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THE ED MURPHEY CLASSIC FORMS YOUTH TRACK CLUB AND HIRES ALISA SEYMOUR AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND HEAD COACH

Memphis coaching standout is hired by Ed Murphey Classic group to head their new youth track club

March 23rd, 2023: MEMPHIS, TN – The Ed Murphey Classic, an organization that promotes track and field events in the Memphis area, announces the formation of the Murphey Track Club. This initiative will provide Memphis youth a free track club and clinics, and the club will be headed by local coaching standout Alisa Seymour.

The goal of the Murphey Track Club is to provide an opportunity for kids from the Memphis area to be exposed to track and field activities during summer months at no cost. Although the club will participate in local and regional competitions for more advanced kids, a primary aim is to give young athletes a team atmosphere to learn and develop the basic skills of track and field. For the first year the club will host practices at two sites but the goal is to expand to dozens of sites across the city in coming years. Club members will put all their summer training to the test at the Ed Murphey Classic on August 4th alongside hundreds of professional athletes including dozens of Olympians.

Seymour received her Masters in Education from Union University then her Masters in Education Leadership from Arkansas State University. She has a passion for teaching and leading youth on and off the track. "Growing up in the inner city and participating in the youth track program played a pivotal role in shaping me into the person I am today," says Seymour. "I hope to be a catalyst in providing this opportunity to other children just like me."

Seymour ran track and field for the University of Memphis and graduated with a degree in Journalism. She then went on to coach track at Wooddale High School, Sherwood Middle School, Southwind High and Collierville High. During her tenures, she won numerous championships and awards for her programs and teams and earning herself the AF Bridges Female Coach of the Year award.

"We are excited about the unique opportunity to provide coaching in a free youth track club in areas of need in our community," says Ed Murphey Classic president, Eddie Murphey. "Providing short-term guidance in structured track and field practices with the club, while teaching the discipline needed to be successful in track and field are all things that can have a long-term impact on every aspect of their life."

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The Ed Murphey Classic is named after the late Ed Murphey who had an illustrious career at the University of Tennessee and was the SEC Mile champion in the mid-50s. To honor his legacy, the Ed Murphey Award has been given annually since 1965 to the top male track and field athlete at the University of Tennessee. For more on the events, programs, and Ed's career and accomplishments, <u>visit our site</u>.