



IT BEARS MENTIONING.....

September 2006

VERY HAPPY CAMPERS

The Bears hosted over 300 children from 11 different Chicagoland organizations this summer at Training Camp. After arriving in Bourbonnais, each group had the chance to work on their own football skills at Gatorade Junior Training Camp, where they were put through drills and a football-based obstacle course before heading over to watch practice and enjoy a pizza party in their own private seating area. At the conclusion of each practice, the kids had the opportunity to meet some of their favorite players. On Thursday, August 3rd children from Allendale Association, the Chicago Urban League, Chicago Youth Centers, Lawrence Hall Youth Services, Lydia Home, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, Midtown Educational



Roberto Garza poses for a photo after practice with a group of fans from the Rauner Family YMCA.

Foundation, and the SEDOL Foundation were guests at Camp. All of these groups were recipients of the Bears "Home Team Hand-Off" ticket donation program in 2005. The kids were thrilled to meet many of the players who had given them the opportunity to attend their first Bears game. On Friday, August 4th, 50 children from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago had the opportunity to see the Bears in action. The Bears had teamed up with the Boys & Girls Clubs in 2005 to present the "Touchdown Club Power Hour" tutoring program, which is designed to encourage students to focus on academics after school and reward them for their academic achievements. The program will continue in 2006. Saturday, August 5th was Comcast Hispanic Day at Training Camp, and over 50 children and their families from the Rauner Family YMCA came to help celebrate. The day was highlighted by a visit from **Roberto Garza** who stopped by after practice, along with many of his teammates, to sign autographs for the group. On Monday, August 7th over 30 athletes from Special Olympics Illinois visited Training Camp for a day of football and fun! You can imagine the delight and excitement felt by the athletes when **Brian Urlacher** stopped by to say hello! Brian has once again purchased a block of season tickets and donated them to SOI for the 2006 season.



Robbie Gould was one of many players to stop by and sign autographs for a group of Special Olympics athletes.



Defensive Coordinator Ron Rivera shows a child how to use some of the features on his new bike.

BEARS ON BIKES

Twenty-two kids from the Bourbonnais/Kankakee area were the lucky recipients of new bicycles when they visited Bears Training Camp on Wednesday, August 16th. For the second consecutive year, Head Coach **Lovie Smith** encouraged his coaches to use bikes as opposed to motorized golf carts to get around the Olivet Nazarene University campus. On the last day of Camp, each member of the coaching staff donated their bike to a deserving youngster. Senior Director of Business Development **Brian McCaskey** was instrumental in arranging for the bikes, along with helmets and bike locks, to be donated by Bike 'N Hike of Rock Island, IL. Head Equipment Manager **Tony Medlin** worked with the

Bourbonnais Police Department, Kankakee County Sheriff's Department, Bradley Police Department and the Illinois State Police to identify 22 deserving children.

ARMED FORCES DAY

As part of the Chicago Bears continual support of military initiatives, our first home pre-season game vs. the San Diego Chargers was designated as Armed Forces Benefit Game. In recognition of this game, the Chicago Bears donated over 1,000 complimentary tickets to men and women of the military and their families. In addition, the Honorary Captains for the game were Sgt. Juan Gaytan of the U.S. Marine Corps, 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines and Sgt. Brandon Farmer of the U.S. Army, 933rd MP Company. Sgt. Gaytan recently returned from duty in Iraq, and Sgt. Farmer was recently cleared for full duty after being wounded in Iraq in 2004.



Honorary captains Sgt. Brandon Farmer (left) and Sgt. Juan Gaytan walk out to mid-field for the coin toss.



Youth football players from Chicagoland Pop Warner join Bears players on the sidelines for the National Anthem.

PLAY FOOTBALL!!

