

SPARTAN TIMES

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Upcoming Events in May

- Spartans Spring Mini-Camp
- Fundraiser- Mother's Day Carnation Sale
- Community- Soup Kitchen Distribution

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RISING SPARTANS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP FINALE

By Rin Mitchell

Belleville, NJ - The New Jersey Spartans Minor League Football team held their third Rising Spartans Youth Football Camp on April 17 with the finale at Belleville Park. It was the first youth camp for the NJ Spartans organization since 2008.

Over forty kids from the Belleville area ranging in age from 8-15 years old joined Kevin Moss, Head Coach for the NJ Spartans Minor League Football team, and his players for the camp. The youth were divided into two teams based off of age and grade: Spartan Saints (8-11 years) and Giant Spartans (12-15 years). The goal of the camp is to build knowledge and skills of the game as well as develop social skills and instill responsibility.

"We want to start the building blocks now so kids have a better



Youth Campers and Parents take photo with Spartans

future," said Coach Moss. "We have adult figures here to give back and to let them know they care about them," he added.

The youth are mentored by the players from the minor league team. They volunteer their time to come out and help run the camp drills and give first hand instruction on the game of football. For the whole day they were out on the field coaching the kids through each drill, which consists of rotating them

through different stations to experience passing, speed, catching, blocking and even touchdown dances. James Wright, Camp Host and Safety for the minor league team, coordinates the activities that the kids participate in and keeps everything organized for the camp. It is Wright's job as well as the camp mentors' job to ensure the kids have fun, learn and make friends. "The best part about this is being around the kids and teaching them what I know," said Wright.

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SPARTANS JOIN WITH REBUILDING TOGETHER TO GIVE BACK

By Charmaine Moss

Newark, NJ - The NJ Spartans teamed up with Rebuilding Together for National Rebuilding Day on Saturday, April 24th.

Rebuilding Together is the nation's leading nonprofit organization, working to preserve affordable homeownership and revitalize communities. Our network of more than 200 affiliates provides free rehabilitation and critical repairs to the homes of low-income Americans.

Team Spartans arrived bright and early to receive their assignment and dedicate their time back to Newark, NJ.

They chose to partner with the Newark Chapter, because that was the place of birth for the organization. Going back to Newark brought back memories of the first game the Spartans played back in 2008 at West Side Park, right down the street from IHS Development Center, Newark Chapter Headquarters.

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SPARTANS JOIN WITH REBUILDING TOGETHER TO GIVE BACK

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The Spartans were selected to brighten the playground and provide a faculty parking lot for Harriett Tubman School located at South Tenth Street in Newark, NJ. They arrived at the location with gallons of bright, yellow paint and open hearts for the children. They began with repainting games such as Hop Scotch, Four Corners, Names Of, to name a few.



Members of the Spartans paint HTS playground

After the playground was given some much needed attention, they moved on to bring organization to the faculty parking lot. The School's Security Guard, Ms. Welch, expressed the consistent frustration and hassle of the current parking situation. She explained that the implementation of guidelines in

regards to the parking lot would alleviate the problem.

Completing their fourth consecutive Saturday of Community Service, the day ended with a small reception in the newly buffed cafeteria at HTS. All the teams of Rebuilding Together-Essex County, were able to unwind and enjoy a feast in the newly buffed cafeteria at HTS. Joined by

Cynthia DeSouza, Rebuilding Together — Essex County Executive Director and Team Spartans reflected on the tasks that were completed for a special cause. The NJ Spartans feel strong about their efforts of assisting in the community and making a difference in 2010.

“It is days like today that reconfirms our strategy of being an organization that’s

not just about football,” said Kevin Moss, Head Coach for the NJ Spartans Minor League Football team.



Lady Spartans Cheer and Dance Tryouts

By Amanda Feiner

Belleville, NJ - The New Jersey Spartans, Lady Spartans Cheer and Dance Squad hosted their third tryout on April 20 in preparation for the upcoming New Jersey Spartans Minor League football season. The year 2010 marks the first year that the team will have cheerleaders and dancers supporting them.

hearkies and pikes. Through the sweat and pain of working so hard, they picked up on the lessons and were able to perform what they had learned for the day. Two out of the three girls were chosen to join the six girls that were selected from previous tryouts.

organization to “raise the bar.” Each member will be expected to participate in various community events and fundraisers all while continuing to cheer the Spartans on to victory as they make it to the top this year.

Despite the small turnout, the three ladies that showed up for the tryouts proved to be dedicated individuals ready and eager to learn the cheer and dance routines. Each girl was required to learn two cheers and a short dance routine. The ladies were also instructed to perform a series of jumps including: toe touches,

The Lady Spartans Cheer and Dance Squad will be a key component in helping to build a strong fan base for the NJ Spartans Minor League football team. The Lady Spartans will travel with the team on their journey throughout the season at both home and away games. In addition to supporting the Spartan men as they put forth their time, efforts, and talents on the field, the Lady Spartans will embody the mission of the Spartans



Lady Spartans work on cheerleading jumps



NEW JERSEY SPARTANS SHARE SUCCESS WITH BUSINESS MAJORS

By Charmaine Moss

Villanova, PA - Villanova University hosted their 2nd Annual Business of Sports Conference for their Business Majors. The theme was "Minor Ways of Breaking into the Major Leagues." The conference was designed to give their students the opportunity to hear about the steps taken towards a successful career from key individuals in the sports industry.

Each year there is a panel of successful sports business owners to provide invaluable information about what it takes to make it in the sports world on the business level as well as to address any questions from the audience. This year's panelists was Charmaine Moss, Co-Owner and General Manager of the New Jersey Spartans, Frank Boulton, Principle Owner and CEO of the Long Island Ducks, Adam Lorber, General Manager of the Camden Riversharks, Charmaine Moss, Co-Owner and General Manager of the NJ Spartans, Barbara Perry, Managing Director of World Team Tennis, and Darcee Roberts, Vice President of Philadelphia KIXX.

