

Community Supports Paralyzed Football Player

Posted By: Victor Blackwell ■ 1 day ago

GLEN ST. MARY, FL-- Residents of Baker County are hosting a fundraiser to support a football player who was paralyzed during practice August 19.

Milton Oshay Johnson, 16, was hit hard. According to his mother, he turned his head and was critically injured. Johnson was flown to Shands Jacksonville where doctors determined he was a quadriplegic.

Johnson's mother, Adrium Jefferson, says her son dreams of one day playing college football.

"[They're] lost dreams. They're just dreams," said Jefferson.

Jefferson remembers the day her family's life changed forever.

"A friend came by the house and told us that we needed to go to the football field because Oshay was hurt and they were doing CPR on him," said Jefferson.

She and Johnson's father, Milton Johnson, Jr., rushed to Baker County Senior High School, where the Wildcats were practicing.

They thought he lost his breath or fainted.

"On the way to the school, they told us not to go to the school, go on to Shands, because he's being LifeFlighted," said Johnson, Jr.

Jefferson said the injury happened during a tough tackle.

"When he went to tackle a guy, he turned his neck," said Jefferson.

Johnson fell limp onto the field.

His parents say Johnson feels nothing from the neck down. He is awake and alert at Shands Jacksonville. However, he can only communicate through a series of blinks and twitches.

"When I go to the bedside I let him know I'm here... 'mama's here everything is okay and thank God you're alive. We can deal with the rest, but thank God you're alive," said Jefferson.

Johnson's parents haven't begun to think about medical bills. However his classmates and neighbors have.

Proceeds from all ticket sales from Friday night's game against West Nassau High School will be donated to the family to help with medical bills.

The game starts at 7:30pm at Baker County Senior High School.

If you would like to donate to the family, an account has been set up at Vystar Credit Union. The account number is 0702742751

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