

IT BEARS MENTIONING...

January 2005

A-TRAIN DELIVERS FOR KIDS



On Tuesday, December 14 **Anthony Thomas** dressed up as Santa Claus and delivered toys and Christmas cheer at the American Brain Tumor Association's annual holiday party at the Radisson Hotel Northbrook. Anthony handed out gifts, signed autographs, posed for pictures, and asked children what they wanted for Christmas as they sat on his knee. More than 40 families of children suffering from brain tumors throughout the Chicago area attended the party. The Chicago Bears have supported this event since 1999, and several other Bears players have donned the Santa suit.

BEARS COAT DRIVE

Charles Tillman continued to show his support for the 16th Annual Bears/Menards Coat Drive on Tuesday, December 14 at the Menards store in Mount Prospect. Charles signed autographs and talked with fans who were generous enough to donate a winter coat. The

MENARDS

Bears/Menards Coat Drive will continue through

January 17, 2005, and coats can be dropped off at any of the 39 Menards stores throughout Chicagoland or at Salvation Army Thrift Store locations. The coats will be distributed to needy children and families in the Chicago area. For more information on how you can help or to find the Menards

store nearest you, please log on to <u>www.ChicagoBears.com/community</u>. The Chicago Bears and Menards thank you in advance for your generous donation to those less fortunate during this winter and holiday season.





WM. MEYERS MOVERS INC.

DON'T MISS IT!!! OUR OWN REX GROSSMAN ON WHEEL OF FORTUNE!!

Friday, January 7, 2005 on ABC-7 at 6:30 p.m. as part of NFL Players Week Rex will be playing for Bears Care, a fund of the Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation



BEARS ANNOUNCE COMMUNITY QUARTERBACK

The Chicago Bears organization is pleased to announce that John C. Long, 81, of the Helen Mary Stevick Senior Citizens Center in Champaign was recently named the 2004 Chicago Bears Community Quarterback Award winner. This volunteer recognition program honors outstanding volunteers throughout Illinois and awards a total of \$20,000 to the charitable organizations that they serve. The ten finalists for the 2004 award included: George Motto of the American Diabetes Association - Northern Illinois Area; Kang Moy Chiu of the Chicago Public Library Foundation; Dennis & Susan Czurylo of the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Serenity Tomala of Guardian Angel Home of Joliet; Kenneth Baker of Marie Wilkinson Child Development Center; John Dyer of Misericordia; Kendra Cleary of Off the Street Club; Mary Wafford of

Predestined, Inc.; Bill Engels of San Miguel Schools Chicago, and the overall winner, John C. Long of the Stevick Senior Citizens Center. Bears wide receiver **Bernard Berrian** was the 2004 spokesperson for the award luncheon, and he presented Mr. Long with a check for \$10,000 to the Center. Mr. Long is now eligible for the national NFL Community Quarterback Award. If he wins, the Helen Mary Stevick Senior Citizens Center will receive a \$25,000 donation from NFL Charities. Good luck, John!

BEARS DELIVER BEARS

John Tait and mascot Staley spent the morning of Tuesday, December 21 delivering teddy bears and plenty of smiles to kids at LaRabida Children's Hospital in Chicago. John visited with kids in their rooms before heading down to the emergency receiving area where Staley was entertaining a group of kids waiting for medical assistance. Every child who was at the hospital that day received a



bear. Over 50 teddy bears were collected and donated to LaRabida by the Junior League of Kane and DuPage Counties, Inc.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

John Owens....January 10, 1980 Alfonso Boone....January 11, 1976 Paul Edinger....January 17, 1978 Alfonso Marshall....January 17, 1981 Bryan Johnson....January 18, 1978 Cliff Washburn....January 25, 1980 Justin Gage....January 25, 1981 John Tait....January 26, 1975 Terrence Metcalf....January, 28, 1978

BEARS SCHOOL OUTREACH

Each Tuesday during the football season, Chicago Bears players visited Chicago Public Schools to speak to, motivate, and interact with students as part of the Bears School Outreach program, presented by Bank One. The theme for player visits is character development, goal setting, and commitment to excellence. Players who participated in Bears School Outreach during the 2004 season included: Alex Brown, Desmond Clark, Mike

Green, Justin Gage, Rex Grossman, Michael Haynes, Hunter Hillenmeyer, Todd Johnson, John Tait, David Terrell, Charles Tillman, and Bobby Wade. More than 7,000 students benefit annually from this program.



