What happened at the semi-annual Forestgate Turkey Bowl?

By Pastor Matt Giesman

What's the Turkey Bowl? It's the flag football game that features cold weather and a surprising number of injuries?

Some highlights:
-All the Odell's came, almost.
-Over 20ppl came.
-Including kids as young as … 7? Some of them were Odells.
-Including some cadets
-Including Gary Huckabay
-Including our first adult female participant, Rachel Smith. (Forestgate sources are disputing this fact, but we've yet to receive firm evidence of previous adult female participation.)
-Bill Denham collided with me on a running play. Bill and I were on the same team. We laughed.
-Rachel got tackled. Accidentally. She said she was fine because she has brothers.
-Two of Bill Denham's sons were on opposite teams. They fought with each other between plays because they're brothers.

-Rachel caught a pass for a first down. Her husband yelled at her to keep running.

-Joel, Rachel's husband, caught at least one TD. "Guard the guy in the red jacket," was heard in the other team's huddle.

-Some guy in a West Virginia Mountaineers hoodie kept making plays. (He was someone's neighbor, and he actually played QB at West Virginia in the 2010s.)

-Team Odell came back from a 2-TD deficit to tie the game.

-Pastor Stephen showed up late. He _may_ have knocked over a small child. He also got his face smashed on a defensive play. I'm not saying those facts are related.

-At 10:45am, the score was tied, and sudden death rules were enacted.

-Team Odell lost a heartbreaker when Pastor Stephen scored the winning TD, about six plays after getting his face smashed on defense.

-I only pulled one muscle. Last year, it was two. No reports of bruised ribs, or broken bones or snapped tendons or ligaments. (Update: Craig Odell finished the game, but suffered a torn muscle in the process.)

-A joint photo of both teams was taken. Then we went home to feast … upon Ibuprofen and Advil and Aleve.

Until next year…