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## Stars teach values at Camp of Champs

By JOE CRINE, Sports Editor



**GREG MANNING INSTRUCTS Jamori Register during a Camp of Champs session. Behind, afar from the left, Ta'Darius Green and Chris Guyton; and closer is Caden Black.**

Head Georgia State University women's basketball coach and Olympic gold medalist Lea Henry of Colquitt, who played at the University of Tennessee, and former University of Maryland basketball star Greg Manning conducted their Camp of Champs for first- through fifth-graders this week at West Bainbridge Elementary School.

The camp, which began Monday, and concluded Thursday, was born out of a vision shared by the two basketball stars. It was held last week at Jones-Wheat Elementary School and will be held next week at Elcan-King Elementary School.

All three camps are funded through a 21st century grant for after-school programs. Program site coordinator at West Bainbridge was Renee Comerford.

Henry and Manning, who were both college Academic All-Americans, have a vision of motivating young people—with the help of basketball—to set goals, commit to hard work, value education and make good choices.

Henry, who won the gold medal with the U.S. women's Olympic basketball team at the Los Angeles games in 1984, has spent the last 20 years coaching, teaching and motivating young people from all walks of life.

Manning has worked for those years teaching and inspiring young people throughout his professional career as a collegiate athletic administrator, radio and television personality and motivational speaker.

Henry and Manning, who was drafted by the National Basketball Association's Denver Nuggets, gave West Bainbridge students on-court instruction on topics ranging from goal setting and good citizenship to conflict resolution and basketball fundamentals.

Daily Camp of Champs sessions include a healthy dose of academic enrichment, life skills instruction, reading, literacy and recreational activities.

All students completed a Camp of Champs road to success workbook as part of each daily session. At the end of camp, they were given their workbooks along with a Camp of Champs T-shirt and a certificate of completion to keep.

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