Charmaine shared what a typical day in the life of a general manager entails to ensure the success of an organization. She provided the steps that her and her husband, Kevin Moss, Co-Owner and Head Coach of the NJ Spartans, took in order to upstart the organization and make it the multi-branded group it is today.

She went on to emphasize that with hard work and dedication, dreams will come true. After three years, the organization has grown to have several brands and a staff of twelve great individuals.

Following the conference was a networking session, where the students were able to speak to the various panelists one-on-one. Charmaine welcomed several questions from a few business majors. Many of the college students asked about available internships within the organization.

"I encouraged them to contact me directly. I am more than happy to provide them with hands on experience they can gain that would allow them to further advance within their career," said Charmaine. "I enjoyed sharing



Charmaine Moss talks with a few of students

the business side of Minor League Sports with those willing to learn," Charmaine added. "The first year was the roughest because no one knew about the organization," said Charmaine. "It left a lot of the responsibilities to fall on the shoulders of my husband and me," she continued.

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Rising Spartans Youth Football Camp Finale

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The parents also seemed to enjoy watching their kids out on the field participating in the activities. They were camped out around the park sitting on lawn chairs, the ground and some were even standing. Gene Clemetson, Sr., who is the father of one of the Spartan Saints, stated that so far the camp was pretty good.

"Overall it is good, but three Saturdays, there is only so much you can do. But it's a good start," said Clemetson, Sr.

Following the workout drills was a game between the Giant Spartans and Spartan Saints. The Giant Spartans scored the first two points of the game while the Spartan Saints struggled to get going offensively. However, the Saints gained composure and were able to come back to tie the game 2-2. With the next score to decide the victor, every possession counted. The Spartan Saints lost possession of the ball with a turn over and the Giant Spartans, not letting the moment get away, scored the winning point. The final score was 3-2.

At the conclusion of the camp, Belleville Mayor, Raymond Kimble and Chris Strumolo, Head Coach for Belleville High School, addressed the campers on topics pertaining to the expectations of their role in the community and to continue to use what they learned in camp to better themselves as athletes. They were later presented with certificates by the NJ Spartans organization. The Spartans organization is dedicated to serving the Belleville's local youth with more programs in the future. "If the people of the community demand it, then we will keep delivering," said Moss.

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DO YOU WANT TO PLAY
FOOTBALL?

NEW JERSEY SPARTANS GET A JUMP START ON THE SEASON

By Coach Kevin Moss

Belleville, NJ-The New Jersey Spartans Minor League Football team began their off-season practices on Tuesday, April 6. With an earlier start than most team's first practice sessions, they had a steady turnout for all of the organized team activities (OTA). Every Tuesday and Thursday they have held organized team activities during the month of April.

The idea to have the OTA's early was to allow more time for the new coaches to build a working rapport with the new and returning players. Although OTA's are not mandatory for the veteran players, many showed up to workout with the newcomers.

The Spartans' off-season has been sparked by a few of the new players, Quarterback Travis Edwards, Running Back Al-Khalif Thompson and Wide Receiver Ben Guarino. Each who have stepped up to set the tempo for all the new guys, by constantly pushing each other to be better. Edwards' confidence in his role as QB is evident. He is a leader both physically and vocally. "I'm happy that we've got someone this passionate on Offense early and that everyone here understands that we all need to continue to take steps forward," said Kevin Moss, Head Coach.

With the OTA's wrapping up, there have been several bright spots, watching the leaders emerge and

take form was one of them. Coach Moss stated that it was a great pleasure to see his players out there ready and willing to work to do whatever it took to get better. In the coming days, the Spartans will be heading into their team mini-camp.

"We will get to see how well these newcomers to the roster respond to the veteran presence," said Coach Moss. "It will be interesting to watch as the team begins to mesh together," he added.



Spartan Football players in Warm-Ups

The Endless Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

By Charmaine Moss

Elizabeth, NJ-Fans came out to support the NJ Spartans as they hosted The Endless Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, at the Knights of Columbus in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

The fundraiser was executed as a means to provide funding for the Spartans' activities for the 2010 football season. It was the goal of the organization to conduct at least one fundraiser a month to raise the money. The spaghetti dinner was chosen to be the first to launch.

It was a challenge to find a facility that would hold a minimum of 100 attendees, allow the group to cook their own food and work within the Spartans' budget. After three weeks of searching, the Spartans found the perfect restaurant-style kitchen, Knights of Columbus.

With the toughest task out of the way,

members of the Spartans were ready to promote the fundraiser. Through email, Facebook, flyer distribution and word of mouth they were able to raise more than two hundred dollars from ticket sales alone and more than sixty people showed up to support.

Wal-Mart in Saddle Brook, NJ and Roma Foods in Piscataway, NJ made generous donations of spaghetti sauce and noodles that made it possible for the Spartans' staff members Adrienne Brown and Travis Edwards to cook for the event. The duo prepared several rounds of tender spaghetti noodles, zesty spaghetti sauce, delightful ground turkey, and the finest Italian meatballs. The fans showed their appreciation for



Lady Spartans serve spaghetti

the good food by how quickly they went back for a second helping.

As the night slowly started to wind down, the guests began to depart but not without giving two thumbs-up to the Spartans for a great evening of endless spaghetti.

The Spartans in turn, were thankful for all who supported the fundraiser.

"I truly appreciate the hard work that was put in by the members of the organization in making the event a success," said Charmaine Moss, General Manager. "A special thank you goes out to the cooks, servers, clean-up crew and most of all the our supporters," she added.

