

August 27<sup>th</sup> 2011

# Central Mass Pop Warner Jamboree

## *Tantasqua Pop Warner Football Begins*

By Dave Carson  
TPW Board Member

– Southbridge, MA –

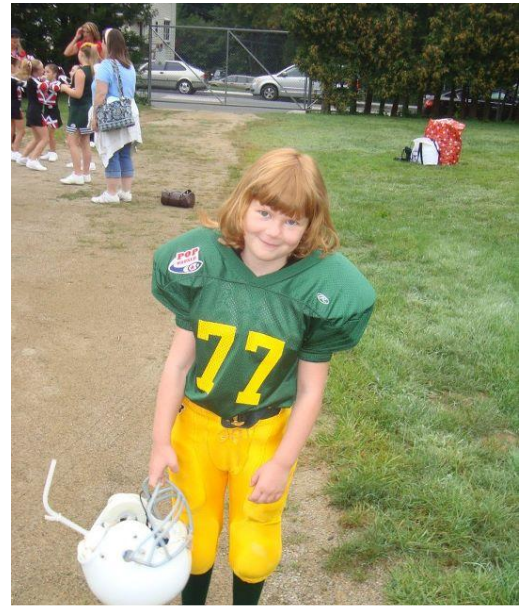
Families from across the central part of the state converged to Southbridge High School's football field despite looming uncertainty of Hurricane Irene's impact. Spirits were high as the Central Mass jamboree started without a hitch even with a last minute schedule change to stay ahead of anticipated storm projected to be over the area mid-day on Sunday, August 28.

"Moving the jamboree up a day to Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> insured that all the Central Mass Pop Warner families could enjoy the event and remain safe" states Jen Iller TPW Vice President.

Youth football players & cheerleaders took to McMahan field for the Tenth Annual Central Mass Pop Warner Jamboree. The CMPW Jamboree is a youth football preseason exhibition for players from 5 to 15 years of age. There are 14 local towns in this daylong event, including Sturbridge, Holland, Brimfield, Wales, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Spencer, Webster, Southbridge, among other towns.

Each town has multiple teams in the jamboree, each team in different divisions based on age and weight per Pop Warner Association guidelines. The age groups are: 5 & 6 year olds between 35-70lbs, 7, 8 & 9 year olds between 45-90lbs, 8, 9 & 10 year olds between 60-85lbs, 10, 11 & 12 year olds between 85-115lbs and 11, 12, 13 & 14 between 105-140 lbs, along with an unlimited weight team for ages 12-15 years old. The games are 40 minutes long, broken into two 20-minute halves with each team only playing one game.

Peter Morrow Tantasqua Pop Warner President stated "it's been an incredible day for all the Central Mass football & cheering families.



Cassidy Chiasson pictured above, is a member of Tantasqua's first Tiny Mite football team. Photo provided by Jason Spratt

These kids have been working extremely hard for the past month and this event signifies the start of their season."

"They get to play real snaps against real opponents and cheer with a large crowd behind them." the president continued.

Morrow said that this is Tantasqua's first year having a Tiny Mite team (5 & 6 yr olds) and last year our teams did extremely well by playing in the Jake Braconi Mitey Mite Bowl game and the winning the Pee Wee Division 2 Super Bowl. Now a year older we're excited to see how they'll do this year".

Tantasqua football player Cassidy Chiasson 6 yrs old and member of the first year Tiny Mite team was smiling from ear to ear, she stated, "The jamboree scrimmage was great my favor part was tackling people on the field during the game."

In addition to football games the jamboree included several other fun activities like face painting and even a bounce house. "It's just a wonderful family event; the players get live practice and enjoyed a few fun activities" stated Morrow.

Tantaqua Pop Warner's season will official starts on Sept 4th.

Best of luck to all of TPW teams this year!