

# Black & Gold

## Hatfield, Romine team up for Shriner's game

**By Daniel L. Chamness**  
 For Haven Hatfield, it was one last time to suit up as a high school football player. This time against the best of the best.  
 For Andy Romine, it was the first time he had a chance to coach in the Shriner All-Star game.  
 Not unusual for the Tuscola pair; they emerged winners. As Romine, the Tuscola head football coach, helped coach the Red Team to an 11-7 victory over the Blue Team.  
 "I was one of the coaches

responsible for developing the offensive game plan," said Romine, Tuscola's head football coach, who was coaching in the game for the first time. I developed 'risk cards' for the players and that is how we developed our plan. Offense is difficult to develop, but we were able to accomplish it."  
 Hatfield had two tackles and one assisted tackle in the game. The Shriner Game, played at Tucci Field at Illinois Wesleyan University, featured the finest Class of 2022 playing

against each other. Most of the players are on their way to play college football and teams were decided by draft. Hatfield, who plans on playing on the offensive line in college, played exclusively on defense.  
 "I was pretty happy with my performance," said Hatfield. "My primary function was to let our linebackers run free and make the tackles. So, I did my job well."  
 But, while everyone could see a football game unfolding before their eyes, what was equally important was the behind the scenes. It was about

the Shriners and their fundraising efforts. Both the game and the fundraising efforts were highly successful as the game raised \$23,000.00. As it was a common Robin Hood story, those that physically can do for themselves doing for those that can not, instead of the traditional robbing the rich to give the assets and money to the poor.  
 "While you love to play football and win games, today that was not the main reason to be here," said Romine. "That makes you proud to be associated with that game. While we were there for a few days or a week, the Shriners have

planned this for a year. You are truly there for something larger than football. When you are a parent and your child is facing death, that is way more important than a game. I also can't compliment IWU, Titan head coach Norm Esch and the Bloomington community in general. Their hospitality is second to none."  
 "It was such an honor to be out there for such a good cause," said Hatfield, who will suit up for University of Indianapolis in mere months. "It was also great to be out there one last time with Coach. Over the years, we have had a great relationship both on and off

the football field. I was blessed to have him my life."  
 The Warriors have had a constant presence in the Shrine Game. At least for the last 15 years. When questioned, Romine was not sure how many years in a row the Warriors had a player, but the game, which has been played for nearly 50 years under different names, mostly highlighting geographical areas of the state, has had at least one player every year for the last 15 years.  
 "I know a few players from the 1990's that played," said Romine. "But, I do not know all of them."



HAVEN HATFIELD POSES for a photo with Tuscola head coach Andy Romine. Romine was coaching in the Shrine Game for the first time, while Hatfield was one of the seniors featured in the contest. The Shrine Game raised 23,000 dollars for the Shriner Hospital. Photo by Daniel L. Chamness.



HAVEN HATFIELD (76) plays defense in the Shrine Game on June 18 at Illinois Wesleyan University's Tucci Field. Hatfield helped the Red Team win an 11-7 victory over the Blue Team. It was the final time that Hatfield would play high school ball and will suit up for the University of Indianapolis. Photo by Daniel L. Chamness.

# SPARKS IN THE PARK

## JULY 9

**7:30AM Firecracker 5k Run/Walk**  
 Registration from 6:45am to 7:15am at North Pavilion. Sponsored by Alpha & Omega

**American Legion Pancake Breakfast**  
 American Legion is hosting their annual pancake breakfast at the Community Building from 7am to 10am. **7-10AM**

**9 AM 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**  
 Biddy Basketball sponsors 3 on 3 Basketball tournament at south end of Ervin Park. Registration from 8am - 8:30am.

**3 on 3 Soccer Tournament**  
 Tuscola Soccer club sponsors 3 on 3 soccer tournament. Teams of 6 players max (3 player minimum). Early registration suggested! **11 AM**

**12PM TWC Cake Walk**  
 Tuscola Woman's Club sponsors annual cake walk at the South Pavilion. All ages are welcome to participate!

**Mud Volleyball Tournament**  
 Registration from 1pm-1:30pm. Games start at 2pm at North end of Ervin Park. Teams of 6 players! **2 PM**

**2 PM Kitchen Band**  
 The Kitchen Band takes the stage at 2pm at the South Pavilion. Bring a lawn chair to enjoy the show!

**Tuscola Community Band**  
 The Community Band is BACK! Enjoy their performance under the South Pavilion at 4pm. Bring a lawn chair. **4PM**

**DUSK Fireworks Display**  
 Annual fireworks display at Ervin Park!

More info at tuscola.org