

Chiefs Beat Bellmore

In their 2008 season opener, the Mineola PAL Chief's 7-year-old team played at home and beat the Bellmore Braves 12-6 in front of crowd of over hundred screaming fans from both sides.

The Chiefs Offense and Quarterback Michael O'Connell were able to move the ball because of great blocking by the offensive line centered by Joe Martello and anchored by Kevin Parente, Patrick McTiernan, Matthew O'Connell, Anthony Giunta and Spenser Warantz. Key runs by running backs Lance Costa, Matthew Sluka, Thomas Albig, Jason Eccher and Philip Arnold helped the Chiefs Offense control the ball all day long.

The Chiefs Defense was intense, making gang tackles all over the field. The defensive line of Dylan Vincenti, Michael LaGinestra, Steven Mushorn, Jack Nichols, Nicholas Vitanza, Jack Duff, and Aidan Hornberger kept the pressure on Bellmore's offense all day. The linebackers O'Connell and Sluka attacked the ball and finished the job. Cornerbacks and Safeties were fearless; they were lead by Andrew Casoria, Matthew Grimm, Kieran Hendry, Sean Hembach and Joseph Judge.

The entire Mineola 7-year-old team and coaching staff showed outstanding character and sportsmanship. All the boys played and participated in the victory, which was the first football game of their careers. Scoring is summarized below:

- O'Connell 57 yard Touchdown Run (xpoint failed)
- O'Connell 45 yard Touchdown Run (xpoint failed)