



IT BEARS MENTIONING.....

October 2005

HELLO TO OUR HEROES



Thomas Jones helps students at Central Jr. High School write letters to soldiers stationed overseas.

Bears running back **Thomas Jones** visited Central Junior High School in Zion on Tuesday, September 27 to help 6th and 7th grade students write letters to members of the military stationed overseas as part of the Bears "Hello to Our Heroes" program. This program, sponsored by Staples, was developed by the Chicago Bears as a way to help boost the morale of American soldiers. In support of this program, Bears players will visit a different school once a month during the

football season to help a group of students write letters that

will be distributed by the USO to troops overseas. Staples will provide letter writing kits to the students, as well as to the service men and women who receive the students' letters.



TOUCHDOWN CLUB POWER HOUR

Bears staff members recently visited the Logan Square Boys & Girls Club in Chicago on Tuesday, September 20 to participate in the "Touchdown Club Power Hour" program. They helped a group of 8-9 year olds with their homework and then competed with - and lost to - the youngsters in games of pool, ping-pong, and fooseball. As part of this program, members of the Bears organization - including staff, players, and their families - will visit different Boys & Girls Clubs throughout Chicago to help tutor students who take part in the Club's after school program. The next event will take place on Tuesday, October 18 from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Louis L. Valentine Boys & Girls Club on the north side of Chicago.



Members of the Logan Square Boys & Girls Club take a much deserved break for a game of ping-pong after participating in the Touchdown Club Power Hour program.

GOAL POWER



Cliff Stein and Adewale Ogunleye sit on a panel at a recent "Goal Power" event.

Adewale Ogunleye teamed up with Chicago Urban League to form the community outreach program "Goal Power: Alternative Careers in Sports." The second installment of this program took place on Saturday, September 24 with 40 kids from the Chicago Urban League. As part of this program, one Saturday each month during the football season, executives from various Chicago sports teams will serve on a panel and talk about the different job opportunities that exist in professional sports. The most recent panel consisted of sports executives who work in law and medicine and included Chicago Bears Director of Player Contracts and Legal Affairs **Cliff**

Stein. The next Goal Power event will take place on Saturday, October 15 and will feature executives who work in finance and management, including Bears Senior Director of Finance & Treasurer, **Karen Murphy.**

PLAY FOOTBALL DAY

Thursday, September 1 was "Play Football Day" at Soldier Field. The Chicago Bears provided over 3,200 complimentary tickets to 37 different youth football leagues throughout Chicagoland as the Bears battled the Cleveland Browns. 55 youth football players from Chicagoland Pop Warner and Sheriff Sheahan's Neighborhood Football League joined Bears players on the sideline before the game for the National Anthem, and players from the Chicago Park District's Inner City Flag and Junior Bear Tackle leagues scrimmaged during halftime. These activities kicked off Play Football Month, a league-wide initiative to salute the boys and girls involved in youth football programs across the county.



Youth football players joined Bears players for the National Anthem prior to the Bears vs. Browns game.

CHICAGO BEARS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| October 4, 2005 | NFL High School Tuesday at Lane Tech High School and YFL Visit to Morris High School |
| October 6, 2005 | Bear Hugs at Advocate Hope Children's Hospital |
| October 11, 2005 | Hello to Our Heroes School Visit, Bears School Outreach, and YFL Visit to Morton High School (Berwyn) |
| October 14, 2005 | Hurricane Katrina Evacuees Practice Visit to Halas Hall |
| October 15, 2005 | Goal Power: Alternative Careers in Sports |
| October 16, 2005 | Hunt for Food and Shelter at Soldier Field (Bears vs. Vikings) |
| October 18, 2005 | Hometown Huddle, Touchdown Club Power Hour, and Bears School Outreach |
| October 25, 2005 | Halloween Event at Misericordia, Bears School Outreach, and YFL Visits to New Trier and Schaumburg High Schools |

HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF

The Bears have initiated a number of different outreach activities in an effort to help residents of the Gulf Coast areas that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina. On Sunday, September 18 the team hosted a monetary collection drive, "Orange and Blue...Supporting the Bayou," outside of Soldier Field prior to the Bears/Lions game. Any person who made a donation of \$5 or more received a set of blue and orange beads. The Bears will match all contributions dollar for dollar, up to \$250,000, made by Bears players, coaches, and staff, including all donations collected at Soldier Field on September 18. To date, our donation to the hurricane relief efforts exceeds \$138,000! The Bears organization thanks all volunteers and fans who donated...you truly helped make a difference!

