

Community Events Helped Shape Edwardsville Futures Tournament Success

by Colin Feeney, Contributing Sports Writer
August 3 2026 10:39 AM









EDWARDSVILLE - The Edwardsville Futures Tournament's community involvement events, including Diversity Day and Mitch 'n Friends, were an important part of the tournament's success this year, Tournament Director Dave Lipe said as organizers also began planning for the 2027 edition.

Lipe said the events held during tournament week helped define what he called a successful 15th year for the tournament. He specifically cited Diversity Day, presented by McConnell and Associates, and addressed plans for Kids Night, presented by The Village of Glen Carbon, which was canceled twice because of weather.

"All the community involvement events, such as Diversity Day, presented by McConnell and Associates, were outstanding. Kids Night, presented by The Village of Glen Carbon, is going to happen," Lipe said.

"We're going to do it in a couple of weeks; one night, we'll come out and have a good night, a good free clinic for kids. We'll get the girls' team involved on that; it was cancelled twice due to weather. That was unfortunate, but we will make that happen. I will not give up on that event, for sure."

Mitch 'n Friends at Liberty Middle School was also a remarkable success as usual, Lipe said.

Overall, Lipe added, "It was just a fantastic year, year number 15 of Futures. I couldn't be any happier with how it turned out. Everything went great."

Lipe said he and the others have already started planning for the tournament's next edition in 2027.



