4D Technologies employee, who make the tournament magic happen.

“In last year’s tournament we took gold, and I always want to win,” Demmin said. “I love the competition and I enjoy meeting people and just getting to shoot pool.”

Though Demmin’s team was beaten by Joey Parnell and Anita Taylor from PFSweb, both groups had a good time on the tables during the team tournament Sept. 9.

Parnell and company took second in the mixed team competition, good for 11 points in the overall standings.

With the growth of the tournaments, the level of competition has increased, helping increase the money raised for the Special Olympics.

“They [participants] all sup-



STAFF PHOTOS BY MARCUS MURPHREE
Anita Taylor prepares to take a shot at the 8-ball during her team’s opening round of Billiards at Corporate Challenge 2009.

port it and have fun with it, and it’s for a great cause,” Williamson said.

Garland/Wylie/Sachse neighbor-
borsgo editor Marcus Murphree can
be reached at 469-330-5638.



SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sept. 8-10: Billiards, Main Event, Plano

Sept. 11-13: Softball, Heritage Yards, Plano

Sept. 13: Bike race, UT Dallas campus

Sept. 14-18: Soccer, UT Dallas soccer fields

Sept. 19: Golf, Sherrill Park Course Two

Sept. 20: 5K run, UT Dallas campus

Sept. 21: Swimming, J.J. Pearce High School natatorium

Sept. 22-23: Texas hold ‘em, Civic Center

Sept. 24-26: Flag football, UT Dallas

Sept. 25 and 27: Badminton, UT Dallas activity center

Sept. 29 to Oct. 1: Table tennis, Civic Center



Members of the Rockwell Collins billiards team celebrate for the camera.

COMMUNITY COLUMNIST | CHRIS COATS

HOUSE

continued from Page 5

and Betty and Bill Corbin of Garland, who furnish housing units.

“We help people whose only options were sleeping in their cars or in lobbies,” Alexander said. “They are so grateful, but we feel blessed being able to help.”

The charity rents 19 apartments, furnished by volunteers, in a North Dallas complex. To qualify for assistance, a patient must have a financial need and live outside the North Texas area.

Those who qualify pay a \$15 daily rental fee.

For people who can’t afford that price, charities pick up the cost. The fees cover only 40 percent of rental costs. Ark House hosts fundraisers, seeks grants and relies on donations for sup-

plemental funds.

Robert Blake of Shreveport has rented a unit since December as he awaits a heart transplant.

“I wouldn’t have a place to live without their help,” he said. “They are a blessing from God.”

After 97 days, Mrs. Irvin was released from ICU and is now in her own room. She must undergo at least one more surgery. Her son has remained by her side.

Unable to speak because of a tracheotomy tube, she mouths a message to her son.

“She said that it means to world to her that I’m here,” Mr. Irvin said. “I wouldn’t be anywhere else.”

For more information, visit arkhouse.net.

Contact Chris Coats, neighborsgo community columnist, at ctcoats@aol.com.

Local Dentist Reveals All in New FREE Report...

"FREE Report Reveals The 5 Signs of Gingivitis & How To Eliminate It!"

Discover How To Detect & Destroy This Terrible Gum Disease in The Fastest Time Possible!



Do you have the terrible gum disease Gingivitis without even knowing it?

Learn exactly how to quickly detect it and destroy it! Plus, get the step by step plan that shows you exactly what to do if you have any of the hidden signs before it's too late! **Get this the FREE Report at the website below instantly!**

Local Dentist Reveals New Report!

Get The FREE Report Instantly Right Here:

www.Richardsondentalreports.com/9.htm

(Or call The Toll-Free 24 Hour FREE Recorded Message: 1-877-424-6242)



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ABBY MORALES

TriQuint Semiconductor's team gold medal in kickball helped boost the team to the top of the standings in Division BB.

With standings close, participation counts

BY MARK MACESICH
mmacesich@neighborsgo.com

MORE INFO

For complete results and standings, visit cor.net/cc.

Four weeks and five events into Richardson's Corporate Challenge 2009, standings in all five divisions remained close – at least at the top.

Finals in two events, softball and cycling, were rained out last weekend.

Richardson ISD continued to lead Division A over Texas Instruments in overall standings as of last weekend, but that race had tightened since the opening events as TI piled up participation points in the 12th annual event.

“The idea of participation points is to get as many people [as possible] in a company involved,” said Abby Morales, Corporate Challenge managing director. “By having it count as an event, it becomes a strategy for those companies on the cusp of an overall gold/silver/bronze ... in some years it has determined the

overall Division Winner!”

Teams earn participation points for the number of athletes they enter in events, for entering full rosters in events, and for competing as scheduled – not forfeiting.

RISD still led Division A with three team gold medals (horseshoes, kickball and Punt, Pass & Kick) and two bronze to TI's two team gold medals (billiards and tennis) and one silver medal. Four other teams of the eight in the division also medaled in the first five events.

Otherwise, Alliance Data led the City of Richardson and Fossil in Division B; TriQuint led UT Dallas and all others in Division BB; ELCAN Optical Technologies was leading Freese and Nichols in Division C, and Debt Settlement America/Availity led Division D.

Each of the five divisions comprises eight company, combined or organization teams.

Besides RISD and TI, only two other squads had more than a single team gold: the City of Richardson (horseshoes and billiards) and TriQuint (billiards and kickball). Alliance Data's total of five team medals – one gold (kickball), two silver, two bronze – tied RISD's team haul so far, while seven squads had captured three team medals apiece.

Meanwhile, Texas Instruments' participation points was matched only by Fossil, TriQuint, ELCAN and ETC among the 40 teams, representing 45 organizations from Richardson, Plano, Far North Dallas and surrounding communities.

The city's competitive extravaganza, sponsored this year by Tektronix of Richardson, raises funds for local Special Olympics athletes.

Mark Macesich is a neighborsgo assistant managing editor.

Tee time today at Golf Classic

The 22nd Richardson Chamber of Golf Classic is today at Sherrill Park Golf Course in Richardson. More than 200 golfers and business leaders are expected. Breakfast and lunch will be provided by Chick-fil-A and Rose Food Service, respectively, and an

awards reception will be held immediately following the tournament at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas-Richardson.

Morning check-in starts at 6 a.m., and tee time is at 7:30 a.m. Afternoon check-in starts at 11:30 a.m., and tee time is at 1 p.m. Prices start at \$225.

For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/4F9bqd>.