



The Tiny Indians return man gets flipped upside down during the opening kickoff of the game.

Panthers win battle of the little league undefeateds

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY
THE CHRONICLE

The buildup to the 10 and under Division 1 championship between the Southfort Panthers and the Winston-Salem Tiny Indians was one for the ages. All throughout the season there seemed to be a collision course in the championship game for the two teams as they have been dominating their respective opponents all

year. Both teams came into the game undefeated and supremely confident. To start the game, the defenses of both teams set the tone for the game. Behind the two touchdown runs by Marcus Aikens Jr. and their stifling defense, the Panthers took home the championship by the score of 12-0.

The Indians started off the game with a penalty riddled first possession and

was forced to punt. The Panthers did not fare any better with their first drive as they went three and out as well. Both defenses held the other's offense off of the scoreboard as the first quarter ended with a 0-0 score.

The second quarter was a mirror image of the first. Neither offense was able to get on track and sustain a drive. The half ended with a scoreless tie.

During the third quar-

ter, the Panthers seemed to gain a little momentum on offense. Quarterback Jacob Smith connected with DeMarlo Linville for a 20-yard gain, putting them deep inside Indian territory. A few plays later, Smith threw an interception that gave possession to the Indians. The Panther defense was up to the task and stopped the Indians and forced yet another punt.

On the first play of the

fourth quarter, Aikens Jr. took the hand off and ran off tackle. He outran everyone to the corner and tip toed down the sideline for a touchdown from 47 yards out.

The Indians still could not muster any offense and went three and out. On the Panthers next drive, Aikens made three defenders miss and scores from 40 yards out this time. His second touchdown effectively put the game out of reach as

the Panther defense held the Indians scoreless on the day.

Panther defensive back Alphonso Abbott III said, "It felt really good to win, and I'm very happy that we won because we played really hard."

Abbott's father, Alphonso Abbott Jr., added, "I'm excited for them. They played hard and came a long way this season. They deserved to be champions."

Local rec center holds Halloween gym jam

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The Carl H. Russell Sr. Community Center held a Halloween celebration for the local youth.

The center partnered with the Carver Senior Citizens club and area sponsors to put on the event, which was designed to bring kids to the center as a way to keep them off the street and into a safe environment.

The "Trick or Treat Gym Jam" has been held at the rec center for the past five years and continues to grow each year. The center had a number of activities for the children to enjoy, such as a dance contest, three-point shooting contest, musical chairs and more. The music was provided by Carver student Roberto Burges, who volunteered his time.

Carl Russell director Ben Piggott said he loves this event because it puts the kids in a safe environment. "We all get the experience of seeing the kids happy and let other people outside of the center show them

love," said Piggott. "I get excited when I see the kids come in and different groups come give. It's my biggest thrill to see a kid get all the candy they want and tell me, Mr. Piggott when I grow up I want to do the same thing and give back, too."

The recreation center connected with many different organizations and individuals to sponsor the event. Donations and time were given by New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Amazing Faith Apostolic Church, Winston-Salem Parks and Recreation Department, Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship Inc., 30th District Class of Prince Hall Masons, Know Your Neighbor club, Carl H. Russell's Sittercise class, Castle Heights Community Association, Carl H. Russell Volunteers Association, Mae Edith Piggott's Gift, Vickie Allen (E.C. Starts) and Groove Phi Groove (Ram Chapter).

"Each time we have have this event, we have quite a few people who give unmercifully," Piggott continued. "We are just blessed to be a part of a well that

lets people come in and volunteer. We have many volunteers in there that just want to give back



Photo by Timothy Ramsey

A young girl attempts to throw a bean bag during a modified game of corn-hole.

to the children."

Quiana Johnson of Swing phi Swing said she decided to volunteer because it was an opportunity to give back to the community. She said her greatest satisfaction of the night was to be able to see the kids smile and the fun interactions with the children.

There were several community organizations present at the

gym jam as well. Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods and Imprints Cares where involved to

make the parents aware of the services they provide.

Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods (NBN) is an organization that provides grass-root grants for neighborhood associations. Kenneth Holly, NBN community organizer, said their goal is to help residents establish stability within their own communities. He wanted to

inform the local communities around Carver School Road of the grants that are available to the residents if they meet certain qualifications.

"Our efforts are to make sure residents have the capacity of sustaining their own communities from inside," said Holly. "We wanted to participate here because we know it's a way to connect with parents that might not be aware of our programs and to help the kids."

Gabrielle Baker of Imprints Cares said her organization works with parents and children in Forsyth County. She says they provide screenings, books and after school programs for kids. She said the reason they participated was to reconnect with the community and make sure the children are as successful as possible.

Piggott says he wants to continue to see the Trick or Treat Gym Jam grow each year. He says with the strong assistance from the community and local organizations, the sky is the limit for the event.



Photo by Tevin Stinson

More than a hundred children attended the Trunk-or-Treat event held at Rupert Bell Recreation Center on Monday, Oct. 31.

Community Trunk-or-Treat event draws large crowd

More than a hundred local children ditched the traditional door-to-door candy hunt this Halloween for the Trunk-or-Treat event held at the Rupert Bell Recreation Center. During the event on Monday, Oct. 31, children went to different cars that were decorated and filled with candy. The holiday festivities also featured a haunted house, prizes, entertainment, face painting and an award for best decorated vehicle.

Trunk-or-Treat was sponsored by the Winston-Salem Recreation Department, Exquisite Ladies and the Mo Lucas Community Foundation.

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