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CLEVELAND BROWNS TO HONOR ADAPTED FOOTBALL PLAYERS

Browns Mascot "Chomps" to help present awards

(Strongsville, Ohio) August 2, 2011 – Representatives from the Cleveland Browns, along with "Chomps," will be coming to Achievement Centers for Children's Camp Cheerful Thursday, August 4, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. to be a part of the first end-of-season awards banquet for the Achievement Centers for Children's Cleveland Browns Adapted Football League. Eighty players will be receiving a trophy and certificate for their sportsmanship and achievements on the field – a first for many of them.

Thanks to generous support from the Cleveland Browns Foundation and The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Achievement Centers for Children offered the opportunity for individuals with special needs to experience the thrill of playing football themselves this summer. Adapted football is similar to flag football with some modifications of the rules to accommodate players with disabilities. The Achievement Centers for Children's Cleveland Browns Adapted Football League consists of three different divisions for players to compete against those with similar skill levels. Division I is a wheelchair league, played on a hardtop surface, for participants with physical limitations. Division II is for participants with cognitive/developmental delays and is played on a grass field without the use of any assistive equipment. Division III is for participants with physical limitations and cognitive/developmental delays and is also played on a hardtop surface using wheelchairs.

The season began in May, 2011, with the "All Star" games played last Saturday, July 30th. Practices and games were held Saturday mornings in Strongsville (West) and Highland Hills (East), and were open to children and young adults 7 years and older with a disability. "This, our inaugural season, surpassed our expectations in terms of player participation and support from our volunteers. The players were excited to be able to play on a football team, and their parents were equally thrilled to be able to watch their child play football, many for the first time. We are thankful to the Cleveland Browns organization and Cuyahoga Board of Developmental Disabilities, and our generous sponsors for helping to make this program possible." said Mike Urban, Manager of Sports Services for Achievement Centers for Children.

The Achievement Centers for Children is a Cleveland area nonprofit organization whose mission is to work with children with disabilities and their families to strengthen abilities and create opportunities for lifelong achievement in society. Providing comprehensive high-quality, cost-effective services and programs in the areas of therapy services, family support, education, autism, recreation and sports, the Achievement Centers for Children is uniquely positioned to assist the child and their families to be all they can be. Facilities are located in Highland Hills, Westlake and Camp Cheerful in Strongsville, Ohio. For more information about the sports program or other services offered at Achievement Centers for Children, visit www.achievementcenters.org or call 216-292-9700.

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