

Patriots Prep For Upcoming PYFL Season

CONTRIBUTED

Over the past four years, winning has been a way of life for the Sandhills Patriots varsity squad (ages 12-13).

Since entering the PYFL, the varsity squad has amassed a record of 44-0 and won four consecutive PYFL Super Bowls. The Patriots have defeated top youth teams from Fayetteville, Charlotte and Richmond County in the process of capturing the titles.

This year's varsity squad returns many key players including quarterback Nik Pry, receivers Dylan Gray and Jamie Shaw, and running backs Quadarrin Kelly and Armaad Horton.

However, the ultimate success of this year's team will fall squarely on the experienced and talented group of linemen including Matt Coe, Charles Justice, KK Blue, Chamar Evans, Jakeal Ray and Tanner Benton. Marquez Baxter and Zaythan Hill return to anchor the outside linebacker positions.

Newcomers John Brown, Robert Alvarez, Alex Smith and Will Jackson should also provide valuable contributions to the 2013 team.

With tryouts completed, the 2013 squad will get down to business over the next four months preparing for what promises to be another very exciting season. Although time will tell if this squad can repeat the successes of the past, strong leadership and experience should put the squad's destiny in its own hands.

The Sandhills Patriots junior varsity squad (ages 10-11) also come off of a championship season.

After winning the PYFL JV Super Bowl in 2011, the Patriots jayvee squad won the AFC Championship in 2012 before suffering a heartbreaking loss on the last play of the game in the PYFL Super Bowl.

The jayvee squad returns several key contributors, including Joshua Littles, Zyheem Kelly, Grant Mabe, Clint McNeil, Jacob Bialer, Rory Board, Brandon Haskell and Brodey King.

The Prep squad (ages 7-9) hopes to build on its winning season from last year and avenge a playoff loss to the Richmond County Raiders.

This year's Prep team is made up primarily of newcomers but does have several returning players including Keon Wall, Shomari Melton and Aaron Scott.

For the second consecutive year, the Patriots will have a strong cheerleading squad for each of the teams.

For more information about Patriot football or Patriot cheerleading, contact coach Tom Van Camp at (910) 690-7068 or his assistant Erica Street at (910) 295-2525 or coach Craig Baggett at (910) 690-8327.



COURTESY OF SANDHILLS PATRIOTS

These are some scenes from last year's Super Bowl winning Sandhills Patriots varsity squad.



Tennis Clinics On Tap for This Summer

A series of tennis clinics is being offered this summer by Phillip Harper.

Harper, who is a former high school tennis coach and certified tennis pro, is offering eight different three-day clinics beginning in early June.

The clinics will be held June 11-13; June 18-20; June 25-27; July 9-11; July 16-18; July 23-25; July 30-Aug. 1; and Aug. 6-8.

There are two clinics each day. Ages 5 through 9 participants will meet from 8:45 a.m. until 9:30 a.m., while ages 10 through 17 will meet from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

The cost for the sessions are \$20 for ages 5-9 and \$50 for ages 10-17. No child will be excluded for financial reasons.

For more information, contact Harper at (910) 215-8996 or by email at phillip.i.harper@gmail.com.



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