

CCCS locks up Pig Bowl

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The Pig Bowl provided some, like Russ Robertson, a chance to relive the glory. For others, like Bobby Olson, football was a rather new experience.

The goal, though, Saturday was to raise money for the event's three charities this year — Mariah's Challenge, Montana Special Olympics and David DeLaittre Scholarship Fund.

Such was realized — as was the 28-13 win by Community Counseling Correctional Services (CCCS) over the Butte Police Athletic League (BPAL) in the second annual holding of the exhibition tackle football game.

A crowd of about 500, similar to last year's (not 3,000 as erroneously reported in the Saturday game preview) viewed and applauded from the Alumni Coliseum stands on a summery, but breezy day.

Robertson, a Butte police sergeant, showed nimbleness that bled his age of 43 years as he quarterbacked and played linebacker for the BPAL team.

"It was a good game," the former Deer Lodge sports star said. "A few mistakes cost us the game. But a lot of people showed up and donated a lot of money. That was the main thing."

Robertson said staying in shape is a natural part of his job. So there was no special need to get fit for football. The police players already were.

"We have to be in shape to deal with crap most people don't ever see," he said.

So, the physical aspect of the game was just fun, for men on both sides of the ball.

CCCS was able to dominate the second half with quarterback Mark Dennehy and former Montana Tech running back Cole Berg carrying the load behind a huge offensive line.

The game atmosphere took a more worrisome tone in the fourth quarter when CCCS cornerback Chris Tierney was taken by stretcher and ambulance off the field. He was in obvious pain and a neck and/or back injury was feared. He suffered the injury when he landed awkwardly on his neck and upper back after defending on a pass play with 8 minutes, 15 seconds left in the game.

BPAL scored first on a 27-yard fumble recovery and return by Kyle Barsness and then Berg tallied on a 3-yard run after a 72-yard punt by Josh Robinson.

The police got a 46-yard pass play from Robertson to Bryce Foley for a 13-7 lead by the end of the first quarter.

Gene Taylor tackled Foley in the end zone for a safety to pull CCCS closer to the lead midway through the second quarter and then the correctors took the lead for good on a 5-yard TD run by Berg.

No more scoring occurred until the fourth quarter when Berg and Dennehy tacked on short touchdown runs.

Barsness, Foley and CCCS' Beau Baltezar all recovered fumbles in the game. There were no interceptions.

The 6-foot-9 and filled-out Olson was a basketball standout for Butte High and the University of Montana Grizzlies. He now is a supervisor for CCCS and his size made him a candidate for line play for the football team.

"I don't know about that, but I've enjoyed it," he commented about his "second" sports career. "I don't know a lot about it. I just go where they put me. I wish I had played it in high school. I didn't even play football in junior high. But the basketball did work out pretty well."

He was effective as a snowplow-type blocker on sweeps in Saturday's game. He said he and his teammates got into shape by starting workouts two months ago.

"It takes a lot of dedication," he said. "There were a lot of guys showing up every practice. But we had a blast (playing Saturday) and so it was well worth it."

CCCS has won both games in the Pig Bowl series. Last year's was a close contest, too, decided by a 20-14 score.

Total money raised by the event is to be published in The Montana Standard sometime in the next few days, organizers said.

NFL player Colt Anderson, of the Philadelphia Eagles, took part in ceremonies at the game and stayed to watch it while interacting with fans. Anderson is a Butte native and starred for UM, also.'

Jerseys provided by him and fellow Montana NFLers Kroy Biermann (Hardin and the Atlanta Falcons), Dan Carpenter (Helena and the Miami Dolphins) and Marc Mariani (Havre and the Tennessee Titans) were raffled off during the game.

BPAL 13 0 0 0 — 13

CCCS 7 8 0 13 + 28

First Quarter

BPAL — Kyle Barsness 27 fumble recovery (Jarett Branson kick), 9:24.

CCCS — Cole Berg 3 run (Josh Robinson kick), 1:46.

BPAL — Bryce Foley 46 pass from Russ Robertson (kick failed), :47.

Second Quarter

CCCS — Safety, Gene Taylor tackled Foley in end zone, 5:28.

CCCS — Berg 5 run (run failed), :23.

Third Quarter

No scoring.

Fourth Quarter

CCCS — Berg 4 run (kick failed), 9:39.

CCCS — Mark Dennehy 1 run (Robinson kick), 5:24.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING — BPAL (20-26) — Josh Stearns 5-30, Russ Robertson 7-1, Kyle Barsness 2-(-1), Bryce Foley 2-(-2), Anthony Jurenic 4-(-2). CCCS (44-267) — Cole Berg 19-117, Mark Dennehy 15-92, Scott Mansanti 7-35, Travis Hettick 3-23.

PASSING — BPAL (4-8-0-83) — Robertson 4-7-0-83, Jurenic 0-1-0-0. CCCS (4-6-0-72) — Dennehy 4-6-0-72.

RECEIVING — BPAL — Foley 3-82, Jurenic 1-1. CCCS — Nick Jeffery 1-31, Mike Bauer 1-21, Berg 2-20