

Huskys varsity, JV teams win championships

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NORTH PORT — The North Port Huskys varsity and junior varsity youth football teams reign as spring league champions following impressive victories Saturday afternoon over the visiting Copeland Park Saints at the George Mullen Activity Center field.

The varsity team finished with a 6-0 record after a hard-fought 7-0 victory over the Saints. There was no score in the first half as both defenses dominated. But in the third quarter, the Huskys went on a 90-yard drive, culminated by Octavius Cummings' six-yard touchdown run. Tyrone Barber ran in for the conversion, and the Huskys had all the points they needed to win the game. Cummings had a 21-yard reception to start

the drive and had several runs over 10 yards in the contest.

The Saints had a couple of good drives in the first half and had lots of team speed, but the Huskys' defense hung tough. Robby Ribbins had a big sack to stall one Saints drive.

"We were kind of flat in the first half," Huskys varsity coach Sean Hill said. "But we put it together in the second half to win the game."

The varsity Huskys had 33 players on the roster, but some of those players will be headed to North Port High School in the fall to play football there. Some of the other players will play for the varsity Huskys again. Hill is leaving the Huskys to coach the Bobcats high school freshman team in the fall.

The JV Huskys took an easy 28-6 victory over

the Saints to gain the championship. The JV team finished with a 5-1 record.

Ja'Nyreia Dada scored three touchdowns for the winners on an 85-yard run, a 60-yard run and a pass from Chaz Jackson. The only Saints score was on a run in the second half that narrowed the Huskys' lead to eight points at 14-6. Jonas Monclerc scored the other Husky touchdown on a 23-yard run.

"We did very well," Huskys JV coach Ben Chisholm said. "Our only loss this season was to the Manatee Bulls (May 17)."

In earlier games Saturday, the Huskys tiny mites lost to the Saints 18-0, and the mighty mites lost 14-0.

The Huskys have no weight limits. Their fall practices will begin Aug. 1.