On Tuesday, September 20 Bears fullback **Jason McKie** and quarterback **Jeff Blake** joined volunteers at the Northern Illinois Food Bank to help sort and package various cleaning supplies to be sent to the Gulf Coast region. Boxes will be distributed to residents who are able to return to their homes as they begin the long process of repairing and cleaning their houses. The NIFB will be in need of volunteers to assist in ongoing Hurricane Katrina Relief efforts for the next several months. Interested volunteers should contact Dennis Smith at (847) 336-3663.

In addition, a group of approximately 40 children who were evacuated from their homes in Louisiana will be guests of the Bears at a team practice on Friday, October 14 at Halas Hall. These children are currently staying at a shelter in Tinley Park with over 100 other Hurricane Katrina evacuees.



Jason McKie sorts cleaning supplies to be shipped to the Gulf Coast at the Northern Illinois Food Bank.



Terrence Metcalf poses with students at Our Lady of Humility School at Safety Day in Beach Park.

SAFETY DAY

Bears guard **Terrence Metcalf** and Bears mascot **Staley** visited Our Lady of Humility School in Beach Park, IL on Tuesday, September 13 for Safety Day. With the help of the Beach Park Fire Department and Lake County Sheriff's Department, 150 students in grades 3-7 participated in hands-on safety demonstrations including fire and bike safety. This event was created in 2002 after the September 11 tragedy and is meant to educate children about the importance of public safety.

DON'T MISS THE COMMUNITY HUDDLE!!!

The Chicago Bears Community Relations Department and Comcast have worked together to create a new television program called the "Chicago Bears Community Huddle." This bi-weekly, 30-minute show, which will run for 16 weeks during the football season, highlights the community side of the Bears organization by focusing on our various outreach programs, initiatives, and events. It also applauds our generous players who do so much to support the community. The "Chicago Bears Community Huddle" airs on Comcast on Fridays at 7:00 p.m., Sundays at 7:30 p.m., and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Regular features include Bears and prep player profiles, Chicago Bears community involvement coverage, and recognition and prizes for young viewers. For all airing times, log on to www.comcastnetwork.tv/schedule.



Ian Scott and Bobby Wade speak to a student at Jordan Community School as part of the Bears School Outreach program.

NEVER TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL

Each Tuesday during the football season, Chicago Bears players visit Chicago Public Schools to speak to, motivate, and interact with students as part of the Bears School Outreach program. The theme for player visits is character development, goal setting, and commitment to excellence. Players who have participated in Bears School Outreach so far this year include **Ian Scott**, **Justin Gage**, and **Bobby Wade**. For the second consecutive year, Bobby has generously offered to speak at a different school each week. More than 7,000 students benefit annually from this program.

MALNATI'S BENEFIT

The Lou Malnati's / Bears Wives 35th Annual Cancer Benefit took place on Monday, September 26 at Lou Malnati's Restaurant and Pizzeria in Buffalo Grove. Hundreds of fans turned out for the event and the opportunity to meet their favorite players and coaches, and to enjoy some great music and delicious Lou Malnati's pizza. The event also included live and silent auctions, a kids raffle, and the kids corner. Proceeds will benefit Bears Care, a fund of the McCormick Tribune Foundation.



Mark Bradley and Chris Harris pose with a young fan at the Lou Malnati's/Bears Wives 35th Annual Cancer Benefit.