HOLIDAY HERO

Charles Tillman surprised over 75 kids from Lawrence Hall Youth Services when he stopped by their holiday party at LaVilla Restaurant in Chicago on Tuesday, December 21. The children at the party belong to Lawrence Hall's residential treatment program. They were thrilled that Charles was there to take part in the festivities with them. Charles first became involved with Lawrence Hall this year when he donated ten



season tickets to the organization as part of the Bears Home Team Hand-Off player ticket donation program. The youth who benefited from Charles' generosity were part of "Peanut's Gallery." This program, now in its third season, gives players and coaches the opportunity to purchase a block of



season tickets and donate them to the charity of their choice. The following Bears players and coaches participated in the "Home Team Hand-Off" program during the 2004 season: **Brian Urlacher** – Special Olympics Illinois; **Jerry Azumah** – Uhlich Children's Advantage Network; **Paul Edinger** – Children's Memorial Hospital; **Mike Brown** – Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago;

Anthony Thomas - Big Brothers Big Sisters; Lovie Smith - American Diabetes Association; Adewale Ogunleye - YMCA of Metro Chicago; David Terrell - Manierre School (Cabrini Green); Charles Tillman - Lawrence Hall Youth Services; John Tait - SEDOL Foundation; and R.W. McQuarters -Lydia Home Association.



CHICAGO BEARS...TACKLING THE NEEDS OF CHICAGO

The Chicago Bears 2004 game tickets featured photos of Bears players and coaches serving the community. The following story describes the event that was depicted in the photo for the January 2 game. Through charitable outreach efforts, cause-related marketing initiatives, and grass roots programs in the areas of Education, Underprivileged Children and Families, Health and Wellness, Youth Football, and Volunteerism, the Chicago Bears continue to make a difference.

Tommie Harris Teaches Football and Life Skills Green Bay Packers vs. Chicago Bears

Although Bears first-round draft pick Tommie Harris is still learning the ins and outs of the NFL himself, he took on the role of teacher and mentor earlier last year when he visited a group of youngsters at Allendale Association in Lake Villa. Harris gave an inspirational speech



to the children before taking part in a football game with them. Contrary to his role as defensive tackle with the Bears, Harris assumed the position of designated play caller and passer for Allendale. His passes might not have



been right on the mark, but the kids at Allendale didn't seem to mind a bit. The hour-long game was filled with laughter, good-natured teasing, and a lot of fun. Allendale Association is a private, not-forprofit social service agency, dedicated to excellence and innovation in the care, education, treatment, and advocacy for troubled children, youth, and their families.



BEARS OF THE FUTURE

So many kids dream of being a professional football player, and the Chicago Bears and the NFL try our best to help make that dream become a reality. We support the NFL stars of tomorrow by offering a variety of youth football opportunities throughout Chicagoland. One such program is NFL Punt, Pass

and Kick. This program creates a lively and engaging forum for boys and girls ages 8-15 to compete separately against their peers in punting, passing, and placekicking. The Bears hosted the Championship Round of the NFL Punt, Pass and Kick competition on Saturday, December 18 in the Walter Payton Center in Lake Forest. Forty talented boys and girls squared off for the chance to advance to the National Finals, which will take place during a NFL playoff game in January. The participants also attended the Bears vs. Texans game on December 19. Braving the sub-zero wind chills, they participated in a pre-game demonstration on the field, and the winners from each age bracket were honored at halftime. For more information on Punt, Pass, and Kick and all other youth football programs, please log on to www.nflyouthfootball.com or call 1-800 NFL-SNAP.



COMMUNITY CORNER



