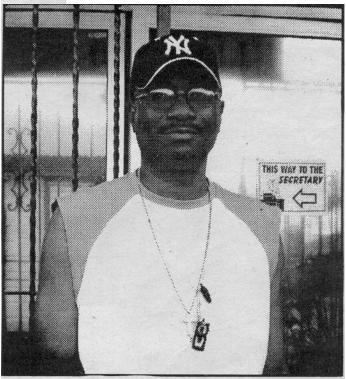
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## COBY m Belize



Chairman and CEO of COBY Foundation, Evondale "Coby" Coburn

BELIZE CI1Y, Mon. Sept. 24, 2007

Visiting back home for the Independence celebrations is former All Belize basketball star of the early 70's, Evondale "Coby" Coburn, and his wife, Juanita. Coby was a member of the 1971 Belize City junior basketball champs Old Parr. The team then went up to the senior division and captured the senior title in 1972 and again in 1974. Following that season, like many young star athletes before and after him. Coby migrated to the States at 21 years old to join his family in New York. He maintains that he never played for Grand Marnier, the team which inherited most of the Old Parr players due to a change in sponsorship name, as he had already left the country. Nevertheless, over the years Coby has maintained strong ties with his old hometown. Born and raised on Plues Street between South and Berkeley Streets in Belize City, Coby was a member of a large and close family, but says he was a bit shy growing up. He credits his basketball

involvement with helping to build his character and self confidence, and thus encourages all young people to take part in some type of athletic activity or competition. Touching base with old friends at the Kremandala compound, Coby informed us that his visit was not all about the celebrations and having fun. On this trip home, his organization, the COBY Foundation, of which he is Chairman and CEO, established in September of 2004 while he was on a visit to Belize, was making some donations to different local organizations. Principal Jacqueline Fuller of Wesley Primary School received school supplies on behalf of 20 schoolchildren. Jerome "Peeloff" Meheia received sports equipment -basketballs, footballs, pumps and whistles for the Yabra Youth Program that he manages. And a trophy for the Rookie of the Year 2008 was presented to "WIN Belize", the Women's Issues Network in Belize. COBY last provided the trophy for this tournament back in 2004, and promised to make it an annual donation.

COBY, acronym for Creating Opportunities for Belizean Youths, is Coby's way of trying to give back to the community that, through family, friends and role models he had growing up, helped him to become the person he is.. The Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help young Belizeans from economically disadvantaged backgrounds through teaching, coaching and mentoring to help them discover and experience the discipline needed to be successful in their personal lives and in their community. U.S. Army Retired and currently works for the Department of Homeland Security. Coby says he is by no means rich, and places great value on hard work. In fact, when young people ask his advice on how to get ahead, he says he doesn't talk much about basketball, but more about the need for hard work, good character, positive attitude, preparation, communication and teamwork.

COBY depends on the generous support of the business community, friends, volunteers and all citizens who are willing to give of their time and donations to help the Foundation carry out its program of fundraising drives, scholarships, sporting events and clinics in several disciplines, lectures, motivational speakers, and providing exposure to working environments and community service organizations. By increasing their direct contact with positive role models, this will help to build the kind.s of interpersonal and communication skills that will be the backbone of these young Belizeans' future success.

In the words of the CEO, "to continue to grow and make an impact, of course we need support. If you are interested in making contributions to this Foundation, send it to: COBY Foundation Account #51819, Holy Redeemer Credit Union Limited, Hodapp House, P.O. Box 544, Belize City, Belize."

Board members of the Foundation are Coby's wife, Juanita; his daughter, Melody and Coby's brother Houlington "Towa" Coburn, who played with Charger football team back in 1975-76.

Spiritual Advisor and Belize Representative for COBY: Rev. Ashley and Lisa Rocke of Lake Independence Baptist Church Mahogany St., Belize City.

Contact nurnbers: Belize (011-501)600-7634; USA (912)492-5014; E-mail: cojag@coastalnow.net

Coby and his wife leave Belize for the US on Thursday, September 27.