The National Football League and USA Football teamed up for the third consecutive year to celebrate the opening of the football season with "Play Football Month," which recognizes and salutes the boys and girls participating in youth football programs across the country. "Play Football Month" will take place from August 15 – September 30 at NFL stadiums throughout the country. In conjunction with "Play Football Month," the Chicago Bears hosted over 1,900 youth football players and cheerleaders from 55 different youth football

leagues throughout the Chicagoland area as part of

"Play Football Day" at Soldier Field on August 25 when the Bears took on the Arizona Cardinals. As part of the evening's festivities, players from Chicagoland Pop Warner scrimmaged during pre-game and then joined Bears players on the sidelines for the National Anthem. "Play Football Day" also featured youth football scrimmages during halftime provided by the Chicago Park District's Inner City Flag and Junior Bear Tackle youth football leagues.

WHAT MOVES U

Responding to the continuing decline of physical education programs in many of America's schools and the lack of physical activity for today's youth, the National Football League and American Heart Association (AHA) have created *What Moves U*, a national youth movement and awareness campaign designed to promote physical fitness and healthy living to an increasingly inactive generation of children. This initiative incorporates several key elements such as an in-school activity kit created for teachers, by teachers, which includes curriculum-based activity sheets, program-specific learning materials and school promotional materials; and an interactive fitness-focused website for children.



Brian Urlacher poses for a photo in support of *What Moves U*, a new nation-wide physical fitness program.



Charles Tillman leads a group of kids through different exercises as part of the *What Moves U* program.

In support of this initiative, the Chicago Bears and the Chicago office of the American Heart Association have joined forces to promote this program throughout Chicagoland. The Bears will introduce the *What Moves U* program locally on Sunday, September 24 at the AHA's Heart Walk at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Bears mascot Staley will be on hand to visit with some of the 5,000 walkers during the morning's festivities. *What Moves U* will officially launch in October in over 15,000 middle schools nationwide. Also in October, teachers will have the opportunity to download the in-school activity kit on

www.whatmovesu.com, and kids will be able to access this site to win prizes. Unlike other physical fitness programs, *What Moves U* has been developed for teachers of various academic disciplines to help them find ways to integrate physical activities into their existing lesson plans. To learn more about the *What Moves U* program and the Chicago Bears, please visit www.chicagobears.com/community.

SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 12, 2006	After School at the Movies – Screening of “Invincible” Bears School Outreach
September 16, 2006	Goal Power at FOX-TV Studios
September 19, 2006	Safety Day Bears School Outreach Youth For Life school assembly
September 24, 2006	What Moves U introduced at AHA “Heart Walk” at College of DuPage
September 26, 2006	Forest Grove Athletic Club - “Brunch with a Bear” Hello to Our Heroes Bears School Outreach
September 30, 2006	Forest Grove Athletic Club - Fitness 5K Run and Family Walk Goal Power at Halas Hall

TALES TO TACKLE

For the third consecutive year, the Chicago Bears are administering an exciting reading incentive program called "Tales to Tackle," which will run from mid-September through mid-December.

The goal of this program, geared toward 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, is for students to read three teacher-approved books per month. The main component of the "Tales to Tackle" program is a reading notebook, which includes photos of Bears players and features quotes about the importance of reading from Bears players and famous authors.

The notebook also includes a list of suggested books and has plenty of space for students to write book reports. This notebook allows the students to keep track of the books that they read during the program. Every child who achieves the goal of reading three books per month for the three month period will be entered into a random drawing for the chance to win a special "Bears Experience" at Halas Hall in Lake Forest.

The "Tales to Tackle" program is sponsored by ComEd, An Exelon Company, and is a component of the Chicago Bears Education initiative, which is presented by Chase. Please contact Jessica Kies in the Community Relations Department at (847) 739-5308 if you are a teacher interested in introducing the program to your students.



Roberto Garza and Bears mascot Staley pose with the group of youngsters at an event honoring the "Tales to Tackle" winners in 2005.



Adewale Ogunleye created "Goal Power: Alternative Careers in Sports" in 2005.

