



CORDLE CARES FOUNDATION

**SAY CHEESE – Former and current members of the Ohio State football team pose with 2013 Miss Ohio Heather Wells in front of Tiki Lanes in Lancaster, Ohio, during the Bowling with Buckeyes charity event.**

### **Cordle, Buckeyes Give Back In Lancaster**

A number of former and current Ohio State players gave back to the Lancaster, Ohio, community the weekend of July 12 at a pair of events run by the charitable foundation of former OSU offensive lineman Jim Cordle.

Cordle, a native of Lancaster, and his Cordle Cares Foundation hosted the Brian Sampson Memorial Football Camp on July 12 and the Bowling with Buckeyes social event a night later at Tiki Lanes.

The football camp near Lancaster High School allowed more than 125 children to be coached by Cordle and other volunteers as well as hear talks from former OSU players Bobby Carpenter, Chimdi Chekwa and Bryant Browning. The camp is named after Sampson, a coach at Lancaster who died of cancer in October 2010.

"It's great," Carpenter told BSB. "Brian Sampson was a terrific mentor, role model and coach around here. Anytime you can share some of the wisdom and experience you have with some young kids, you try to push them in the right direction. It's so hard in society right now to find positive role models. You try to give kids a road map for success. If you can do that a little bit anytime you get a chance, I think you always enjoy it."

The highlight of the weekend was the bowling event, which benefitted Special Olympics. Starters Andrew Norwell and Drew Basil highlighted the close to 15 members of the OSU team who traveled the 45 minutes to Lancaster, where they were joined by former players such as

Carpenter, Garrett Goebel, Ben Person and current strength coach Anthony Schlegel for a night of bowling with fans and Special Olympics athletes.

"It was a blast," said former OSU defensive lineman Jay Richardson, who is a member of the New Orleans Saints. "It's different than a typical meet and greet or sign and dine. You get to hang out with the people a little bit and bowl and have a good time, which is what I like."

The event also featured multiple auctions and other fund-raisers, and representatives were on hand from the Buckeye Cruise for Cancer, which partnered with the event. In all, the bowling party raised close to \$30,000, said CCF president Martha Campbell.

"It's been another very successful year," said Cordle, whose foundation also gave \$5,000 in scholarships this year. "It all starts with (CCF vice president) Cyndi Lavere and (treasurer) Vicki Lifer. Then it goes to the other volunteers, the donors and then the players who came out and took the time out of their day."

"I think we've made a mark on the calendar in Lancaster, and I hope we continue that."

Cordle started 33 games at four different positions at Ohio State, closing his career by starting at left tackle as the Buckeyes won the 2010 Rose Bowl against Oregon. Currently a member of the New York Giants, he won a Super Bowl ring after the 2011 season with the squad.

He is also big on community service both with the Giants and in the Ohio State community.

"People don't realize that Jimmy

has always supported my foundation," Richardson said. "He came and spoke to my kids and brought that big Super Bowl ring when I had my event in Dublin. He did a great job, and I told him, if you ever need me for anything, I'll be there. I wanted to make sure I came by today and did my part."

### **OSU Centers On Move, Wings Looking To Impress In NBA**

Former Ohio State star center and No. 1 overall NBA draft pick Greg Oden and his agent continue to examine options for the 7-footer's return to the NBA, and Mike Conley Sr. says the Miami Heat could present a good situation for the big man.

Conley – Oden's agent and the father of his friend and high school and college teammate, Mike Conley Jr. – told Fox Sports Florida that Miami, San Antonio, Boston and Charlotte are the teams in the running to land the services of the 25-year-old center.

The two-time defending champion Heat might be considered the front-runners if terms can be agreed upon because of what Conley described as an obvious need at center.

"It's a situation where they probably can't go out and get a top player (with the money they have), but they can take a chance on somebody like Greg and his upside," Conley told FSF. "The exposure (of playing for the Heat) would be good for Greg. He could work his way back into his game. I think Miami is a good situation."

Additionally, Conley confirmed Cleveland's signing of Andrew Bynum