

Black Athletes' Association continues to support research on Sickle Cell Anemia

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The Black Athletes' Association, a loosely knit group of San Diego professional athletes who want to be involved in the community as well as on the playing field, has continued its attack on Sickle Cell Anemia.

A check for \$1,500 has been presented by three members of the Association - Bryan Salter, Chris Fletcher and Doug Wilkerson - to Dr. Lemuel Bowie, Assistant Adjunct Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, San Diego. The funds are earmarked for support of a research project aimed at finding a treatment for Sickle Cell Anemia victims.

This is the second year that the Black Athletes' Association has supported the work in Bowie's laboratory, located in the Veterans' Administration Hospital in San Diego. The money represents the proceeds of a golf tournament sponsored by the Association in June at the Stardust Country Club.

According to Salter, one of the founders of the Association, the group began about two and a half years ago through the efforts of several athletes wanting to get involved in the community.

"We have been concerned with a number of things including Big Brothers and Boys' Clubs," Salter said. "But, we also want the athletes and businessmen to get together. We want the city to get to know the athletes, not just as a team member but as a resident," he said.

Salter said the Association members hope to start similar groups in other cities around the country.

"Over a season we see everyone else in the league," Salter said. "When the idea gets started it could be a very strong association. It could cover all sports including baseball, track, football and basketball. It could really be an influential group," he said.

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