GOAL POWER

Adewale Ogunleye has once again teamed up with the Chicago Urban League to present his community outreach program "Goal Power: Alternative Careers in Sports." The purpose of this program, which was created by Adewale, is to introduce young people to different opportunities that exist in professional sports outside of being an athlete. This year, students involved with the Chicago Urban League will take field trips to different sports-related venues throughout Chicago to observe the day-to-day activities and responsibilities that are associated with careers in sports. Visits have been tentatively scheduled to FOX-TV studios; Halas Hall, the training facility of the Chicago Bears; and the United Center, where the Chicago Bulls executive offices are located. Adewale will attend each event, and students will have the opportunity to meet and speak with executives at each company they visit.

FOREST GROVE 5K

Join Forest Grove Athletic Club for their 4th annual "Forest Grove Athletic Club Fitness 5K" Run and Family Fitness Walk on Saturday, September 30, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. Proceeds from the race will benefit Bears Care, the charitable beneficiary of the Chicago Bears. More than 400 participants helped raise over \$15,000 in 2005. All racers will have the opportunity to attend *Brunch with a Bear* on Tuesday, September 26 at Forest Grove Athletic Club in Palatine, to participate in a Q & A session with a current Bears player. Bring your friends for a great morning of fun, fitness, and food! For more information, or to sign up, please visit www.signmeup.com/53683 or call Robyn Kove at (847) 991-4646.

COACH OF THE WEEK

The Chicago Bears "Coach of the Week" program enters its 11th season this year. The program honors outstanding Illinois high school football coaches who develop players' football skills and knowledge, character, leadership, discipline, and teamwork abilities.

Other criteria include graduation rates, coaching technique, school and community support, volunteerism, and, most importantly, contributions to players' long-term success on and off the field. The

program will run for nine weeks from August 28 through October 23. Coaches are nominated by a panel of local prep authorities and Bears staff, and the winning "Coach of the Week" is selected every Monday. Through the first two weeks of the program, the 2006 Bears "Coach of the Week" winners include Guy Goodlove of Westville High School and Glen Kozlowski, former Bears player and current head varsity football coach at Wauconda 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-Vikings game on December 3, 2006 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**.



SAVE THE DATE!!!

The Lou Malnati's/Bears Wives 36th Annual Cancer Benefit will take place on Monday, October 23 at Lou Malnati's Restaurant and Pizzeria in Buffalo Grove, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds from the event will benefit Bears Care, the charitable beneficiary of the Chicago Bears. If you would like more information, please call Malnati's at (847) 562-1814 or email Marge Hamm at BearsCare@bears.nfl.com. We hope to see you and your family on the 23rd!

HOME TEAM HAND-OFF

A PLAYER TICKET DONATION PROGRAM



BEARS GIVING BACK

Several Bears players and coaches will have their very own cheering sections at each Bears home game during the 2006 season. That is because they are participating in the Bears "Home Team Hand-Off" program. This ticket donation program gives players and coaches the opportunity to

purchase a block of season tickets to all home games and donate them to a charitable organization of their choice. The charity then distributes the tickets to deserving children so they have the opportunity to experience a Bears game at Soldier Field. The following Bears are participating in the "Home Team Hand-Off" program in 2006: **Mike Brown** presents "Brown's Bombers" in support of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago; **Roberto Garza** presents "Roberto's Amigos" in support of Los Amigos de Roberto; **Muhsin Muhammad** presents "Moose's Herd" in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago; **Adewale Ogunleye** presents "Wale's Warriors" in support of Chicago Urban League and Allendale Association; **Lovie Smith** presents "The Smith Crew" in support of Gilda's Club; **Rex Grossman** presents "Grossman's Gang" in support of Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake County; **John Tait** presents "Tait's Tots" in support of the SEDOL Foundation and the Center for Rehabilitation and Education; **Charles Tillman** presents "Peanut's Gallery" in support of Lawrence Hall and Lydia Home; and **Brian Urlacher** presents "Urlacher's Backers" in support of Special Olympics Illinois and Mercy Home for Boys & Girls. The lucky children in these groups can be spotted on game days waving their blue and orange pom-poms from their seats in the first few rows of the south endzone, just above the field wrap that features the "Home Team Hand-Off" group names.

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