SUPER BOWL SWEEPS

Bears Care, a fund of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, in cooperation with the Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity, announces its Eleventh Annual "Super Bowl Sweeps" to be held on January 19, 2006. The holder of the winning ticket in "Super Bowl Sweeps" wins the following prize package: **Four tickets to Super Bowl XL to be played on February 5, 2006 at Ford Field in Detroit, Michigan; Round-trip airfare from Chicago Midway Airport (MDW) to Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) in Detroit, MI. Travel dates will be February 2, 2006 and February 6, 2006. Airline tickets donated by Southwest Airlines; Hotel accommodations of two rooms for four nights.**

The number of tickets available for the drawing will be limited to only 2,500. A donation of \$30.00 to Bears Care, a fund of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, is suggested. For the past nine years, Bears Care has conducted this drawing. Due to a significant match from the McCormick Tribune Foundation, revenues raised through this raffle generate additional funds for Bears Care and with these matching dollars, this year's fund-raiser has the potential to generate more than \$100,000 for Bears Care. Starting October 19th, you may enter in the "Super Bowl Sweeps" by visiting www.BearsCareSuperBowlSweeps.com





Michael Haynes poses for a photo with Ryan Donahue at a U.S. Army All-American Bowl Selection event at St. Rita High School.

U.S. ARMY ALL-AMERICAN BOWL

Chicago Bears defensive end **Michael Haynes** appeared at St. Rita High School in Chicago on Tuesday, September 27 for a pep rally honoring senior Ryan Donahue, a local selection for the U.S. Army All-American Bowl. The U.S. Army All-American Bowl is the national high school football all-star game, featuring 78 of the top prep football players in the country. The national selection tour visits hometowns and schools of every All-American

and includes a pep rally with the entire student body. Ryan, a kicker, will attend the University of Iowa next year.

MOOSE LEADS FIGHT

Bears wide receiver Muhsin Muhammad has partnered with ESPN Analyst and former Chicago Bear and Pittsburgh Steeler Merrill Hoge for the "Winning Game Plan" campaign to raise awareness for non-Hodgkins lymphoma (NHL), one of the fastest growing cancers in the United States. For every 50 yards gained by Muhammad during the 2005 football season, Genentech and Biogen Idec will make a donation to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to fund important educational programs for people living with NHL and their families. If you have personally been affected by NHL or are interested in learning more, please visit www.WinningGamePlan.com. Other Winning Game Plan team members include Tiki Barber of the New York Giants, Shaun Alexander of the Seattle Seahawks, Jeff Fisher of the Tennessee Titans, and Ronnie Brown of the Miami Dolphins.

THANKS COACH!

The Chicago Bears "Coach of the Week" program honors outstanding Illinois high school coaches who develop players' football skills and knowledge, character, leadership, discipline, and teamwork abilities. Other criteria considered include graduation rates, coaching technique, school and community support, volunteerism, and, most importantly, contributions to players' long-term success on and off the field. This program runs for nine weeks from August 29 through October 24. Coaches are nominated by a panel of local prep authorities and Bears staff, and the winning "Coach of the Week" is selected every Monday.

The 2005 Bears "Coach of the Week" winners include **Bill Mitz** of Stevenson High School, **Rob Zvonar** of Lincoln-Way East High School, **Trevor Lehen** of Rantoul High School, **Ron Muhitch** of Wheaton-Warrenville High School, **Scott Alberssen** of Taylorville High School, and **Don Dobrino** of Mount Olive High School. The Bears will donate \$1,500 to the football program at each winning coach's school. In addition, each coach will be invited to the Bears-Panthers game on November 20, 2005 and will be recognized in an on-field ceremony that day. All "Coach of the Week" honorees will also receive a framed certificate and will attend a Bears' practice and "chalk-talk" with Bears Head Coach Lovie Smith.



CONTACT THE CHICAGO BEARS COMMUNITY RELATIONS DEPARTMENT AT (847) 295-6600