

Orange Beach Community News

Orange Beach, Alabama

March 6, 2006

by Ken Grimes, Jr.

It was a busy and tense week for many players, parents and coaches who wrapped up youth basketball on Pleasure Island. Great competition along with some very competitive games made for many stress filled hours of basketball. When the cheering ceased and the whistles and buzzers were quiet there were four out of five championships garnered for Orange Beach this year in the five age divisions. A range of age groups brought home the four trophies to



Orange Beach 9U Champs show their trophy at the Orange Beach Recreation Center after the win

be proudly displayed at the Recreation Center. As a parent and volunteer coach of the Purple Panthers, I can say that each child that plays in Orange Beach has a great opportunity to learn the skills needed to excel at the sport and each family has the memories to be made by participating. Orange Beach Purple Panthers shown are: back row Madison Newman, Caroline White, Payton Lanier, Morgan McLain; front row Meredith Newton, Brooke Cooley, Tristan Hazebrook, Abby Grimes and coaches Shannon Crawford and Ken Grimes. Winning the 8U Boys was the Orange Beach Green under Coach Vince Burchfield. Winning the 12U Girls was Coach David McClain and the Orange Beach Gold. Winning the 12U Boys was Orange Beach White under coach Jack Pilcher. The Gulf Shores 10U Boys took the title under Coach Roberts. We appreciate all players, parents and supporters of Orange Beach youth basketball and hope even more sign up next year. Here's to some great dribbling' until next season.

spent some money along the way. We hope you had a good time and enjoyed the Fat Tuesday holiday as you desired. Our City parade had to be one of the best ever with perfect weather few complaints and much praise. The City unveiled the new Red Snapper float, "Miss Orange Beach" which drew high remarks along with the new Dusty the Duck who will proudly promote the Orange Beach Golf Center on a regular basis. These entries help make for a fun time for all ages. Hope you enjoyed it. We thank Lt. Governor Lucy



Lt. Governor Lucy Baxley throws some beads as Grand Marshal

Baxley for serving as our Grand Marshal and for leading the parade of 50 entries. Congratulations to each member of our community Krewe's for the hard work on your floats and for keeping the tradition alive and growing here on the Alabama Gulf Coast. See you February 20, 2007 for more fun and bead throwing.



New Orange Beach float the "Miss Orange Beach" carries her Red Snapper down the parade route. Snapper season begins April 21st.

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This weekend is the Waterfront Festival of Art produced by the Pleasure Island Art Association. This festival comes to Orange Beach Waterfront Park on March 11th and 12th with arts and crafts. Remember on Saturday while making plans to attend the Festival, grab a cheeseburger for a great cause at the Cheeseburger Cookoff benefiting the Gulf Coast Relay For Life. Donations to the American Cancer Society get you a ticket that can be redeemed for a burger of your choice on Saturday from 11am-2pm. You will see the smoke from the grills at Waterfront Park so park on site or take a shuttle from designated locations in town. This popular fundraiser brought in over \$8,500 last year and 2006 looks to be even better. Eating that burger has never felt better all the while raising funds to fight against cancer.

The end of winter means dirty cars and vehicles. The Gulf Shores High School Golf Team is holding a free car wash at the Orange Beach Golf Center this Saturday, March 11th starting at 9am. Both boys and girls golf teams will be washing the dirt away for donations and pledges to aid in their upcoming season. Come by and show your support. You know your car is dirty.

It's a long distance Spring for Tem and Joni Blalock as daughter, Britney Blalock, is spending her sophomore year at Samford University studying at the school's international location in London, England. The building, which is called the Daniel House, is a 19th century, 6 story home in the Royal Borough of Kensington that serves as both the dormitory and study center. She is taking a number of classes focusing on British history, literature, theatre, art, and music during her time abroad. To enhance this experience, she is also traveling to numerous locations throughout the United Kingdom during her stay. At the conclusion of the 12 week semester, she plans to travel for two weeks throughout mainland Europe with a small group of friends. Britney was Valedictorian at Gulf Shores High School and progressed to Samford University in Birmingham. Thank goodness for email and the internet for the Blalock clan as long distance charges could be adding up over the next few months.



Orange Beach icon "Marlin" makes his way down Beach Highway

Football fans take notice that one of the University of Alabama legends will be in Orange Beach signing autographs on Saturday, March 18th. Jeremiah Castille will be at SideLines Collegiate & Sports Collectibles at SanRoc Cay from 2-4pm. This is a great chance to bring the young football players and fans alike to meet Jeremiah and say



Orange Beach Golf Center's "Dusty the Duck"

welcome to Orange Beach. Jeremiah played under Bear Bryant and was the MVP in coach Bryant's last game, the Liberty Bowl. He went on to play professionally for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Denver Broncos where he played in Super Bowl XXII. He created the Jeremiah Castille Foundation which provides mentoring, tutoring and coaching for children ages 7 to 18 from men and women of integrity and faith. Jeremiah is also the dad of two up and coming stars Tim Castille and Simeon Castille playing on both sides of the ball at the University of Alabama. Stop by and say hi!

The roar of the engines in the Gulf is back as the Perdido Beach Resort is hosting the 2006 Surf n' Turf Jet Ski Races in conjunction with the American Power Boat Association. The races will take place the weekend of March 24th through 26th at the Resort. This is a unique event that adds to our natural grandstand of condos along the beaches so make plans to watch some wild racing action. Find out more at www.perdidobeachresort.com. Plans are also underway to host a Pleasure Island Job Fair at the Perdido Beach Resort on Wednesday, April 5th. If your business is in need of employees, call the chamber to register for a space at 968-6904. More details to follow on the Job Fair. Get those resumes up to date folks.

There is plenty going on around Orange Beach so keep that calendar handy each week. Remember to send your community news to obecon@gulftel.com. Here's to a great week.

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